CHAPTER 53 - BICYCLE AND MICROMOBILITY DEVICE REGULATIONS

53.01 - DEFINITIONS.

"Bicycle" is defined as either of the following: (1) A device having two wheels and having at least one saddle or seat for the use of a rider which is propelled by human power. (2) A device having two or three wheels with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than seven hundred fifty watts (one horsepower), whose maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a motor while ridden, is less than twenty miles per hour (i.e. e-bike).

"Bicycle/Micromobility Lane" is defined as a designated area for bicycles and micromobility device usage identified by a painted line on one side with the curb defining the other side or with painted lines defining both sides. The lane is further identified by bike route signs conforming to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

"Bicycle/Micromobility Path" is an off the road facility normally constructed of asphalt or concrete over a stabilized base. The path is identified by bike route signs conforming to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

"Micromobility Device" means any device meant to carry one rider or operator and that is not required to be licensed or registered by the State of Iowa. Micromobility devices may be propelled either by the power of the rider or by an electric motor of less than seven hundred and fifty watts (one horsepower), whose maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a motor while ridden, is less than twenty miles per hour. Micromobility devices include, but are not limited to, unicycles, electric unicycles, tricycles, electric stand up scooters, electric sit down scooters, Segways, skateboards, motorized skateboards, rollerblades, and hoverboards.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.02 - REGISTRATION.

Each person living within the city who owns a bicycle or micromobility device may cause the ownership to be registered with the Police Department as hereinafter provided. Said registration shall be valid as long as the person owns the bicycle or micromobility device. The registration fee will be $5.00.

The Police Department shall issue a license tag or plate which shall be kept permanently attached to the bicycle or micromobility device.

Bicycle or micromobility device owners desiring to register their bicycles or micromobility device may do so by appearing at or sending a check or money order for $5.00 to the Cedar Rapids Police Department, Bicycle/Micromobility Registration, 505 First Avenue SW., Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 with the owner's name, address, phone number, make of bicycle/micromobility device, serial number, wheel size, color, and prior license number, if any.

(77-88)

(005-22)

53.03 - RECORDS.

The Police Department shall keep a record of the number of each registration, the date issued, the name of the person who registered and the number issued to said person.

(005-22)

53.04 - LICENSE TRANSFER.

The sale or transfer of a bicycle or micromobility device should be reported to the Police Department by the former owner within seven days after the sale or transfer, together with the name of the new owner. Any business which sells or transfers a bicycle or micromobility device within the city shall file with the Police Department on the first day of each month a report of all bicycles and micromobility devices sold or transferred during the preceding month. Such report shall contain a description of the bicycles and micromobility device and their factory identification numbers.

(35-86)

(005-22)

53.05 - LOST LICENSE PLATES.

If an owner loses his license tag or plate or it is destroyed or stolen, he shall report the fact to the Police Department. A new license will be issued by the Police Department upon receipt of the appropriate registration fees.

(35-86)

(005-22)

53.06 - ALTERATION OF TAGS, PLATES, STICKERS OR NUMBER.

It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, destroy, mutilate or alter any license sticker during the time in which such license sticker is valid or to attach the same to any bicycle or micromobility device other than the bicycle or micromobility device for which the same is issued.

It shall be unlawful to alter or mutilate, or destroy the serial number on the frame or other parts of a bicycle or micromobility device, or to operate or possess any bicycle or micromobility device so altered.

(005-22)

53.07 - REGULATION, OBSERVATION OF TRAFFIC RULES.

Any person riding a bicycle or micromobility device shall have all of the rights and all of the duties applicable to the driver of a motor vehicle as provided by law except as to the provisions that by their very nature can have no application.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.08 - TOWING.

No person riding a bicycle or micromobility device shall tow any object, upon a street, alley, sidewalk, highway, park road, multi-use trail, or bicycle/micromobility lane or path unless equipped with a drawbar of sufficient strength to pull all the weight being towed, and fastened to the frame of the towing vehicle in a manner to prevent any side sway.

No person riding a bicycle or micromobility device on a street, sidewalk, highway, park road, multi-use trail, or bicycle/micromobility lane or path shall attach the bicycle or micromobility device or himself or herself to any moving motor vehicle by a tow rope, hand grip or otherwise.

(005-22)

53.09 - IMPROPER RIDING.

A person shall not operate a bicycle or micromobility device in a manner to indicate a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.10 - CARRYING ARTICLES.

No person riding a bicycle or micromobility device shall carry any article which prevents the driver from keeping at least one hand upon the handle bars, when handle bars are provided.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.11 - NUMBER OF RIDERS ON SEATS.

A person 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. A person shall not use a micromobility device to carry more than one person at a time.

(005-22)

53.12 - RIDING ON ROADWAYS.

(a) Persons riding bicycles or micromobility devices upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or micromobillity devices. Persons riding two abreast shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane.

(b) When a bicycle/micromobility path or lane exists adjacent to a roadway, a person operating a bicycle may use either the path, bicycle/micromobility lane, or the roadway.

(c) When a bicycle/micromobility path or lane exists adjacent to a roadway, a person operating a micromobility device shall use the path, or bicycle/micromobility lane, except for turning movements and when a bicycle/micromobility lane is obstructed.

(d) Micromobility devices are prohibited from operating on roadways with a speed limit greater than 35 mph.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.13 - RIDING IN BICYCLE/MICROMOBILITYWAYS.

No person shall ride or operate a bicycle or micromobility device within a bicycle/micromobility lane or path in any direction except that permitted by vehicular traffic traveling on the same side of the roadway; provided that, bicycles or micromobility device may proceed either way along a lane or path where arrows or signs appear designating two-way traffic.

(014-19; 005-22)

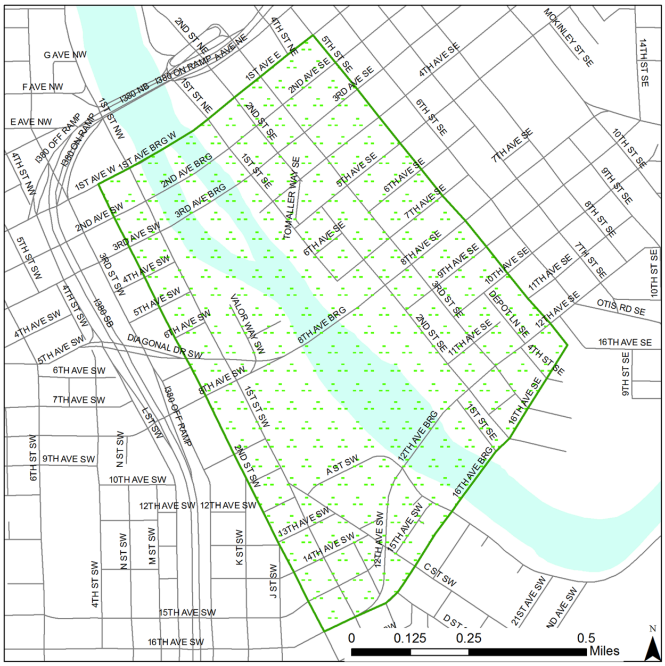
53.14 - RIDING ON SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PROPERTY.

(a) No person, except for people with disabilities with specially equipped devices shall ride a bicycle or micromobility device upon the sidewalk or walkway in the area extending from the west sidewalk on 2nd St SW to the east curb line of 5th Street East, both inclusive, and from the north sidewalk on 1st Ave to the south sidewalk on 16th Avenue Southwest, both inclusive, unless authorized signs specifically designate a sidewalk or walkway for bicycle or micromobility device use. The Department of Public Works is authorized to erect signs on any sidewalk or roadway within the city prohibiting the riding of bicycles or micromobility devices thereon.

(b) Operators and users of all such devices shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians using any public sidewalk, and shall not otherwise endanger or interfere with pedestrian traffic on any public sidewalk.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, use or ride a bicycle or micromobility device, or other coasting device on any public property where signs or markings prohibit such use, such as public parking lots, public parking ramps and the Tree of Five Seasons, owned by the City of Cedar Rapids.

(d) The City Manager may designate certain streets where the operation or use of bicycles or micromobility devices may be allowed upon certain designated streets or sidewalks or other areas when guarded or barricaded.



(057-18; 014-19; 005-22)

53.15 - EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY.

The rider of a bicycle or micromobility device emerging from an alley, driveway, or building shall upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alley-way, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians on the sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.16 - MOTOR VEHICLES IN BICYCLE/MICROMOBILITY LANES AND BICYCLE/MICROMOBILITY PARKING AREAS.

No person shall walk, park, or drive a motor vehicle, motorcycle, motorbike, or moped in a designated bicycle/micromobility path, lane, or parking area, except to cross the same in the most direct manner or route available except that a moped may occupy a bicycle/micromobility path or lane when said path or lane is not occupied in the immediate vicinity by a bicycle or micromobility device.

(005-22)

53.17 - BICYCLE/MICROMOBILITY LANE RIGHT-OF-WAY.

Operators of all vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to bicycles or micromobility device duly operated in a designated bicycle/micromobility lane, unless provisions of law establish other requirements and regulations at intersections and other places affecting such bicycle/micromobility lanes, then such other provisions of law shall control.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.18 - PARKING.

No person shall park a bicycle or micromobility device upon a street or alley in such a manner as to obstruct pedestrian or motor vehicle travel, or a curb ramp, building entrance, or fire hydrant. Any bicycle or micromobility device parked on public property attached to a trash receptacle, or street furniture shall be subject to being ticketed as provided by law for an illegally parked vehicle, and also subject to being impounded as described in Section 53.20 of this chapter. Any bicycle or micromobility device parked continuously for 7 days or more on public property attached to a pole, parking meter, sign, tree, or any other structure belonging to the City of Cedar Rapids shall be subject to being ticketed as provided by law for an illegally parked vehicle, and also subject to being impounded as described in Section 53.20 of this chapter.

(014-19; 005-22)

53.19 - LIGHTS, REFLECTORS, AND BRAKES.

(a) All bicycles or micromobility devices shall be equipped with a lamp on the rear visible from a distance of at least three hundred feet when in front of the lawful lower beams of headlights on a motor vehicle. In addition to such requirements, reflective materials may be mounted on each side of each pedal.

(b) All bicycles or micromobility devices used within the city limits shall, during the hours from sunset to sunrise, display a lamp on the front part of the bicycle or micromobility device; the lamp shall emit white light visible from a distance of at least three hundred feet from the front of the bicycle or micromobility device.

(c) Every bicycle or micromobility device shall be equipped with a brake or brakes which will enable its driver to stop the bicycle or micromobility device within 25 feet from a speed of 10 miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement.

(35-86)

(014-19; 005-22)

53.20 - IMPOUNDMENT.

Any person violating Section 53.06 or 53.18 so as to create a hazardous condition, may suffer their bicycle or micromobility device to be impounded by the Police Department. If impounded, the bicycle or micromobility device shall be released by the Police Department to the owner if proof of ownership is shown.

(35-86)

(014-19; 005-22)

53.21 - DISPOSAL OF BICYCLES AND MICROMOBILITY DEVICES.

(a) Any bicycle or micromobility device which is found, seized by, turned in to, or otherwise lawfully comes into the possession of the Cedar Rapids Police Department shall be disposed of in the manner set forth in this section and in accordance with Iowa Code 80.39.

(b) If the owner of the property is known, the Police Department shall notify the owner by certified mail to the owner's last known address as to the location of the bicycle or micromobility device

(c) If the identity or address of the owner cannot be determined, notice by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the property was found in sufficient notice.

(d)

After ninety (90) days following the mailing or publication of the notice required by this section, if the owner is still unknown the department may dispose of the bicycle or micromobility device in any lawful way, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Selling the property at a public auction
2. Retaining the property for the department's own use
3. Giving the property to another agency of government
4. Giving the property to an appropriate charitable organization
5. Destroying the property.

(68-02)

(014-19; 005-22)

53.22 - AUTHORIZED POLICE BICYCLE/MICROMOBILITY DEVICES.

An on-duty police officer operating a duly authorized Police Department bicycle or micromobility device may, when necessary in the performance of his/her official duties, operate or park such bicycle or micromobility device contrary to the provisions of Chapters 53 and 61 of the Municipal Code. The foregoing provision shall not relieve the operator of an authorized bicycle or micromobility device of the duty of operating with due regard for the safety of all persons nor shall such provision protect the operator from the consequences of his/her reckless disregard for the safety of others.

(60-95)

(005-22)

(Note: Chapter 55 amended in toto by Ordinance No. 48-81, passed June 17, 1981 and by Ordinance No. 005-22, passed March 8, 2022)