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First Reading 2-2-26

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Ordinance No. 026225

Council Bill No. B 24-26

AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 14 of the City Code as it relates to the definition of a pedestrian; making gender-neutral grammatical edits; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

Sec. 14-1. Definitions.

The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed:

...

Pedestrian. The term pedestrian shall include a person on foot, a person walking a bicycle and a person operating a manual or ~~electric wheelchair~~ powered mobility device.

...

Sec. 14-6. Passengers to remain inside vehicles.

No person shall allow any part of ~~his~~ their body to protrude beyond the limits of the vehicle in which ~~he~~ such person is riding, except to give such signals as are required by law, and no person shall hang onto any vehicle whatsoever or ride upon the outside of any vehicle.

...

Sec. 14-9. Riding in stolen motor vehicle.

No person shall knowingly ride in a motor vehicle which has been stolen or is being operated without the consent of the owner thereof. The provisions of this section shall apply to any person employed by the owner of such motor vehicle as a chauffeur or registered operator if such vehicle is driven or operated, used or tampered with without the owner's knowledge or expressed consent, or in violation of ~~his~~the owner's instructions.

...

Sec. 14-32. Emergency and experimental regulations.

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(c) The city traffic engineer shall keep a record in ~~his~~the city traffic engineer's office of all regulations made under the authority of subsection (b) of this section, which shall be open for public inspection.

...

Sec. 14-61. Office established; general powers and duties; state highway commission to function as for state highways.

(a) The office of city traffic engineer within the department of public works is established. The director of public works or ~~his~~the director's designated city official shall serve as city traffic engineer in addition to ~~his~~such person's other functions, and shall exercise the powers and duties with respect to traffic as provided in this chapter.

...

Sec. 14-91. Leaving the scene of an accident.

No person operating or driving a vehicle on any street, alley or highway within the city, knowing that an injury has been caused to a person or damage has been caused to property, due to the culpability of such operator or driver, or to accident, shall leave the place of such injury, damage or accident without stopping and giving ~~his~~such operator's or driver's name, residence, including city and street number, motor vehicle number and chauffeur's or registered operator's number, if any, to the injured party or to a police officer, or if no police officer is in the vicinity, then to the nearest police station or judicial officer. Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor as defined and provided for in chapter 16.

Sec. 14-92. Reporting of accidents.

(a) When required—Generally. Every person operating a vehicle within the city involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or damage to property

shall immediately, by the quickest means of communication, give notice of such accident to the police department. Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve any person from ~~his~~such person's obligations under section 14-91. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed to be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor as defined and provided for in Chapter 16.

...

Sec. 14-93. Public inspection of accident reports.

(a) All written reports made by persons involved in accidents or by garages shall be without prejudice to the individual so reporting and shall be for the confidential use of the police department or other governmental agencies having use for the records for accident prevention purposes, except that the police department or other governmental agency may disclose the identity of a person involved in an accident when such identity is not otherwise known or when such person denies ~~his~~their presence at such accident.

...

Sec. 14-139. Windows and windshields must be unobstructed and windshields must be equipped with wipers.

(a) No person shall drive any motor vehicle with any object suspended or mounted in any manner between the driver and the front windshield or with any sign, poster, snow, ice or other nontransparent material upon the front windshield, side wings, or side or rear windows of such vehicle, which obstructs or interferes with the driver's clear view of the street, or which might divert ~~his~~the driver's attention from the street.

...

Sec. 14-164. Operation of vehicles on approach of authorized emergency vehicles.

...

(c) Driver responsibility:

(1) The driver of any vehicle referred to in subdivisions (1), (2), (3) and (4) of subsection (b) of this section shall not sound the siren thereon or have the front red lights or blue lights on except when the vehicle is responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected law violator, or when responding to, but not upon returning from, a fire;

(2) The driver of an emergency vehicle may:

a. Park or stand irrespective of the provisions of

- b. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation
- c. Exceed the prima facie speed limit so long as ~~he~~ such person does not endanger life or property;
- d. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions;

...

Sec. 14-165. Privileges of drivers of authorized emergency vehicles.

(a) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, or when responding to, but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions herein stated.

(b) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

- (1) Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter;
- (2) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;
- (3) Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as ~~he~~ such person does not endanger life or property; and
- (4) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

(c) The exemptions herein granted to an authorized emergency vehicle shall apply only when the driver of any such vehicle while in motion sounds audible signal by bell, siren, or exhaust whistle as may be reasonably necessary, and when the vehicle is equipped with at least one (1) lighted lamp displaying a red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the front of such vehicle.

(d) The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his ~~his~~ the driver's reckless disregard for the safety of others.

...

Sec. 14-177. Weight limits on city roads and bridges reduced, when; penalty for violation.

(a) Whenever the director of public works shall find that any city road or bridge of such city is in such a condition that use thereof by vehicles of the weights specified in Section 304.180, RSMo., 1969, will endanger the road or bridge, or the users thereof, ~~he~~ such person may with the approval of the city manager establish maximum weight limits for vehicles using such road or bridge in such amounts as will preserve the road or bridge and provide a reasonable margin of safety to the users thereof. Notice of any such weight limit established shall be given by posting signs at convenient and public places along any such road, and in conspicuous places at each end of any such bridge.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle of a weight in excess of the maximum limit established pursuant to the provisions of this chapter on or over any road or bridge upon which such maximum weight limits have been established unless ~~he~~ such person shall have the express permission of the officer employed to establish such limit. Any person who shall violate the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be liable in a civil action for any damages to the road or bridge.

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Sec. 14-184. Passenger restraint system required for children under sixteen years of age.

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(c) Any driver who violates subsections (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (b) of this section is guilty of an infraction and, upon conviction, may be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and court costs. Any driver who violates subsection (4) of subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to the penalty in subsection (g) of section 14-183. If a driver receives a citation for violating subsection (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (b) of this section, the charges shall be dismissed if the driver prior to or at ~~his or her~~ such driver's hearing provides evidence of acquisition of a child passenger restraint system or child booster seat which is satisfactory to the court.

...

Sec. 14-185. Operating a motor vehicle without a driver license.

(a) It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle upon any street in the city unless such person has a valid Missouri driver license or unless such person is legally licensed to operate a motor vehicle in the state of ~~his~~ residence.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to operate a motorcycle or motortricycle upon any street in the city unless such person has passed an examination for the operation of a motorcycle or motortricycle as prescribed by the Missouri director of revenue or unless such person is legally licensed to operate a motorcycle or motortricycle in the state of ~~his~~ residence.

...

Sec. 14-237. Slowing, stopping and turning signals.

No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of, or turn a vehicle from a street course or move right or left upon a roadway unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety, and then only after giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided herein:

- (1) *Slow or stop.* An operator or driver, while stopping, or when checking the speed of ~~his~~their vehicle, if the movement of other vehicles or cycles may reasonably be affected by checking such speed, shall extend ~~his~~their arm at an angle below horizontal so the same may be seen from the rear of ~~his~~the vehicle.
- (2) *Right turn.* An operator or driver intending to turn ~~his~~their vehicle to the right shall extend ~~his~~their arm at an angle above horizontal so that the same may be seen in front of and in the rear of ~~his~~the vehicle, and shall slow down and approach the intersecting highway as nearly as practicable to the right side of the highway along which ~~he~~such person is proceeding before turning.
- (3) *Left turn.* An operator or driver intending to turn ~~his~~their vehicle to the left shall extend ~~his~~their arm in a horizontal position so that the same may be seen from the rear of ~~his~~the vehicle, and shall slow down and approach the intersecting highway so that the left side of ~~his~~their vehicle shall be near as practicable to the centerline of the highway along which ~~he~~such person is proceeding before turning.

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Sec. 14-240. Overtaking and passing.

(a) Rules generally. The following rules shall govern the overtaking and passing of vehicles proceeding in the same direction, subject to the limitations and exceptions hereinafter stated:

- (1) An operator or driver overtaking and desiring to pass a vehicle or cycle shall sound the horn before starting to pass, except in such places where prohibited by ordinance.
- (2) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle or cycle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle.

- (3) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver of an overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle or cycle on audible signal and shall not increase the speed of ~~his~~ their vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

...

Sec. 14-246. Other intersections where stop or yield required.

The city traffic engineer is hereby authorized to determine and designate intersections where particular hazard exists upon other than through streets and to determine whether vehicles shall stop at one (1) or more entrances to any such intersection, in which event ~~he~~ such person shall cause to be erected a stop sign at every such place where a stop is required, or whether vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles on a different street at such intersection, as prescribed in section 12-249, in which event ~~he~~ such person shall cause to be erected a yield sign at every place where obedience thereto is required.

...

Sec. 14-249. Vehicle entering yield intersections.

The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall, in obedience to such sign, slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions and shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or cycle in the intersection or approaching on another highway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time such driver is moving across or within the intersection; provided, however, that if such a driver is involved in a collision with a vehicle or cycle in the intersection, after driving past a yield sign without stopping, such collision shall be deemed prima facie evidence of ~~his~~ the driver's failure to yield right-of-way. The word "cycle," as used in this division, shall be defined as in section 14-491.

...

Sec. 14-251. Stop when traffic obstructed.

No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle ~~he~~ such person is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or cycles or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic control signal indication to proceed. The word "cycle," as used in this division, shall be defined as in section 14-491.

...

Sec. 14-253. Obedience to signal indicating approach of train.

(a) Whenever any person driving a vehicle approaches a railroad grade crossing under, any of the circumstances stated in this section, the driver of such vehicle shall stop within fifty (50) feet, but not less than fifteen (15) feet from the nearest rail of such railroad, and shall not proceed until ~~he~~such person can do so safely. The foregoing requirements shall apply when:

...

Sec. 14-284. Parking adjacent to schools.

(a) The city traffic engineer is hereby authorized to erect signs indicating no parking or special parking restrictions upon either or both sides of any street adjacent to any school property when such parking would, in ~~his~~city traffic engineer's opinion, interfere with traffic or create a hazardous situation.

...

Sec. 14-286. Stopping, standing or parking prohibited.

...

(b) No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under ~~his~~such person's control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such a distance as is unlawful.

...

Sec. 14-294. Authority to designate bus stops and stands; use generally.

(a) The director of public works is hereby authorized and required to establish bus stops and bus stands on such public streets and parking lots in such places and in such number as ~~he~~the director shall determine to be of the greatest benefit and convenience to the public, and every such bus stop and bus stand shall be designated by appropriate signs.

...

Sec. 14-297. Moving vehicle from parked position.

(a) Angle parked vehicles. A vehicle parked at an angle to the curb on any street in the city shall be backed out at that angle until it has cleared other parked vehicles. The driver of such vehicle shall then proceed in the direction in which ~~he~~such person is most nearly headed, provided that no vehicle shall be moved from such parked position unless such movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other

traffic upon such street. The driver moving a vehicle from such parked position shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles which are in motion upon such street.

...

Sec. 14-441. Definitions.

(a) For the purpose of this article, the following words and terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed:

Physically disabled. Any natural person with disabilities which limit or impair the ability to walk, as determined by a licensed physician as follows:

- (1) The person cannot walk fifty (50) feet without stopping to rest; or
- (2) The person cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device; or
- (3) Is restricted by lung disease to such an extent that the person's forced respiratory expiratory volume for one (1) second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one (1) liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty (60) mm/hg on room air at rest; or
- (4) Uses portable oxygen; or
- (5) Has a cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as class III or class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association; or
- (6) ~~The person is~~ severely limited in ~~his~~the ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

...

Sec. 14-445. Meter Parking.

(a) Any licensed driver with a vehicle registered in ~~his or her~~licensed driver's name which displays a current handicapped or disabled license plate or hangtag who has a disability which prevents placement of a coin in a parking meter or operation of a parking meter may purchase a sticker or other device from the City authorizing the person to park in a metered space without depositing the necessary coins in a meter.

...

Sec. 14-461. Authority to install traffic control devices.

The city traffic engineer shall place and maintain traffic control signs, signals and devices when and as required under the traffic ordinances of the city to make effective the provisions of such ordinances, and may place and maintain such additional traffic control devices as ~~he~~ the city traffic engineer may deem necessary to regulate traffic under the traffic ordinances of the city or under state law or to guide or warn traffic.

...

Sec. 14-471. Designation of crosswalks; establishment of safety zones.

The city traffic engineer is hereby authorized:

- (1) To designate and maintain, by appropriate devices, marks or lines upon the surface of the roadway, crosswalks at intersections where, in ~~his~~ the city traffic engineer's opinion, there is particular danger to pedestrians crossing the roadway, and at such other places as ~~he~~ the city traffic engineer may deem necessary.
- (2) To establish safety zones of such kind and character and at such places as ~~he~~ the city traffic engineer may deem necessary for the protection of pedestrians.

...

Sec. 14-475. Authority to establish zones of quiet.

(a) The city traffic engineer is hereby authorized to establish zones of quiet near hospitals, as ~~he may deem~~ deemed necessary.

...

Sec. 14-496. Same—Inspection of cycles; denial of license.

A designee of the city manager shall inspect each cycle before licensing the same and shall refuse a license for any cycle which ~~he determines~~ is determined to be in unsafe mechanical condition.

...

Sec. 14-508. Required equipment.

...

(b) *Lights.* Each person operating a cycle on a street or highway during the period from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise shall have ~~his~~ such person's cycle equipped with the following:

...

Sec. 14-527. Riding on motorcycles.

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(b) No person shall ride a motorcycle on any street without having ~~his~~ such person's hands upon the handlebars, nor shall any person ride a motorcycle upon any sidewalk, walkway or footpath within the city.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this 14th day of February, 2026.

ATTEST:



City Clerk



Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Counselor