

CHAPTER 12 TRAFFIC¹

ARTICLE 12-1 ADMINISTRATION

12-1-1	Duty of City Law Enforcement Agent
12-1-2	Records of Traffic Violations
12-1-3	Police Chief to Investigate Accidents

Section 12-1-1 City Law Enforcement Agent

- A. It shall be the duty of the city law enforcement agent to provide for the enforcement of the street traffic regulations of the city and all of the state vehicle laws applicable to street traffic in the city, to make arrests for traffic violations, to investigate accidents and to assist in developing ways and means to improve traffic conditions and to carry out all duties specially imposed upon the city law enforcement agent by this chapter.
- B. Any peace officer of the city may be authorized by the city law enforcement agent to perform any of the duties of the city law enforcement agent included in this chapter.

Section 12-1-2 Records of Traffic Violations

- A. The city law enforcement agent shall keep a record of all violations of the traffic laws of the city or of the state vehicle laws of which any person has been charged, together with a record of the final disposition of all such alleged offenses. Such record shall be maintained for at least the most recent five year period.
- B. All forms for records of violations and notices shall be serially numbered.

Section 12-1-3 City Law Enforcement Agent to Investigate Accidents

It shall be the duty of the city law enforcement agent to investigate traffic accidents and to arrest and assist in the prosecution of those persons charged with violations of law causing or contributing to such accidents.

ARTICLE 12-2 TRAFFIC CONTROL

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¹ As of 10/21/2008

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Section 12-2-1 Directing Traffic

- A. The city law enforcement agent is hereby authorized to direct all traffic by voice, hand or signal.
- B. Fire officials, when at the scene of a fire, may direct or assist the city law enforcement agent in directing traffic thereat or in the immediate vicinity.

Section 12-2-2 Obedience to Traffic Regulations

It is unlawful, except as otherwise provided in this code, for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required by this chapter or willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of the city law enforcement agent or of any fire department official.

Section 12-2-3 Traffic Control Devices

- A. The council shall provide for the placement and maintenance of traffic control devices, signs and signals when and as required under the traffic regulations of the city to make effective the provisions of said regulations, and may place and maintain such additional traffic control devices as may be deemed necessary to regulate traffic under the traffic laws of the city or under state law or to guide or warn traffic.
- B. The driver of any vehicle shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device applicable thereto placed in accordance with the traffic regulations of the city unless otherwise directed by the city law enforcement agent, subject to the exceptions granted in this chapter or by state law.

Section 12-2-4 Authority to Designate Crosswalks, Establish Safety Zones and Mark Traffic Lanes

The council may authorize an employee or agent of the city:

- A. To designate and maintain, by appropriate devices, marks or lines upon the surface of the roadway, crosswalks at intersections where in his opinion there is particular danger to pedestrians crossing the roadway, and at such other places as he may deem necessary.
- B. To establish safety zones of such kind and character and at such places as he may deem necessary for the protection of pedestrians.
- C. To mark lanes for traffic on street pavement at such places as he may deem advisable, consistent with the traffic laws of the city.

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Section 12-2-5 Authority to Place and Obedience to Turning Markers

- A. The council may authorize an employee or agent of the city to place markers, buttons or signs within or adjacent to intersections indicating the course to be traveled by vehicles turning at such intersections, and such course to be traveled as so indicated may conform to or be other than as prescribed by law.
- B. When authorized markers, buttons or other indications are placed within an intersection indicating the course to be traveled by vehicles turning thereat, no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of such indications.

Section 12-2-6 Authority to Place and Obedience to Restricted Turn Signs

- A. The council may authorize an employee or agent of the city to determine those intersections at which drivers of vehicles shall not make a right, left or U-turn and shall place proper signs at such intersections. The making of such turns may be prohibited between certain hours of any day and permitted at other hours, in which event the same shall be plainly indicated on the signs, or such signs may be removed when such turns are permitted.
- B. Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right, left or U-turn is permitted, no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of any such sign.

Section 12-2-7 Limitations on Turning Around

The driver of any vehicle shall not turn such vehicle so as to proceed in the opposite direction upon any street unless such movement can be made in safety and without interfering with other traffic.

Section 12-2-8 One-Way Streets and Alleys

- A. The council may designate any streets or alleys which are to be limited to one-way traffic.
- B. Whenever the council designates any one-way street or alley, it shall cause to be placed and maintained signs giving notice thereof, and no such regulation shall be effective unless such signs are in place. Signs indicating the direction of lawful traffic movement shall be placed at every intersection where movement of traffic in the opposite direction is prohibited.

Section 12-2-9 Regulation of Traffic at Intersections

The council may designate through streets, intersections where stops are required, and intersections where vehicles shall yield the right-of-way.

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Section 12-2-10 Drivers to Obey Signs

Whenever traffic signs are erected as provided in this chapter, every driver of a vehicle shall obey such signs unless directed to proceed by the city law enforcement agent or a traffic control signal. No driver shall drive upon or through any private property such as an oil station, vacant lot or similar property to avoid obedience to any regulation included in this chapter.

Section 12-2-11 Processions

- A. No procession or parade, except funeral processions, shall be held without first securing a permit from the city, and all such requests for permits shall state the time, place of formation, proposed line of march, destination and such other regulations as the city may set forth therein.
- B. A funeral procession composed of a procession of vehicles shall be identified by such methods as may be determined and designated by the city.
- C. No driver of a vehicle shall drive between the vehicles comprising a funeral or other authorized procession while they are in motion and when such vehicles are conspicuously designated. This provision shall not apply at intersections where traffic is controlled by traffic control signals or the city law enforcement agent.
- D. Each driver in a funeral or other procession shall drive as near to the right hand edge of the roadway as practical and shall follow the vehicle ahead as close as is practical and safe.

Section 12-2-12 Operation of Vehicles on Vacant Lots

No person shall operate a vehicle on or across any portion of a vacant lot other than on an established dustproof driveway, except during activities authorized by the city.

Section 12-2-13 Driving on Private Property

- A. No person shall operate, drive or leave any motor vehicle, motorcycle, motor scooter, minibike, trail bike, dune buggy, jeep or other form of transportation propelled by an internal combustion engine upon the private property of another or upon public property which is not held open to the public for vehicle use, without permission from the owner of the property or the person entitled to immediate possession thereof, or the authorized agent of either.
- B. Whenever any person is stopped by a law enforcement officer for investigation of a violation of this section, the person shall show proof that the permission required has been obtained and from whom permission was obtained.

ARTICLE 12-3 PARKING

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12-3-1	Method of Parking
12-3-2	Blocking Traffic
12-3-3	Parking Adjacent to Schools
12-3-4	Authority to Erect Signs Restricting Parking
12-3-5	Parking Vehicles on Sidewalks
12-3-6	Restricted Parking Areas for the Physically Disabled
12-3-7	Stopping, Standing or Parking Prohibited in Specified Fire Lanes

Section 12-3-1 Method of Parking

Except as otherwise posted, every vehicle stopped or parked upon a roadway where there are adjacent curbs shall be so stopped or parked with the right hand wheels of such vehicle parallel to and within eighteen inches of the right hand curb.

Section 12-3-2 Blocking Traffic

- A. No person shall stop, stand or park any motor vehicle, or other vehicle, upon a street in the city in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than twenty feet of the width of the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic, except that a person may stop temporarily, in the actual loading or unloading of passengers, or when necessary, in the observance of traffic signs or signals of the city law enforcement agent.
- B. No person shall park a motor vehicle, or other vehicle, within an alley or entrance to a private driveway except for the loading or unloading of materials, and not then unless such loading or unloading can be accomplished without blocking the alley to the free movement of vehicular traffic.

Section 12-3-3 Parking Adjacent to Schools

When signs are erected indicating no parking on that side of the street adjacent to any school property, no person shall park a vehicle in any such designated place for one hour before school opens until one hour after school closes on any school day.

Section 12-3-4 Authority to Erect Signs Restricting Parking

The council may have erected signs requiring parking at an angle to the curb, allowing parking on the left hand curb on one-way streets, notifying drivers that parking is prohibited and restricting parking in any way that may be necessary. When such signs have been erected, no person shall stop or stand a vehicle in disobedience to such parking restrictions.

Section 12-3-5 Parking Vehicles on Sidewalks

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No person shall park any vehicle, whether in usable condition or not, nor shall an owner permit his vehicle to be parked upon any sidewalk in the city.

Section 12-3-6 Restricted Parking Areas for the Physically Disabled

- A. No person shall park a vehicle in a parking space on either public or private property set aside and identified for use only by persons with physical disabilities, unless the vehicle has displayed thereon a distinguishing insignia or numbered plates bearing the international wheelchair symbol as provided in Arizona Revised Statutes Section 28-881 et. seq. The handicap card shall be placed on the dash board so as to be visible.
- B. A person who is chauffeuring a person with a physical disability without a placard or international symbol of access special plates may park momentarily in a parking space provided pursuant to this article for the purpose of loading or unloading the person with a physical disability, and a complaint shall not be issued to the driver for the momentary parking.
- C. Subsection A of this section shall apply only to those parking spaces that are identified with standard signs or other markers, as approved by the city.

Section 12-3-7 Stopping, Standing or Parking Prohibited in Specified Fire Lanes

No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a city law enforcement agent or traffic control device, either on public or private property, in any of the following places:

- A. Within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant.
- B. In any area designated as a fire lane.

ARTICLE 12-4 MOTORIZED PLAY VEHICLES²

- 12-4-1 Definitions
- 12-4-2 Applicability of Traffic Laws
- 12-4-3 Responsibility of parents, guardians, and custodians
- 12-4-4 Prohibited areas of operation
- 12-4-5 General operating restrictions
- 12-4-6 Operating restrictions on roadway
- 12-4-7 Required safety equipment
- 12-4-8 Duties of sellers of motorized play vehicles and motorized skateboards
- 12-4-9 Violations

Section 12-4-1 Definitions

² Added Article 12-4

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The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context indicates a different meaning:

- A. Child means a person who is under the age of eighteen (18) years.
- B. Custodian means a person who has lawful custody of a child.
- C. Motorized skateboard means a self-propelled device which has a motor, a deck on which a person may ride and at least two (2) tandem wheels in contact with the ground and which is not otherwise defined in Arizona Revised Statutes Title 28, as amended, as a "motor vehicle," "motorcycle," "motor-driven cycle," "motorized wheelchair," or "electric personal assistive mobility device".
- D. Motorized play vehicle means a coaster, any other alternatively fueled device (excluding battery-operated toy carts designed for children under the age of eight (8) years to ride in or on), or other motorized vehicle that is self-propelled by a motor or engine, and which is not otherwise defined in Arizona Revised Statutes Title 28, as amended, as a "motor vehicle," "motorcycle," "motor-driven cycle," "motorized wheelchair," or "electric personal assistive mobility device."
- E. Vehicle means a device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public roadway, excepting devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

Section 12-4-2 Applicability of traffic laws.

- A. All traffic laws shall apply to persons riding motorized play vehicles and motorized skateboards. Every person operating a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of this State declaring rules of the road applicable to the vehicles, or by the traffic regulations in this chapter and except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application.
- B. This section shall not be construed to require the licensing or registration of motorized play vehicles or motorized skateboards, the licensing of motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard operators, or the carrying of insurance covering accidents involving motorized play vehicles or motorized skateboards.
- C. It is unlawful for any person operating a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard not to obey the instructions of official traffic-control signals, signs and other traffic direction devices that are applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a Police Officer.

Section 12-4-3 Responsibility of parents, guardians, and custodians.

No parent, guardian, or custodian of a child, shall authorize or knowingly permit any child to violate this chapter.

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Section 12-4-4 Prohibited areas of operation.

No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard:

- A. On any sidewalk, except for use in crossing such sidewalk by the most direct route to gain access to any public or private road or driveway.
- B. In any City parking structure or City park, except for use on public roadways within the park, or designated hike/bike trails.
- C. On any public property that has been posted or designated by the owner of such property as an area prohibiting the use of "skateboards."
- D. On any public roadway consisting of a total of four (4) or more marked traffic lanes, or having an established speed limit of greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour.
- E. On any private property of another, or any public property which is not held open to the public for vehicle use, without the written permission of the owner, the person entitled to immediate possession of the property, or the authorized agent of either.

Section 12-4-5 General operating restrictions.

- A. No child under the age of thirteen (13) shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard.
- B. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard in excess of the speed that is reasonable and prudent under existing circumstances, or the lawfully posted limit, whichever is the least.
- C. The operator of a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard, approaching a sidewalk, bicycle path, bicycle lane, or multi-use path in order to cross such, shall yield the right-of-way to all other users.
- D. No operator of a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard shall allow passengers when the motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard is in motion.
- E. No person operating or riding upon a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard shall attach themselves or the motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard in any manner to any other vehicle.
- F. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard while carrying any package, bundle or article which prevents the operator from keeping both hands on the steering mechanism at all times.
- G. No person, other than the owner, shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard without the written permission of the owner.
- H. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard that has been structurally altered from the original manufacturer's design. This section applies to

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alterations to the exhaust system of such vehicles, except for alterations to make the exhaust system more quiet than the original manufacturer's design.

- I. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard in a cross walk.
- J. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard while towing or pulling another person, or object.

Section 12-4-6 Operating restrictions on roadway.

- A. A person operating a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard on a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic, at the time and place and under the then existing conditions, shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except under the following conditions and when the movement can be made in safety:
 - 1. If overtaking and passing a bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
 - 2. If preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private roadway or driveway.
 - 3. If reasonably necessary to avoid hazardous conditions ahead in the roadway.
 - 4. If the lane in which the person is operating the motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard is too narrow for a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard and a bicycle or another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.
- B. No operator of a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard shall transport extra fuel in a separate container or alter the fuel reservoir from the original manufacturer's design. This includes the prohibition of physically attaching fuel packs or containers to the operator's person.
- C. Persons operating motorized play vehicles or motorized skateboards on the roadway shall not ride more than two (2) abreast.
- D. Motorized play vehicles or motorized skateboards may only be operated between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Section 12-4-7 Required safety equipment.

- A. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard without a head lamp emitting a beam and a red rear reflector anytime from one-half (1/2) of an hour prior to sunset and one-half (1/2) of an hour after sunrise, or any other time when there is not sufficient light to render clearly identifiable objects, persons, or vehicles on the roadway.
 - 1. A head lamp shall emit a white light and be visible from the front at a distance no less than five hundred (500) feet.
 - 2. A rear red reflector shall be visible when illuminated by a vehicle head lamp from a distance of not less than three hundred (300) feet.

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3. A rear red lamp visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the rear may be used in addition to the rear red reflector.
- B. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard unless it is equipped with a brake which enables the operator to make a braked wheel(s) skid on pavement.
- C. Any operator of a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard under the age of eighteen (18) years being operated on a roadway shall at all times wear a helmet on his or her head in an appropriate and safely secured manner. The helmet should be DOT approved and designated "full-face protection" by the manufacturer.
- D. No person shall operate a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard without wearing footwear. The foot wear must have a sole and completely cover the feet and toes.
- E. The operator of a motorized play vehicle or motorized skateboard shall wear at all times, eye protection.

Section 12-4-8 Duties of sellers of motorized play vehicles and motorized skateboards.

- A. Any person who sells a new motorized play vehicle or a new motorized skateboard in the City of Maricopa, shall display, at the place of sale, Maricopa City Code Article 12-4.
- B. Any person who sells a new motorized play vehicle or a new motorized skateboard in the City of Maricopa by mail-order shipment to an address in the City of Maricopa, shall include a copy of Maricopa City Code Article 12-4 in the shipment.
- C. Any person who sells a new motorized play vehicle or a new motorized skateboard in the
- D. City of Maricopa shall provide to the buyer written notice that motor vehicle insurance policies and some homeowners' insurance policies will not cover liability claims involving these types of vehicles. This notice shall be in addition to any warnings or notices provided by the manufacturer.

Section 12-4-9 Violations.

Violations of this article are civil traffic violations and shall be cited and penalized in the same manner as provided by law for other civil violations.