

CHAPTER 76

BICYCLE REGULATIONS

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76.01 DEFINITIONS.

BICYCLE: Either of the following:

- A. A device having up to four (4) wheels and having at least one saddle or seat for the use of a rider which is propelled by human power.
- B. A device having up to four (4) wheels with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of one horsepower or less.

MULTI-USE TRAIL: A way or place, the use of which is controlled by the city as an owner of real property, or under the control of the city by easement, designated by the multi-use recreational trail maps, as approved by resolution by the city council, and no multiuse trail shall be considered as a street or highway.

76.02 ALTERATION OF SERIAL FRAME NUMBER. It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully or maliciously remove, destroy, mutilate or alter the manufacturer's serial frame number of any bicycle.

76.03 SIRENS PROHIBITED. A bicycle shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use upon a bicycle any siren. This section shall not apply to bicycles ridden by peace officers in the line of duty.

76.04 LAMPS AND REFLECTORS.

- A. Every bicycle ridden at any time from sunset to sunrise that is the street or traveling more than 5 blocks and at such other times when

conditions such as fog, snow, sleet, or rain provide insufficient lighting to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of three hundred feet (300') ahead shall be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light and a red light or reflector on the rear visible from a distance of at least three hundred feet (300') to the front.

- B. Equivalent equipment such as headlamps and red light attachments to the arm or leg may be used in lieu of a lamp on the front and a red light on the rear of the bicycle, provided such equipment is visible from a distance of at least three hundred feet (300') to both the front and rear of the bicycle.
- C. A peace officer riding a police bicycle is not required to use either front or rear lamps if duty so requires.

76.05 STOPPING. Every bicycle used upon the city streets, sidewalks, highways, park roads or multi-use trails shall be able to come to a complete stop within a safe distance.

76.06 APPLICABILITY OF MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS. Every person operating a bicycle upon the city streets, highways, park roads, or multiuse trails shall be subject to this chapter and other city traffic ordinances and the state statutes applicable to the drivers of motor vehicles, except as to special regulations in this chapter and except as to those provisions of ordinances and statutes which by their nature can have no application or those provisions for which specific exceptions have been set forth regarding police bicycles.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.234)

76.07 OBEDIENCE TO SIGNALS. Every person operating a bicycle shall obey the directions of official traffic signals, signs and other control devices applicable to other vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, and shall obey direction signs relative to turns permitted, unless such person dismounts from the bicycle, when he or she shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians.

76.08 IMPROPER RIDING.

- A. A person propelling a bicycle on any street, sidewalk, highway, park road or multiuse recreational trail, shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle and shall not use a bicycle to carry more persons at one time than the number of persons for which the bicycle is designed and equipped.

- B. This section does not apply to the use of a bicycle in a parade or special event authorized by the city.

76.09 CARRYING PACKAGES. No person operating a bicycle upon a street, sidewalk, highway, park road or multiuse trail shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

76.10 CONTROL WITH HANDS ON HANDLEBARS. The operator of a bicycle upon a street, sidewalk, highway, park road or multiuse trail shall keep the bicycle under control at all times and at all times during operation shall have one or both hands upon the handlebars and the feet engaged with the braking device if the braking device is designed to be actuated by the feet.

76.11 PLACE OF RIDING.

- A. Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at a speed less than the normal speed of traffic moving in the same direction shall ride as close as practicable to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway except under any of the following situations:
1. When overtaking and passing another bicycle vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
 2. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.
 3. When reasonably necessary to avoid conditions (including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or substandard width lanes) that make it unsafe to continue along the right hand curb or edge. For purposes of this section, a "substandard width lane" is a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and a vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.
- B. This section does not apply to the use of a bicycle in a parade or special event authorized by the city.

76.11 BICYCLE LANES.

- A. Whenever a bicycle lane has been established on a roadway, any person operation a bicycle upon the roadway moving in the same direction may ride within the bicycle lane.

- B. Where a useable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway known as S James Street from the south Sports Complex to the south city limits of Grimes, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.
- C. Any person operating a bicycle within a bicycle lane may move out of the lane when overtaking and passing another bicycle, vehicle, or pedestrian within the lane or about to enter the lane if such overtaking and passing cannot be done safely within the lane.
- D. No person operating a bicycle shall leave a bicycle lane until the movement can be made with reasonable safety and then only after giving an appropriate signal.
- E. No person shall drive a motor vehicle in a bicycle lane established on a roadway except as follows:
 - 1. To park where parking is permitted.
 - 2. To enter or leave the roadway.
 - 3. To prepare for a turn within a distance of two hundred feet (200') from the intersection.

76.13 EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY. The operator of a bicycle emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway or driveway, yield the right of way to all pedestrians approaching on the sidewalk or sidewalk area and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on the roadway.

76.14 OPERATION ON SIDEWALK. Bicycles may be operated upon the public sidewalks in a careful and prudent manner, except where signs are erected to prohibit riding on the sidewalk. Every person lawfully operating a bicycle upon a public sidewalk shall yield to right of way when approaching a pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing.

76.15 CLINGING TO OTHER VEHICLES. No person riding upon any bicycle on a street, sidewalk, highway, park road or multiuse trail shall attach the bicycle or himself or herself to any moving vehicle by towrope, handgrip or otherwise.

76.16 FOLLOWING EMERGENCY VEHICLES. No person riding a bicycle shall follow closer than five hundred feet (500') of an emergency vehicle as defined by

Iowa Code section 321.1 which has emergency lights an/or siren activated, and shall not stop, park, or leave a bicycle within five hundred feet (500') of an emergency vehicle stopped in response to an emergency.

76.17 PARKING. No person over the age of 15 years old shall leave a bicycle lying on its side on any sidewalk, or shall park a bicycle on a sidewalk in any other position, so that there is not an adequate path for pedestrian traffic.

76.18 RECKLESS OPERATION. No person shall operate a bicycle with willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.

76.19 VIOLATIONS; PENALTY. Unless another penalty is expressly provided by his chapter for any particular provision or section, any person violating any provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation adopted herein by reference shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100).