

CHAPTER 70: TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

Section

General Provisions

- 70.01 State highway traffic regulations adopted by reference
- 70.02 Trucks prohibited on certain streets
- 70.03 Stop intersections
- 70.04 Through streets and one-way streets
- 70.05 Turning restrictions
- 70.06 U-turns restricted
- 70.07 Excessive noise
- 70.08 Exhibition driving prohibited
- 70.09 Cruising prohibited
- 70.10 Motor vehicle noise
- 70.11 Pedestrian crossings
- 70.12 Crossings for seniors or disabled persons

Parades

- 70.20 Definitions
- 70.21 Permit required
- 70.22 Application for permit
- 70.23 Standards for issuance of permit
- 70.24 Notice of rejection of permit application
- 70.25 Appeal procedure when permit denied
- 70.26 Alternative permit
- 70.27 Notice to city and other officials when permit issued
- 70.28 Contents of permit
- 70.29 Duties of permittee
- 70.30 Public conduct during parades
- 70.31 Revocation of permit

GENERAL PROVISIONS**§ 70.01 STATE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY REFERENCE.**

(A) The Highway Traffic Regulations Act is hereby adopted by reference. The regulatory provisions of M.S. Chapter 169, as it may be amended from time to time, are hereby adopted as a traffic ordinance regulating the use of highways, streets and alleys within the city and are hereby incorporated in and made a part of this section as completely as if set out in full herein.

(B) The penalty for violation of the provisions of state statutes adopted by reference in this section shall be identical with the penalty provided for in the statutes for the same offense.

§ 70.02 TRUCKS PROHIBITED ON CERTAIN STREETS.

(A) As authorized by M.S. § 169.87, as it may be amended from time to time, the City Council by resolution may designate streets on which travel by commercial vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds axle weight is prohibited. The Chief of Police shall cause appropriate signs to be erected on those streets. No person shall operate a commercial vehicle on posted streets in violation of the restrictions posted.

(B) The weight restrictions established in division (A) shall not apply to city or emergency vehicles, public school buses, garbage and refuse trucks making regular collections and are under contract with the city, recycling trucks used exclusively for collection of recycling materials pursuant to a city mandate to provide curbside recycling, and implements of husbandry operated in compliance with M.S. § 169.801, as it may be amended from time to time, and city, county and state road authority vehicles engaged in snow and ice removal or flood control operations on behalf of a state or local government, nor shall the weight restrictions in division (A) apply if a commercial vehicle must use the particular street in question for the purpose of local pick-up or delivery.

(C) Pursuant to M.S. § 169.84, the gross weight of any vehicle or combination of vehicles driven onto or over a bridge on any city street or highway shall not exceed the safe capacity of the bridge, as may be indicated by warning posted on the bridge or the approaches thereto.

(D) Pursuant to M.S. § 169.86, M.S. § 169.862 and M.S. § 169.865, the City Clerk may issue a permit for heavier loads to travel on streets where otherwise restricted. The City Clerk may issue such a permit upon applicant provision of adequate insurance, execution of a written agreement to pay the city costs of any repairs the roadway, curbs, ditches and right-of-way necessitated by the permittee's damage to the roadway and to defend and indemnify the city against all claims related to the permittee's use of

the roadway, and posting of a bond or other financial security in an amount adequate to cover city expenses, including but not limited to repair costs related to any damage to the road. Any person aggrieved by a permit denial may appeal the denial to the City Council within 30 days of such denial. Permits issued under this provision are good for five consecutive business days. No person, corporation or other entity may obtain more than three permits per year. The permit fee shall be set by the Ordinance establishing fees and charges for the city.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.03 STOP INTERSECTIONS.

Pursuant to M.S. § 169.04, as it may be amended from time to time, the city may designate intersections as a stop intersection and require all vehicles to stop at one or more entrances to those intersections. The city shall post signs at those designated intersections, giving notice of the designation as a stop intersection. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to obey the markings or signs posted under this section.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.04 THROUGH STREETS AND ONE-WAY STREETS.

Pursuant to M.S. § 169.04, as it may be amended from time to time, the City Council by resolution may designate any street or portion of a street as a through street or one-way street where necessary to preserve the free flow of traffic or to prevent accidents. No trunk highway shall be so designated unless the consent of the Commissioner of Transportation to the designation is first secured. The city shall cause appropriate signs to be posted at the entrance to designated streets. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to obey the markings or signs posted under this section.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.05 TURNING RESTRICTIONS.

(A) (1) Pursuant to M.S. § 169.04, as it may be amended from time to time, the City Council by resolution may, whenever necessary to preserve a free flow of traffic or to prevent accidents, designate any intersection as one where turning of vehicles to the left or to the right, or both, is to be restricted at all times or during specified hours. No intersection on a trunk highway shall be so designated until the consent of the Commissioner of Transportation to the designation is first obtained.

(2) The city shall mark by appropriate signs any intersection so designated.

(3) No person shall turn a vehicle at any intersection contrary to the direction on those signs.

(B) Except at intersections, and then only if not posted otherwise, it shall be unlawful for any person operating a motor vehicle on any street to cross the center of the street for the purpose of parking on the side of the street opposite the original direction of travel.

(C) It shall be unlawful for any person operating a motor vehicle on any street to back up or drive from a parked position and commence travel in the opposite direction from which the motor vehicle faced when parked.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.06 U-TURNS RESTRICTED.

No person shall turn a vehicle so as to reverse its direction on any street in the business district or at any intersection where traffic is regulated by a traffic control signal.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.07 EXCESSIVE NOISE.

(A) As used in this section:

(1) **LIGHT-MOTOR VEHICLES** means any automobile, van, motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, motor scooter, go-cart, minibike, trail bike, neighborhood electric vehicle, golf cart, mini truck, all terrain vehicle, truck with a gross vehicular weight of less than 10,000 pounds or low power vehicle.

(2) **LOW POWER VEHICLE** for the purposes of this section means a vehicle with a gas, electric or battery powered engine that may achieve a maximum vehicle speed of 35 miles per hour.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, or cause to operate, or use a light-motor vehicle in a manner as to cause, or allow to be caused, excessive noise levels as a result of unreasonable rapid accelerations, deceleration, revving of engine, squealing of tires, honking of horns, or as a result of the operation of audio devices including but not limited to radios, phonograph, tape players, compact disc players or any other sound-amplifying device on or from the light-motor vehicle.

(C) No person shall operate, or cause to operate, or use a light-motor vehicle in violation of the noise standards contained in Minn. Rules parts 7030.1050 and 7030.1060, as it may be amended from time to time.

(D) No person shall operate, or cause to operate, or use a light-motor vehicle that discharges its exhaust other than through a muffler or other device that effectively prevents loud or explosive noises. No person shall operate, or cause to operate, or use a light-motor vehicle whose exhaust system has been modified, altered, or repaired in any way, including the use of a muffler cut-out or by-pass, that amplifies or otherwise increases noise above that emitted by the light-motor vehicle as originally equipped.

(E) The following are exempted from the provisions of this section:

(1) Sound emitted from sirens of authorized emergency vehicles;

(2) Burglar alarms on light-motor vehicles of the electronic signaling type which also transmit an audible signal to a receiver which can be carried by the owner or operator of the vehicle; and

(3) Celebrations on Halloween and other legal holidays and celebrations in connection with duly authorized parades.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.08 EXHIBITION DRIVING PROHIBITED.

No person shall turn, accelerate, decelerate or otherwise operate a motor vehicle within the city in a manner which causes unnecessary engine noise or backfire, squealing tires, skidding, sliding, swaying, throwing of sand or gravel, or in a manner simulating a race. Unreasonable squealing or screeching sounds emitted by tires or the unreasonable throwing of sand or gravel by the tires is prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.09 CRUISING PROHIBITED.

(A) As used in this section, **CRUISING** means the operation of a motor vehicle as defined in M.S. § 169.011, Subd. 42, as it may be amended from time to time, past a traffic control point as determined by a peace officer on a street in an area designated "No Cruising Zone" by City Council resolution four or more times between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 3:30 a.m.

(B) The passing of a traffic control point under the conditions previously stated, shall constitute unnecessary repetitive driving and is a violation of this section.

(C) The following use of vehicles shall constitute valid exceptions to this prohibition: taxicabs for hire, buses, authorized emergency vehicle, vehicles used by or under contract with any governmental jurisdiction, any vehicle being used to conduct legitimate business activities.

(D) This section may be enforced only in an area that has been posted as a "No Cruising Zone." Signs shall be posted at the beginning and the end of any public street, alley or highway, or portion thereof which is a no cruising zone.

§ 70.10 MOTOR VEHICLE NOISE.

(A) *Definitions.* For the purposes of this section, the following phrases are defined as follows:

ABNORMAL OR EXCESSIVE NOISE.

(a) Distinct and loudly audible noise that unreasonably annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort and repose of any person or precludes their enjoyment of property or affects their property's value;

(b) Noise in excess of that permitted by M.S. § 169.69, as it may be amended from time to time, which requires every motor vehicle to be equipped with a muffler in good working order; or

(c) Noise in excess of that permitted by M.S. § 169.693 and Minn. Rules parts 7030.1000 through 7030.1050, as this statute and these rules may be amended from time to time, which establish motor vehicle noise standards.

ENGINE-RETARDING BRAKE. A dynamic brake, jake brake, Jacobs brake, C-brake, Paccar brake, transmission brake or other similar engine-retarding brake system which alters the normal compression of the engine and subsequently releases that compression.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge the exhaust or permit the discharge of the exhaust from any motor vehicle except through a muffler that effectively prevents abnormal or excessive noise and complies with all applicable state laws and regulations.

(C) It shall be unlawful for the operator of any truck to intentionally use an engine-retarding brake on any public highway, street, parking lot or alley within the city which causes abnormal or excessive noise from the engine because of an illegally modified or defective exhaust system, except in an emergency.

(D) Minnesota Statutes §§ 169.69 and 169.693 (motor vehicle noise limits) and Minn. Rules parts 7030.1000 through 7030.1050, as these statutes and rules may be amended from time to time, are hereby adopted by reference.

(E) Signs stating "VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ENFORCED" may be installed at locations deemed appropriate by the City Council to advise motorists of the prohibitions contained in this section, except that no sign stating "VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ENFORCED" shall be installed on a state highway without a permit from the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The provisions of this section are in full force and effect even if no signs are installed.

§ 70.11 PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS.

Pursuant to M.S. § 169.2151, as it may be amended from time to time, the city is authorized to designate pedestrian safety crossings on exclusive city streets where pedestrian safety considerations require extra time for pedestrian crossing in addition to the time recommended under the Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for pedestrian signals. The city may provide for timing of pedestrian signals for such crossings, consistent with the recommendations of the uniform manual for pedestrian signal timing at senior citizen and disabled pedestrian crossings. The location of such crossings may be designated by resolution.

§ 70.12 CROSSINGS FOR SENIORS OR DISABLED PERSONS.

Pursuant to M.S. § 169.215, as it may be amended from time to time, the city may designate a crossing for senior citizens or disabled persons on any exclusive city street in the vicinity of a senior citizen housing project, senior citizen nursing home, or residential care facility for disabled persons on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation prescribed by the Commissioner and subject to the uniform specifications adopted by the Minnesota Commissioner of Transportation.

PARADES

§ 70.20 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this subchapter the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

PARADE. Any parade, march, ceremony, show, exhibition, pageant, or procession of any kind, or any similar display in or on any street, sidewalk, park, or other public place in the city.

PARADE PERMIT. A permit required by this subchapter.

PARKING LOT. Any paved or unpaved area used by a place of business or shopping center for the parking of vehicles of their customers, but shall not include those operated for hire.

§ 70.21 PERMIT REQUIRED.

(A) No person or persons shall engage or participate in, aid, form or start any parade unless a parade permit has been obtained from the City Clerk or other authorized city official.

(B) This subchapter shall not apply to:

(1) Funeral processions;

(2) Students going to and from school classes or participating in educational activities; provided, that the conduct is under the immediate direction and supervision of the proper school authorities;

(3) A governmental agency acting within the scope of its functions.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.22 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT.

(A) *Generally.* A person seeking issuance of a parade permit shall file an application with the City Clerk.

(B) *Filing period.* The application for a parade permit shall be filed not less than 72 hours but not more than 60 days before the date on which it is proposed to conduct the parade. Failure to file an application 72 hours in advance will not result in automatic denial of the permit; provided, that the applicant shows reasonable grounds why the application could not be filed 72 hours in advance.

(C) *Required information.* The application for a parade permit shall set forth the following information:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the person seeking to conduct the parade;

(2) If the parade is proposed to be conducted for, on behalf of, or by an organization, the name, address, and telephone number of the headquarters of the organization and of the authorized and responsible heads of the organization;

(3) The name, address, and telephone number of the person who will be the parade chairperson and who will be responsible for its conduct;

(4) The date when the parade is to be conducted;

(5) The route to be traveled, the starting point, and the termination point;

(6) The approximate number of persons, animals, and vehicles which will constitute the parade, the type of animals, if any, and the description of the vehicles;

(7) The hours when the parade will start and terminate;

(8) A statement as to whether the parade will occupy all or only a portion of the width of the streets, sidewalk, park or other public place proposed to be traversed;

(9) The location by street of any assembly area for the parade;

(10) The time at which units of the parade will begin to assemble at any assembly area or areas;

(11) The interval of space to be maintained between units of the parade;

(12) If the parade is designed to be held by, and on behalf of or for, any person other than the applicant, the applicant for the permit shall file a communication in writing from the person authorizing the applicant to apply for the permit on his or her behalf;

(13) Any additional information reasonably necessary to a fair determination as to whether a permit should be issued.

(D) There shall be paid at the time of filing an application for a parade permit a fee in an amount as established in the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges pursuant to § 30.11 of this code, as it may be amended from time to time. In addition, the applicant must provide proof of a valid insurance policy in the amount of \$500,000 per individual claim and \$1,500,000 for all claims arising from the same event, that names and agrees to defend and indemnify the city from any and all claims arising from the parade.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.23 STANDARDS FOR ISSUANCE OF PERMIT.

The City Clerk shall issue a permit when, from a consideration of the application and from other information obtained, he or she finds that:

(A) The conduct of the parade will not substantially interrupt the safe and orderly movement of other traffic contiguous to its route;

(B) The conduct of the parade will not require the diversion of so great a number of police officers of the city to properly police the line of movement and the areas contiguous thereto as to prevent normal police protection to the city;

(C) The concentration of persons, animals and vehicles at assembly points of the parade will not unduly interfere with proper fire and police protection of, or ambulance service to, areas contiguous to the assembly areas;

(D) The conduct of the parade will not interfere with the movement of firefighting equipment en route to a fire;

(E) The parade is scheduled to move from its point of origin to its point of termination expeditiously and without unreasonable delays en route.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.24 NOTICE OF REJECTION OF PERMIT APPLICATION.

If the City Clerk disapproves the application, he or she shall mail to the applicant within the three regular business days after the date on which the application was filed a notice of his or her action stating the reasons for his or her denial of the permit.

§ 70.25 APPEAL PROCEDURE WHEN PERMIT DENIED.

Any person aggrieved shall have the right to appeal the denial of a parade permit to the City Council. The appeal shall be taken within 30 days after notice of denial. The City Council shall act on the appeal within 30 days after its receipt.

§ 70.26 ALTERNATIVE PERMIT.

The City Clerk or other authorized city official, in denying an application for a parade permit, shall be empowered to authorize the conduct of the parade on a date, at a time, or over a route different than that named by the applicant. An applicant desiring to accept an alternate permit shall file a written notice of his or her acceptance. An alternate parade permit shall conform to the requirements of, and shall have the effect of, a parade permit under this subchapter.

§ 70.27 NOTICE TO CITY AND OTHER OFFICIALS WHEN PERMIT ISSUED.

Immediately on the issuance of a parade permit, a copy thereof shall be sent to the Police Chief and the Fire Chief.

§ 70.28 CONTENTS OF PERMIT.

Each parade permit shall state the following information:

- (A) Starting time;
- (B) Minimum speed;
- (C) Maximum speed;
- (D) Maximum interval of space to be maintained between the units of the parade;

(E) The portions of the street, sidewalk, park or other public place to be traversed that may be occupied by the parade;

(F) The maximum length of the parade in miles or fractions thereof;

(G) Other information as is reasonably necessary to the enforcement of this subchapter.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.29 DUTIES OF PERMITTEE.

A permittee hereunder shall comply with all permit directions and conditions and with all applicable laws and ordinances. The parade chairperson or other person heading or leading the activity shall carry the parade permit on his or her person during the conduct of the parade.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.30 PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING PARADES.

(A) *Interference.* No person shall unreasonably hamper, obstruct, impede or interfere with any parade or parade assembly or with any person, vehicle or animal participating or used in a parade.

(B) *Driving through parades.* No driver of a vehicle except a police car or other emergency vehicle shall drive between the vehicles or persons comprising a parade when the vehicles or persons are in motion and are conspicuously designated as a parade.

(C) *Parking on parade route.* The Police Chief or other authorized city official shall have the authority, when reasonably necessary, to prohibit or restrict the parking of vehicles along a street or other public thoroughfare or part thereof constituting a part of the route of a parade. Signs shall be posted to the effect, and it shall be unlawful for any person to park or leave unattended any vehicle in violation thereof. No person shall be liable for parking on a street or other public thoroughfare unless signs have been posted in accordance with this section.

Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 70.31 REVOCATION OF PERMIT.

The city shall have the authority to revoke a parade permit issued hereunder on application of the standards for issuance as herein set forth.