

**TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT
CODE OF ORDINANCES**

PART 7: VEHICLES, TRAFFIC, AND PARKING

(as amended through September 8, 2026)

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CHAPTER 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 7-1.1 Definitions of words and phrases

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall for the purpose of this chapter have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this article:

1. "Alley"- A thoroughfare through the middle of a block.
2. "Authorized Emergency Vehicle"- Vehicles of the Fire Department, police vehicles, and such ambulances and emergency vehicles of municipal departments or public service corporations as are designated or authorized by the Chief of Police.
3. "Bicycle"- Every device propelled by human power upon which any person may ride, having two (2) tandem wheels.
4. "Commercial Vehicle"- Every vehicle designed, maintained or used primarily for the transportation of property.
5. "Controlled-access Highway"- Every highway, street, or roadway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting property or lands and other persons have no legal right of access to or from the same, except at such points only and in such manner as may be determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over such highway, street or roadway.
6. "Crosswalk"-The part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs, or in the absence of curbs from the edges of the traversable roadway. Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.
7. "Curb Loading Zone"- A space adjacent to a curb reserved for the exclusive use of vehicles during the loading or unloading of passengers or materials.
8. "Driver"-The operator of a vehicle.
9. "Driver's License"- A valid license issued to operate a motor vehicle issued by North Carolina or any other state.
10. "Financial Responsibility" - Liability insurance coverage on a golf cart in an amount not less than required by North Carolina law for motor vehicles operated on public highways in the State of North Carolina.
11. "Operator"- Only persons over 16 years of age and holding a valid driver's license may operate motor vehicles, including golf carts, on roads.
12. "Freight Curb Loading Zone" - A space adjacent to a curb for the exclusive use of vehicles during the loading or unloading of freight or passengers.

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13. "Golf Cart" – Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, a vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 miles per hour.
14. "Intersection" - The area embraced within the prolongation of the lateral curb lines or, if none, then the lateral edge of roadway lines of two (2) or more highways which join one another at any angle whether or not one (1) such highway crosses the other. Where a highway includes two (2) roadways thirty (30) feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway be an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event that such intersecting highway also included two (2) roadways thirty (30) feet or more apart, then every crossing of two (2) roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.
15. "Laned Roadway" - A roadway which is divided into two (2) or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.
16. "Low-speed vehicle"- Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, a four-wheeled electric vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 mph, but less than 25 miles per hour.
17. "Mini-truck" – Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, a motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property and having four wheels, an engine displacement of 660cc or less, an overall length of 130 inches or less, an overall height of 78 inches or less, and an overall width of 60 inches or less.
18. "Modified utility vehicle" – Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, a motor vehicle that (i) is manufactured or upfitted by a licensed manufacturer, dealer, or person or business otherwise engaged in vehicle manufacturing or modification for off-road use with equipment required by N.C.G.S. 20-121.1(2a), except a vehicle identification number, and (ii) has four wheels, an overall length of 110 inches or greater, an overall width of 58 inches or greater, an overall height of 60 inches or greater, a maximum speed capability of 40 miles per hour or greater, and does not require an operator or passenger to straddle a seat. "Modified utility vehicle" does not include an all-terrain vehicle, golf cart, or utility vehicle, as defined in this section, or a riding lawn mower.
19. "Moped" – Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, vehicle, other than a motor-driven bicycle or electric assisted bicycle, that has two or three wheels, no external shifting device, a motor that does not exceed 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement and cannot propel the vehicle at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on a level surface. The motor may be powered by electricity, alternative fuel, motor fuel, or a combination of each.
20. "Motorcycle"- Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, a vehicle having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground, including autocycles, motor scooters, and motor-driven bicycles but excluding tractors and utility vehicles equipped with an additional form of device designated to transport property, and three (3) wheeled vehicles while being used by law enforcement agencies, electric assisted bicycles, and mopeds.
21. "Motor-driven bicycle" – Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, vehicle with two (2) or three (3) wheels, a steering handle, one or two saddle seats, pedals, and a motor that cannot propel the vehicle at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour on a level surface. This term shall

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not include an electric assisted bicycle as defined as a moped. The motor may be powered by electricity, alternative fuel, motor fuel, or a combination of each.

22. "Motor Vehicle"- Subject the definition in North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01, a vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle designated to run upon the highways which is pulled by a self-propelled vehicle.
23. "Official Time Standard"- Whenever certain hours are named herein they shall mean standard time or daylight savings time as may be in current use in the Town.
24. "Official Traffic-control Devices"- All signs, signals, markings, and devices not inconsistent with this chapter placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.
25. "Park"- When prohibited means the standing of a vehicle whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading.
26. "Passenger Curb Loading Zone"- A place adjacent to a curb reserved for the exclusive use of vehicles during the loading or unloading of passengers.
27. "Pedestrian"- Any person traveling by foot or by way of accessibility device or mobility aid, such as a wheelchair.
28. "Person"- Every individual, firm, partnership, associations, corporation, governmental agency, or combination thereof of whatsoever form or character.
29. "Police Department" – Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department
30. "Police Officer"- Deputies of the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department or any officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrest for violations of traffic regulations.
31. "Private Road or Driveway"- Every road or driveway not open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purpose of vehicular traffic. The terms "highway" or "street" or a combination of the two terms shall be used synonymously
32. "Railroad"- A carrier of persons or property upon cars operate upon stationary rails.
33. "Railroad Train" - A steam engine, electric or other motor, with or without cars coupled therefore, operated upon rails.
34. "Right-of-way" - The privilege of the immediate use of the roadway.
35. "Roadway" - That portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the shoulder. In the event a highway includes two (2) or more separate roadways the term "roadway" as used herein shall refer to any such roadway separately but not to all such roadways collectively.

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36. "Safety Zone"- Traffic island or other space officially set aside within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and which is so plainly marked or indicated by proper signs as to be plainly visible at all times while set apart as a safety zone.
37. "Shared Lane Streets"- Streets which are marked "sharrows," depicting a bicycle and arrows, for bicycles to share the travel lane with motor vehicle traffic.
38. "Sidewalk"-That portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines intended for the use of pedestrians.
39. "Sight Triangle"-The area at an intersection of streets or a driveway and a street in which sight distance shall be unobstructed by any structure, landscaping, sign, parked vehicle or similar obstruction which would create a hazard for vehicles attempting to enter the flow of traffic. For the purposes of this ordinance
40. "Stop"- When required means complete cessation of movement, stopping or standing of a vehicle whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic-control sign or signal.
41. "Street or Highway"- The entire width between property or right-of-way lines of every way or place of whatever nature, when any part thereof is open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purposes of vehicular traffic. The terms "highway" or "street" or a combination of the two terms shall be used synonymously.
42. "Through Street"-Every street or highway or portion thereof at the entrances to which vehicular traffic from intersection streets or highways is required by law to stop before entering or crossing the same when stop signs are erected as provided in this chapter.
43. "Traffic"- Pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, and other conveyances either singly or together while using any street for purposes of travel.
44. "Traffic-controlled Signal"- Any device, whether manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and to proceed.
45. "Vehicle"- Every device in, upon, or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon fixed rails or tracks; provided, that for the purpose of this article bicycles shall be deemed vehicles and every rider of a bicycle upon a highway shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter applicable to the driver of a vehicle except those which by their nature can have no application.

(Amended 9-12-2022)

CHAPTER 2: ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT

Section 7-2.1 Authority of Police and Fire Department officials

- A. The Town Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes deputies of the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department to police and enforce this Part 7 of the Code of Ordinances.
- B. It shall be the duty of the officers of the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department or such officers as are assigned by the Cabarrus County Sheriff, to enforce all street traffic laws and all of the State vehicle laws applicable to street traffic.
- C. Officers of the Sheriff's Department or such officers as are assigned by the Sheriff are hereby authorized to direct all traffic by voice, hand, or signal in conformance with traffic laws, provided that, in the event of a fire or other emergency or to expedite traffic or to safeguard pedestrians, officers of the Sheriff's Department may direct traffic as conditions may require notwithstanding the provisions of the traffic laws.
- D. Officers of the Fire Department, when at the scene of a fire or other emergency, may direct or assist the deputies in directing traffic thereat or in the immediate vicinity.
- E. No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of a deputy or Fire Department official.
- F. The Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department and the Fire Department have the authority to have a vehicle towed or otherwise removed if said vehicle is interfering with the ability of the departments to effectively respond in an emergency situation.

Section 7-2.2 Public employees to obey traffic regulations

The provisions of this Part shall apply to the driver of any vehicle owned by, or used in the service of, the United States Government, this State, County or Town, and it shall be unlawful for any said driver to violate any of the provisions of this chapter, except as otherwise permitted in this chapter, or by State statute.

Section 7-2.3 Authorized emergency vehicles

- A. The provisions of this Part regulating the operation, parking, and standing of vehicles shall apply to authorized emergency vehicles, as defined in this chapter except that a driver when operating such vehicle in any emergency, except when otherwise directed by a police officer, may:
 - 1. Park or stand, notwithstanding the provisions of this Part.
 - 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 prima facie speed limits so long as he does not endanger life or property; or

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4. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement, or turning in specified directions so long as he does not endanger life or property.
- B. The foregoing exemptions shall not, however, protect the driver of any such vehicle from the consequences of his reckless disregard of the safety of others.

Section 7-2.4 Enforcement procedures and penalties

- A. Speed and movement violations shall be ticketed in the manner as established by the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department, as consistent with state law.
- B. Parking violations shall be ticketed in the manner established by the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department. Fines for each ticket shall be in the amount of \$25.00.
- C. Unless otherwise provided, penalties shall be administered subject to Section 1-1.5 of this Code of Ordinances.

(Amended 9-12-2022)

CHAPTER 3: TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES AND SIGNS

Section 7-3.1 Authority to install traffic-control devices

The Town and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) shall place and maintain traffic control signs, signals, and devices when and as required under the traffic ordinances to make effective the provisions of said ordinances and may place and maintain such additional traffic control devices to regulate traffic under the traffic ordinances of the Town or under State law, or to guide or warn traffic.

Section 7-3.2 Specifications for traffic-control devices

All traffic-control signs, signals, and devices shall conform to State regulations and Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). All signs and signals required hereunder for a particular purpose shall as far as practicable be uniform as to type and location. All traffic-control devices so erected and not inconsistent with the provisions of State law or this Part shall be official traffic-control devices.

Section 7-3.3 Obedience to official traffic-control devices

The driver of any vehicle shall obey the directions of any official traffic control device applicable thereto and placed in accordance with State regulations and the traffic ordinances of the Town, unless otherwise directed by a police or fire official, subject to the exceptions granted the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle.

Section 7-3.4 Pedestrian control signals

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows:

- A. Walk. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the highway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.
- B. Don't Walk. No pedestrian shall start to cross the highway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "Walk" sign shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "Don't Walk" signal is showing.

Section 7-3.5 Flashing signals

Whenever flashing red or yellow signals are used they shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

- A. Flashing Red (stop signal). When a red lens is illumined by rapid intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at an intersection, or at a limit line when marked, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.
- B. Flashing Yellow (caution signal). When a yellow lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

Section 7-3.6 Display of unauthorized signs, signals, or markings

- A. No person shall place, maintain, or display upon or in view of any highway any unauthorized sign, signal, marking or device which purports to be or is in imitation of or resembles an official traffic-

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control device or railroad sign or signal or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic, or which hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of any official traffic-control device or any railroad sign or signal.

- B. No person shall place or maintain nor shall any public authority permit upon any highway any traffic sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising.
- C. This section shall not be deemed to prohibit the erection upon private property adjacent to highways of signs giving useful directional information and of a type that cannot be mistaken for official signs.
- D. Every such prohibited sign, signal, or marking is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and the authority having jurisdiction over the highway is hereby empowered to remove the same or cause it to be removed without notice.

Section 7-3.7 Interference with official traffic-control devices

No person shall without lawful authority attempt to or in fact alter, deface, injure, knock down, or remove any official traffic-control device, sign, or signal or any inscription, shield, or insignia thereon, or any other party thereof.

Section 7-3.8 Traffic lanes

Where traffic lanes have been marked, it shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to fail or refuse to keep such vehicle within the boundaries of any such lane except when lawfully passing another vehicle or preparatory to making a lawful turning movement.

(Amended 9-12-2022)

CHAPTER 4: VEHICLE OPERATION

Section 7-4.1 Use of coasters, roller skates, scooters, and similar devices

No person upon roller skates, or riding in or by means of any coaster, scooter, toy vehicle, or similar device, shall use any roadway for which the speed limit exceeds 25mph, except while crossing a street on a crosswalk and when so crossing such person shall be granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to pedestrians. This section shall not apply upon any residential street with a speed limit of 25mph or less.

Section 7-4.2 Use of push carts, animals, or animal-drawn vehicles

Every person propelling any push cart or riding a horse or other animal upon a roadway, and every person driving any animal-drawn vehicle, shall be subject to the provisions of N.C.G.S. Chapter 20, Part 10, as applicable to the driver of any vehicle, except those provisions of this Part which, by their very nature, can have no application. No person shall drive, lead, or ride any animal or animal-drawn vehicle upon a sidewalk within the Town.

Section 7-4.3 Animal-drawn vehicles for hire

Animal-drawn vehicles for hire are not permitted within the Town limits.

Section 7-4.4 Use of bicycles

- A. The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this Section.
- B. These regulations applicable to bicycles shall apply whenever a bicycle is operated upon any street or upon any public path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, subject to those exceptions stated herein.
- C. Every person riding a bicycle 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 vehicles or by this chapter applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to special regulations in this article and except as to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application.
- D. Any person operating a bicycle shall obey the instructions of official traffic-control signals, signs and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.
- E. Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right or left or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a bicycle shall disobey the direction of any such sign, except where such person dismounts from the bicycle to make any such turn, in which event such person shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians.
- F. A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.
- G. No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designate and equipped.

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- H. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride as near to the right-hand side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.
- I. Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two (2) abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.
- J. Whenever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.
- K. No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the condition then existing.
- L. 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, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.
- M. No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle, or article which prevents the rider from keeping at least one (1) hand upon the handle bars.
- N. No person shall park a bicycle upon a street other than upon the roadway against the curb or upon the sidewalk in a rack to support the bicycle or against a building or at the curb, in such a manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic.
- O. Whenever any person is riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk, such person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.
- P. Every bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred (500) feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear of a type which shall be visible from all distances from fifty (50) feet to three hundred (300) feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.
- Q. Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

Section 7-4.5 Funeral or other procession

- A. 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 as required in this article. This provision shall not apply at intersections where traffic is controlled by traffic-control signs or police officers.
- B. 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 closely as is practical and safe.

- C. A funeral composed of a procession of vehicles shall be identified as such by burning the headlights on each vehicle.

Section 7-4.6 Riding on motorcycles

A person operating a motorcycle shall ride only upon the permanent and regular seat attached thereto, and such operator shall not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on a motorcycle unless such motorcycle is designed to carry more than one (1) person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the permanent and regular seat if designed for two (2) persons, or upon another seat firmly attached to the rear or side of the operator.

Section 7-4.7 Clinging to vehicles

Any person riding upon any bicycle, motorcycle, coaster, sled, roller-skates, or any toy vehicle, shall not attach same, or himself, to any public conveyance, or moving vehicle upon any roadway.

Section 7-4.8 Low speed vehicles, mini-trucks and golf carts

- A. Low speed vehicles and mini-trucks shall be operated subject to N.C.G.S. 20-121.1 as follows:
 - 1. A low-speed vehicle may be operated only on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. A mini-truck or modified utility vehicle may be operated only on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 55 miles per hour or less; provided, a modified utility vehicle may not be operated on any street or highway having four or more travel lanes unless the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. This subdivision does not prohibit a low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.
 - 2. A low-speed vehicle or mini-truck shall be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, windshield wipers, speedometer, seat belts, and a vehicle identification number. Any such required equipment shall be maintained in proper working order.
 - 3. A modified utility vehicle shall be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, a speedometer, seat belts, and a vehicle identification number. Any such required equipment shall be maintained in proper working order. If a modified utility vehicle does not have a vehicle identification number, upon application by the owner, the Division shall assign a vehicle identification number to the modified utility vehicle prior to registration. The operator of and all passengers on a modified utility vehicle that is not equipped with a windshield and windshield wipers shall wear a safety helmet, with a retention strap properly secured, that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 218.
 - 4. A low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle shall be registered and insured in accordance with N.C.G.S. 20-50 and 20-309.
 - 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other subdivision of this section, the Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles, mini-trucks, or modified utility

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vehicles on any road or highway if it determines that the prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.

6. Low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards in 49 C.F.R. § 571.500.
 7. Regardless of age, a mini-truck shall not qualify as an antique vehicle or historic vehicle as described in N.C.G.S. 20-79.4(b).
- B. Subject to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 160A-300.6, the use of golf carts on streets shall meet the following requirements:
1. Golf carts shall not be operated on or alongside a public road or street with a posted speed limit greater than 35 miles per hour. No golf carts are permitted on numbered highways including NC Highway 73 and NC Highway 49 regardless of posted speed limit.
 2. Golf carts may cross a road with a posted speed limit greater than 35 mph. However, once this segment of road has been transversed, the golf cart is still required to travel only on or along a roadway with a speed limit of 35 mph or less. Golf carts must cross in a manner that is the most direct route in order to decrease crossing distance, i.e. no riding along a road or crossing at an angle. Under no circumstance is a golf cart allowed to cross a control access facility other than at bridges which cross over or under a control access facility.
 3. Any person who operates a golf cart must be responsible for all liability associated with operation of the golf cart and must have liability insurance coverage which will cover the use of a golf cart in an amount not less than required by North Carolina law for motor vehicles operated on public highways in the State of North Carolina.
 4. Any person who operates a golf cart must be at least sixteen (16) years of age or older. No person may operate a golf cart unless that person is licensed to drive upon the public streets, roads and highways of North Carolina and then, only in accordance with such valid driver's license. Golf cart operators must carry their driver's license on their person at all times while operating a golf cart on public roads.
 5. Any person who operates a golf cart on public streets and roads must adhere to all applicable State and local laws, regulations and ordinances, including but not limited to those banning the possession and use of alcoholic beverages, and all other illegal drugs. In addition, no golf cart containing any open container of alcohol shall be operated on public roads.
 6. The operator of the golf cart shall comply with all traffic rules and regulations adopted by the State of North Carolina and the Town, which governs the operation of motor vehicles.
 7. An operator may not allow the number of people in the golf cart at any one time to exceed the maximum capacity specified by the manufacturer. The operator shall not allow passengers to ride on any part of a golf cart not designed to carry passengers, such as the part of the golf cart designed to carry golf bags.
 8. In no instance shall a golf cart be operated at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour. No golf cart may be operated at a speed greater than reasonable and prudent for the existing conditions.

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9. Golf carts must be operated at the right edge of the roadway and must yield to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
10. Golf carts must park in designated spaces in such a manner that multiple golf carts can utilize the space. All parking rules and limits apply. No parking on sidewalks is allowed.
11. Golf carts must have basic equipment supplied by the manufacturer, including a vehicle identification or serial number. Such equipment must include all safety devices as installed by said manufacturer, a rear view mirror and a visibly affixed rear triangle reflector of the same type required by North Carolina law.
12. Golf carts without lights may be operated only during daylight hours. Golf carts meeting the requirements set forth below may operate at any time:
 - a. Golf carts having two (2) operating headlights, one on each side of the front of the golf cart and two (2) operating tail lights, one on each side of the rear of the cart, all four (4) lights must be visible from a distance of 500 feet; and
 - b. If a mechanical turn signal indicator is not installed, then hand signals are required for turns.
13. All golf carts must complete a golf cart registration application and submit to the Town for approval. Before driving on public roads, the operator of a golf cart must have a valid issued registration. A registration fee as set forth in the Town's schedule of fees shall be paid at the time of application.
14. Each owner must have proof of ownership, and liability insurance, and a completed Waiver of Liability, releasing the Town from liability that may arise as a result of operation of a golf cart inside the Town limits. These documents must be in the golf cart at all times while in operation on public roads.
15. All golf carts must meet the requirements or minimum standards of safety equipment as set forth above in this Ordinance.
16. All golf cart operators must present a valid driver/s license while operating a golf cart on a public road.
17. The registration sticker shall be valid for one (1) year and must be visible on a golf cart operated on a public road.
18. Lost or Stolen Permit/Stickers are the responsibility of the owner and must be replaced before the golf cart is operated on a public road.
19. NCGS 20-135.2A states that seat belts shall be properly worn, as installed. NCGS 20-137.1 states that passengers under 16 years of age shall be properly secured by a seatbelt which meets federal standards and that children under eight (8) years of age and less than 80 pounds be properly secured in a weight appropriate child passenger restraint system (car seat).

(Amended 9-12-2022, Amended 9-11-2023)

CHAPTER 5: MOTOR VEHICLE SPEED AND MOVEMENT REGULATIONS

Section 7-5.1 General

Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, it shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle in excess of thirty-five (35) miles per hour inside the municipal corporate limits.

Section 7-5.2 Exceptions; Speed limit set for specific streets

It shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle in excess of the speeds listed below upon the streets or portions of streets designated below:

A. Ten (10) miles per hour

1. Park Drive
2. Enchanted Lane

B. Twenty (20) miles per hour

1. Main Street between Walnut Street and Lee Street (downtown district)
2. Franklin Street between College Street and Washington Street (downtown district)

C. Twenty-five (25) miles per hour:

1. A Street
2. B Street
3. C Street
4. Abbott Street
5. Alish Trail
6. Barringer Drive
7. Barringer Street
8. Silverlor Court
9. Broad Street
10. Circle Drive
11. College Street (North & South)
12. Cook Street
13. Crestwood Drive
14. Crowell Street
15. Eagle Street
16. Eastover Drive
17. Elm Street
18. Erbach Lane
19. Foil Street
20. Hillside Drive
21. Historic Hill Drive
22. Jackson Street
23. Kluttz Street
24. Lee Street
25. Lorelei Court

26. Ludwig Street
27. MPCl Street
28. Marksburg Court
29. New Street
30. Oberhaus Street
31. Oldenburg Drive
32. Page Street
33. Pine Street
34. Reid Street
35. Rhineland Court
36. Ridge Avenue
37. Short Street
38. Skyland Drive (North & South)
39. Summer Street
40. Valley Street
41. Wade Street
42. Waldeck Court
43. E. Walnut Street
44. W. Walnut Street
45. N. Washington Street
46. S. Washington Street
47. Westerholt Court
48. Wood Street
49. All new streets within residential subdivisions constructed after the adoption of this Chapter

D. Forty-five (45) miles per hour

1. NC Highway 49 between North Drive (western end) and North Drive (eastern end)
2. NC Highway 73 within the satellite corporate limits between Green Acres Circle and NC Highway 49 interchange
3. NC Highway 73 within the satellite corporate limits between Blueberry Street and Dutch Road
4. Walker Road within the satellite corporate limits between NC Highway 73 and NC Highway 49

Section 7-5.3 Controlled access

No person shall drive a vehicle onto or from any controlled-access roadway except at such entrances and exits as are established by public authority.

Section 7-5.4 Vehicles shall not be driven on a sidewalk

The driver of a vehicle shall not drive within any sidewalk area except as a on a designated permanent or temporary driveway, as approved by the Town or the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Section 7-5.5 Limitations on backing

The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same into any intersection, or over a crosswalk, and shall not in any event, or at any place, back a vehicle unless such movement can be made in safety and he shall have given ample warning to those who may be behind by hand and horn or other signal.

Section 7-5.6 Turning movements and markers

When authorized markers, buttons, or other indications are placed within an intersection or travel lane indicating the course to be traveled by vehicles turning there at, no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the direction of such indications.

Section 7-5.7 Obedience to no-turn signs

Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right or left or U-turn is permitted, no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of any such sign.

Section 7-5.8 Limitations on turning around

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

Section 7-5.9 “No Through Traffic” streets designated

- A. The Board shall have authority to declare any street or part thereof a “No Through Traffic” street and to place appropriate signs or devices in the roadway indicating and helping to protect the same.
- B. Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating any street or part thereof as a “No Through Traffic” street, no person shall drive a vehicle upon any such street or portion thereof except drivers of vehicles having business or whose residences are within such closed area, and then any said driver shall exercise the greatest care in driving upon any such street or portion thereof.
- C. The following streets are hereby designated “No Through Traffic” Streets:
 - 1. Park Drive

Section 7-5.10 One-way streets designated

- A. The Board shall have authority to declare any public street, or part thereof, a one-way street and to place appropriate signs or devices in the roadway indicating and helping to protect the same.
- B. Whenever any ordinance designates any one-way street there shall be signs giving notice thereof, and no such regulation shall be effective unless such signs are in place. Signs indicating the direction of lawful traffic movements shall be placed at every intersection where movement of traffic in the opposite direction is prohibited.
- C. Upon those streets and parts of streets, vehicular traffic shall move only in the indicated direction when signs indicating the direction of traffic are erected and maintained at every intersection where movement in the opposite direction is prohibited.
- D. The following streets are hereby designated “One-Way” streets in the direction indicated:
 - 1. Kluttz Street (traffic flow to west)
 - 2. E. Walnut Street (traffic flow to east)

Section 7-5.11 “Through streets” designated

- A. Through streets are major thoroughfares, minor thoroughfares or collector streets upon which traffic is intended to flow with minimal stops.
- B. Through streets are designated below:
 - 1. Main Street
 - 2. Franklin Street
 - 3. Lee Street
 - 4. NC Highway 49
 - 5. NC Highway 73
 - 6. North Drive
 - 7. Oldenburg Drive
 - 8. Walker Road

Section 7-5.12 “No-through Truck Traffic” Streets

- A. The Board shall have authority to declare any Town-maintained street or part thereof a “No Through Truck Traffic” street and to place appropriate signs or devices in the roadway indicating and helping to protect the same. “Trucks” shall include any commercial vehicle with more than two (2) axles. Exception is made when traffic is diverted due to road closure.
- B. Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating any street or part thereof as a “No Through Truck Traffic” street, no person shall drive a commercial vehicle with more than two (2) axles upon any such street or portion thereof except drivers of vehicles having business or whose residences are within such closed area, and then any said driver shall exercise the greatest care in driving upon any such street or portion thereof.
- C. The following town-maintained streets and alleys are hereby designated “No Through Truck Traffic” Streets:
 - 1. Barringer Dr.
 - 2. College St.
 - 3. Cook St.
 - 4. Eastover Drive
 - 5. Elm St.
 - 6. Hillside Dr.
 - 7. Jackson St.
 - 8. Kluttz St.
 - 9. Ludwig St.
 - 10. MPCl St.
 - 11. New St.
 - 12. Summer St.
 - 13. W. Walnut St.
 - 14. Washington St. (North and South)
 - 15. Public alley located between 1453 and 1455 N. Main Street
 - 16. Any street within a residential major subdivision as defined by the Mount Pleasant Development Ordinance (MPDO).

Section 7-5.13 Stop Signs

- A. Stop signs shall be located where any other street intersects a through street.
- B. Every stop sign shall be located as near as practicable at the nearest line of the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, at the nearest line of the roadway.
- C. The Board may determine and designate intersections where particular hazard exists and may determine whether vehicles shall stop at one (1) or more entrances to any such stop intersection, and shall erect a stop sign at every such place where a stop is required.

Section 7-5.14 Vehicles to stop at stop signs

When stop signs are erected as herein authorized at or near the entrance of any intersection, every driver of a vehicle shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or in the event there is no crosswalk shall stop at a clearly marked line, but if none, then at the point nearest the intersection roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersection roadway before entering the intersection except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic-control signal.

Section 7-5.15 Emerging from alley, driveway, or building

The driver of a vehicle within a business or residence district emerging from an alley, driveway, or building shall stop such vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway or driveway, yielding the right-of-way to any pedestrian as may be necessary to avoid collision, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

Section 7-5.16 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 is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians notwithstanding any traffic-control signs indication or proceed.

(Amended 9-12-2022, Amended 9-11-2023, Amended 4-8-2025, Amended 9-8-2026)

CHAPTER 6: PEDESTRIANS' RIGHTS AND DUTIES

Section 7-6.1 Pedestrians subject to traffic-control signals

Pedestrians shall be subject to traffic-control signal, but at all other places pedestrians shall be granted those rights and be subject to the restrictions stated in this Chapter.

Section 7-6.2 Pedestrians in crosswalk

- A. When traffic-control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be, to yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger, but no pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle, which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield.
- B. Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.
- C. Pedestrians shall move, whenever practicable, upon the right half of crosswalks.
- D. No pedestrian shall cross a roadway at any place other than by a route at right angles to the curb or by the shortest route to the opposite curb, except in a crosswalk.

Section 7-6.3 When pedestrians shall yield

Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

Section 7-6.4 Prohibited crossing

- A. Between intersections within 500 feet at which traffic-control signals are in operation, pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a crosswalk.
- B. Pedestrians shall not cross a street at a point which there is limited sight distance for vehicles.

Section 7-6.5 Pedestrians walking along roadway

- A. Where sidewalks are provided it shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway.
- B. Where sidewalks are not provided any pedestrian walking along and upon a roadway shall when practicable walk only on the left side of the roadway or its shoulder facing traffic which may approach from the opposite direction.

Section 7-6.6 Pedestrians soliciting rides or business

- A. No person shall stand in a roadway for the purpose of soliciting a ride, employment, or business from the occupant of any vehicle.

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- B. No person shall stand on or in proximity to a street or highway for the purpose of soliciting the watching or guarding of a vehicle while parked or about to be parked on a street or highway.

Section 7-6.7 Drivers to exercise due care

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Chapter every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway, shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary, and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any confused or incapacitated person upon a roadway.

(Amended 9-12-2022)

CHAPTER 7: METHOD OF PARKING

Section 7-7.1 Standing or parking close to curb

No person shall stand or park a vehicle in a roadway other than parallel with the edge of the roadway headed in the direction of lawful traffic movement and with the right-hand wheels of the vehicle within eighteen (18) inches of the curb or edge of the roadway except as otherwise provided in this Chapter.

Section 7-7.2 Signs or markings indicating angle or perpendicular parking

- A. The Board shall determine upon what streets angle or perpendicular parking shall be permitted and shall mark or sign such streets.
- B. Angle parking shall not be indicated or permitted at any place where passing traffic would thereby be caused or required to drive upon the left side of the street.
- C. Upon those streets, which have been signed or marked for angle parking, no person shall park a vehicle other than at the angle to the curb or edge of the roadway indicated by such signs or markings.

Section 7-7.3 Lights on parked vehicles

- A. Whenever a vehicle is lawfully parked at nighttime upon any street no lights need to be displayed upon such parked vehicle.
- B. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Section 7-7.4 Stopping, standing or parking prohibited; No signs required

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 police officer or traffic-control device, in any of the following places:

- 1. On a sidewalk;
- 2. In front of a public or private driveway;
- 3. Within an intersection;
- 4. Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant;
- 5. On a crosswalk;
- 6. Within twenty (20) feet of a crosswalk at an intersection;
- 7. Within thirty (30) feet upon the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign, or traffic-control signal located at the side of a roadway;
- 8. Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within thirty (30) feet of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless signs or markings indicate a different length;
- 9. Within twenty (20) feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station.
- 10. Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing, or parking would obstruct traffic;
- 11. On a roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;
- 12. Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel;
- 13. At any place where official signs prohibit stopping;

14. Within a sight triangle, seventy (70) feet of a street intersection or ten (10) feet of a driveway or alley;
15. No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under his control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such distance as is unlawful;
16. In a manner in which any portion of the car is parked on or over an adjacent sidewalk, curb, ditch, or edge of pavement.

Section 7-7.5 Parking on streets

- A. No person shall park a car on any street that has less than eighteen (18) feet of pavement width. All such streets shall display a "no parking this street" sign at the beginning of the street.
- B. Except as provided for in Section 7-7.12, there shall be no parking on streets within the downtown business district in following designated areas:
 1. Anywhere on NC Highway 73 (Franklin Street)
 2. Within 300 feet of NC Highway 73 (Franklin Street) on N. Main Street
 3. Within 125 feet of NC Highway 73 (Franklin Street) on S. Main Street
- C. No person shall park any vehicle upon a street, other than an alley, in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten (10) feet of the width of the roadway for free movement of vehicular traffic and emergency vehicles.

Section 7-7.6 Parking in alleys

Except as provided for in Section 7-7.12, no person shall park a vehicle within an alley in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten (10) feet of the width of the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic, and no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle within an alley, in such position as to block the driveway entrance to any abutting property, except as provided for in Section

Section 7-7.7 Standing or parking for certain purposes prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to stand or park a vehicle upon any street of the Town for the principal purpose of:

1. Displaying for sale;
2. Washing, greasing or repairing such vehicle, except repairs made necessary by a bona fide emergency;
3. Storing by garages, dealers or other persons when such storing is not incident to the bona fide use and operation of such automobile or other vehicle; or
4. Storing of any detached trailer or van when the towing unit has been disconnected or for the purpose of transferring merchandise or freight from one vehicle to another.

Section 7-7.8 Parking adjacent to schools

When official signs are erected indicating no parking upon either side of a street adjacent to any school property as authorized herein, no person shall park a vehicle in any such designated place.

Section 7-7.9 Standing or parking on one way road ways

In the event a highway includes two (2) or more separate roadways and traffic is restricted to one (1) direction upon any such roadway, no person shall stand or park a vehicle upon the left-hand side of such one-way roadway unless signs are erected to permit such standing or parking.

Section 7-7.10 No stopping, standing, or parking near hazardous or congested places

When official signs are erected at hazardous or congested places no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle in any such designated place.

Section 7-7.11 Parking time limited on certain streets

When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle for longer than the times specified within the district or upon any of the streets described herein.

Section 7-7.12 Loading and unloading zones

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to stop, stand or park any vehicle for any purpose or period of time except in accordance with the requirements of this Chapter.
- B. The following areas are hereby designated as commercial loading and unloading zones and no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle therein for any purpose other than the expeditious unloading and delivery, or pickup and loading of materials and goods, and then only for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes:
 - 1. In the 1450 and 1460 blocks on the west side N. Main Street
 - 2. In the 1450 block on the east side of N. Main Street
 - 3. In the 1480 block of S. Main Street
 - 4. Within a public alley in the downtown business district (except trucks with more than two (2) axles)
- C. Only one (1) vehicle may be parked in any unloading zone at one time, and no vehicle shall impede the safe movement of traffic and emergency vehicles.
- D. Upon any local residential street, a moving van, delivery truck, or similar vehicle may be parked on a street for a period not to exceed twelve (12) hours for the loading and unloading of household items provided that a minimum clearance of twelve (12) feet is provided on the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic and emergency vehicles.

Section 7-7.13 Signs required

Whenever by this or any other Chapter any parking time limit is imposed or parking is prohibited on designated streets there shall be appropriate signs giving notice thereof and no such regulations shall be effective unless said signs are erected and in place at the time of any alleged offense. When parking along an entire street is prohibited, one sign placed at the beginning of the street stating "No Parking This Street" shall be installed and with one sign placed on each side at least 1,000 feet along such street.

(Amended 9-12-2022, Amended 9-11-2023)