

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 265-25

AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 14 of the City Code to add a new section relating to the rights and duties of motorists and pedestrians in major corridor roadways and major corridor intersections; 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 by adding a new Sec. 14-587 to read as follows:

Sec. 14-587. Rights and duties of motorists and pedestrians in major corridor roadways and major corridor intersections.

- (a) City council finds and declares that the purpose of this section is to:
 - (1) Provide additional safety protections for motorists and pedestrians from traffic hazards and potential injuries that they may be exposed to when persons engage in any activity on those portions of public streets with high traffic volumes and/or high-speed limits that are open, improved, and in actual use for vehicular travel, and on medians within public streets that have high traffic volumes and/or high-speed limits;
 - (2) Provide additional safety protections for motorists and pedestrians from traffic hazards and potential injury which may result from distractions created by persons engaging in activities on public streets with high traffic volumes and/or high-speed limits or medians within public streets that have high traffic volumes and/or high-speed limits; and
 - (3) Provide additional safety protections for the safe and expeditious flow of traffic at city intersections for both pedestrians and vehicles.

(b) Definitions. The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this section shall have the following meanings, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Distribution conduct. An exchange which requires an acceptance or rejection of the item being distributed between a person located in a major corridor roadway and an occupant of a vehicle operating on a major corridor roadway.

Major corridor intersection. For the purposes of this section only, any intersection with a speed limit, on at least one approach, of 35 miles per hour or greater; and/or average traffic volumes greater than 15,000 vehicles per day on at least one roadway; and/or a median less than six (6) feet wide in at least one roadway; and which has been designated as a major corridor intersection by the director of public works. "Major corridor intersection" shall include the intersecting roadways of a major corridor intersection for a distance of 100 feet from the intersection.

Major corridor roadway. For the purposes of this section only, any roadway with a speed limit of at least 35 miles per hour or greater and/or average traffic volumes greater than 15,000 vehicles per day; and any other roadway which has been designated as a major corridor roadway by the director of public works.

Median or island. The area between separated traffic lanes measured from edge of the traveled way to edge of the traveled way, including areas between traffic lanes for control of vehicular movements. Such an area may be physically defined by curbing, landscaping, or other physical obstacles to the area's use by vehicles or by traffic control markings, such as paint.

(c) The director of public works is authorized to designate roadways as major corridor roadways and intersections as major corridor intersections in accordance with the criteria listed above and list them in a schedule established from time-to-time and placed on file with the city clerk.

(d) Prohibitions.

- (1) No person shall cross a major corridor roadway at any place except in a crosswalk. Where there is no crosswalk, a person shall cross only where a pedestrian-control signal is located. Where there is no crosswalk or pedestrian-control signal, a person shall cross only at an intersection.
- (2) No person shall be located upon a median in a major corridor intersection and/or on a median that is less than six (6) feet in width unless in the process of legally crossing a roadway. Failure of a person to leave the median after two consecutive opportunities to cross the roadway in a lawful manner is prima facie evidence of a violation of this subsection, unless such person's mobility is restricted to a degree which makes such person unable to safely cross the roadway during two (2) consecutive opportunities.
- (3) Except in the event of a vehicular or medical emergency, it shall be unlawful for an occupant of a vehicle to exit a vehicle while located within

a traveling lane of traffic on a major corridor roadway or within a major corridor intersection.

- (4) No person, other than an occupant of a vehicle, shall be upon a major corridor roadway except to lawfully cross such roadway.
- (5) No person while upon a major corridor roadway shall approach a vehicle upon such roadway, except a vehicle that is lawfully parked.
- (6) No occupant of a vehicle being operated on a major corridor roadway shall engage in distribution conduct with a pedestrian standing in or entering upon a major corridor roadway. Nothing contained herein is intended to prohibit:
 - a. Distributing anything to or accepting anything from occupants of a lawfully parked vehicle;
 - b. Distributing anything to or accepting anything from occupants of a vehicle adjacent to a sidewalk if the person accepting or distributing remains at all times on the adjacent sidewalk; provided, however, the vehicle may not obstruct or impede moving traffic in order to engage in distribution conduct with a person standing on a sidewalk; or
 - c. Parking and exiting a vehicle to distribute anything to or accept anything from another person on a public sidewalk.
- (e) Exceptions. This section shall not apply to:
 - (1) Any law enforcement officer acting within the scope of such officer's official duties;
 - (2) Any person engaged in rescue activities, including aiding an injured person or disabled vehicle;
 - (3) Any person engaged in emergency repair or maintenance of a vehicle;
 - (4) Public employees acting within the scope of their duties;
 - (5) Any person performing work in a major corridor roadway pursuant to a valid permit;
 - (6) Any person occupying the roadway or distributing anything to or accepting anything from the occupant of a vehicle during a permitted special event; provided, however, all individuals participating in or attending a special event shall be required to comply with any rules, regulations and

temporary traffic control measures established for the safe conduct of the special event; or

- (7) Any person entering a stopped vehicle in a designated passenger loading zone as an invited passenger where it is lawful to do so, including accessing taxicabs or public transportation.

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

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor