Chapter 11

MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC*

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* **Charter References:** Authority to adopt traffic ordinances, § 3(9).

Cross References: Motor vehicles in parks generally, § 12-39; public meetings (parades), Ch. 15; vehicle tires placing mud on streets, § 18-2.

Art. I. In General, §§ 11-1--11-22

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ARTICLE I.

IN GENERAL

Sec. 11-1. Short title.

This chapter may be cited as the Municipal Traffic Code.
(Code 1971, § 11-2; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02)

Sec. 11-2. Definitions.

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 section. Whenever any words and phrases used herein are not defined herein but are defined in the state laws regulating the operation of vehicles, any such definition therein shall be deemed to apply to such words and phrases used herein.

Class. Refers to those classes of vehicles as are defined in Part II--Classified vehicles, Subtitle 9 of Title 13 of the Vehicle Laws of Transportation Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

Code official/officer. A civilian employee of the city empowered to enforce the city Code.

Fire lane. Any designated or posted street, alley, service drive, private driveway, entrance, exit, interior vehicular driveway or other area providing access to any apartment house, commercial properties, shopping centers, schools, nursing homes and other publicly used properties that is open for purposes of vehicular travel.

Manufacturer's rated capacity. The maximum load a vehicle is able to carry as rated by its manufacturer.

Park. To halt a vehicle, whether or not it is occupied, other than temporarily, when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer, a code official, or a traffic control device; or for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in, loading or unloading property or passengers.

Parking enforcement officer. A civilian employee of the municipality empowered by city council to enforce this chapter.

Police officer. Every officer of the municipal police department.

School zone. That portion of any street adjacent to a school or within four hundred (400) feet of a school used by children as access to or from the school and upon which the city manager has caused to be erected signs designating the school zone.

Stand. To halt a vehicle, whether or not it is occupied, other than temporarily, when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer, a code official, or a traffic control device; or for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in, receiving or discharging passengers.

Stop. To halt, even momentarily, a vehicle, whether or not it is occupied, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer, a code official, or a traffic control device.

Through street. Every street or portion thereof on which vehicular traffic is given preferential right-of-way, and at the entrances to which vehicular traffic from intersecting streets is required by law to yield right-of-way to vehicles on such through street in obedience to either a stop sign or a yield sign when such signs are erected as provided in this chapter.

Traffic control device. Any sign, signal, marking, or device that is placed by authority of an authorized public body or official to regulate, warn, or guide traffic.

Traffic sign. Every official device or sign erected or placed upon or along a street for the purpose of directing, warning or regulating traffic thereon, including but not limited to "stop," "slow" signs, traffic lights and all "parking" signs regulating the time of, or forbidding parking.

Unprepared/unpaved surface. A surface not consisting of poured concrete completed in a workmanlike fashion; or asphalt placed on compacted subgrade, rolled to a smooth and level surface; or brick, crushed gravel or like material, pavers, or other structural material, compacted and maintained free of loose materials, dust or infiltration vegetative growth.

Valid. Having legal efficacy or force executed with the proper legal authority and formalities.

Vehicle. Any device in, on or by which any individual or property is or might be transported or towed on a highway.

(Code 1971, § 11-1; Ord. No. 1025, 10-3-88; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02)

Sec. 11-3. Applicability.

This chapter shall be applicable to all vehicular traffic of every nature and description, motor vehicles included, within the corporate limits of the city, except as otherwise provided by the laws of the state.
(Code 1971, § 11-2)

State Law References: General applicability of rules of the road, Anno. Code of Md., Art., Transportation, § 21-101.1.

Sec. 11-4. Enforcement of chapter and state law.

It shall be the duty of the officers of the police department, or such officers as are assigned by the chief of police, to enforce all traffic laws of this city and all of the state laws applicable to street traffic in the city.
(Code 1971, § 11-17)

Sec. 11-5. Traffic control devices generally.

(a) Whenever, in the judgment of the city manager, it is necessary for the safety or control of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or for the regulation of the use of public parking areas, he may direct the erection of "stop," "no parking," "speed limit," "one way" and other traffic control devices and parking restriction signs designed to control, regulate, warn or guide traffic, or limit parking on public streets, highways or other public areas in the city.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), the council may by resolution order such signs to be erected. The city manager shall place, erect and maintain upon and along the public streets of the city such traffic signs and devices as the council may hereafter, direct.

(c) Whenever official traffic control devices are placed in position approximately conforming to the requirements of this chapter, such devices shall be presumed to have been so placed by the official act or direction of lawful authority unless the contrary shall be established by competent evidence.

(d) Any official traffic control device placed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and purporting to conform to the lawful requirements pertaining to such devices shall be presumed to comply with the requirements of this chapter, unless the contrary shall be established by competent evidence.

(e) All traffic control signs, signals and devices in place on the adoption date of this Code are hereby ratified and confirmed.
(Code 1971, § 11-3)

State Law References: Authority of city to regulate traffic by means of traffic control devices, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 25-102(a)(2); obedience to traffic control devices, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-201.

Sec. 11-6. Persons authorized to direct traffic.

(a) Officers of the police department, or such officers as are assigned by the chief of police, 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, accident or other emergency, or to expedite traffic, or to safeguard pedestrians, officers of the police department may direct traffic as conditions may require, notwithstanding the provisions of the traffic

laws.

(b) Officers of the fire department, when at the scene of a fire, may direct or assist the police in directing traffic thereat in the immediate vicinity.
(Code 1971, § 11-5)

State Law References: Authority of city to direct traffic by means of police officers, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 25-102(a)(2).

Sec. 11-7. Compliance with orders of fire officials.

No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of a fire department official who is authorized to direct traffic.
(Code 1971, § 11-6)

State Law References: Obedience to police authorized to direct traffic, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-103.

Sec. 11-8. Emergency and temporary control of traffic or parking.

The city manager may at times of emergency or temporary situations, including snow storms, maintenance and repairs of roadways, curbing, walkways, parking shoulders and parking areas, and at times of parades, tree spraying, etc., temporarily erect or cause to be erected signs or other control devices to warn or guide traffic. The city manager may temporarily restrict the parking of automobiles, trucks or any other motor vehicles on any public right-of-way or parking area by placing "no parking" signs, indicating the limited period of restriction, along the right-of-way or parking area. The signs declaring the temporary "no parking" restrictions shall be placed in locations visible to motorists and owners of the vehicles at least twelve (12) hours before the restriction becomes effective.
(Code 1971, § 11-4)

Sec. 11-9. Designation of fire lanes.

The director of public safety or the fire marshal of Prince George's County may designate fire lanes wherever the parking of vehicles is likely to interfere with the ingress, egress or the operation of fire department and other emergency vehicles in the case of fire and other emergencies. He may order the erection of "no parking" signs and designate their placement, and may order that curbs be painted a distinctive color wherever a fire lane has been designated.
(Code 1971, § 11-11)

Sec. 11-10. Exceptions for emergency vehicles.

(a) Subject to the conditions stated in this section, the driver of an emergency vehicle registered in any state may exercise the privileges set forth in this section while:

(1) Responding to an emergency call;

(2) Pursuing a violator or suspected violator of the law; or

(3) Responding to, but not while returning from, a fire alarm.

(b) Under the circumstances stated in subsection (a) of this section, the driver of an emergency vehicle may:

(1) Park or stand without regard to the other provisions of this title;

(2) Pass a red or stop signal, a stop sign, or a yield sign, but only after slowing down as necessary for safety;

(3) Exceed any maximum speed limit, but only so long as the driver does not endanger life or property; and

(4) Disregard any traffic control device or regulation governing direction of movement or turning in a specified direction.

(c) The privileges set forth in this section apply only while the emergency vehicle is using audible and visual signals that meet the requirements of law, except that an emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display the visual signals.

(d) This section does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons.
(Code 1971, § 11-8)

State Law References: Similar provisions, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-106.

Sec. 11-11. Funeral processions.

(a) Funeral processions shall have the right-of-way over all traffic except police and fire vehicles and ambulances.

(b) No person shall drive or ride any vehicle or animal across the line of a funeral procession; provided, that a funeral procession, in order to be recognized as such, must have displayed on each vehicle two (2) illuminated headlights or other identifying method.

(c) Each operator in a funeral or other procession shall drive as near to the right hand edge of the street as practicable and shall follow the vehicle ahead as close as is practicable and safe.
(Code 1971, § 11-10)

State Law References: Authority of city to regulate or prohibit processions or assemblages on highways, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 25-102(a)(3); funeral processions, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-207.

Sec. 11-12. Penalties.

It is a misdemeanor for any person to do any act or fail to perform any act required in this chapter, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.
(Code 1971, § 11-19)

Secs. 11-13--11-22. Reserved.

ARTICLE II.

OPERATION OF VEHICLES

Sec. 11-23. One-way streets.

(a) No person shall drive or operate any vehicle in, upon or over any public street, alley or travel lanes in a public parking lot whereon official "One-Way Street" signs have been erected, in a direction contrary to the directions or instructions contained or displayed on any such sign, nor enter any such street at the end thereof where such signs have been erected upon those streets, alleys, or travel lanes in a parking lot.

(b) The city manager shall designate the direction of traffic movement in the travel lanes of public parking lots and when properly posted, traffic shall move only in the direction indicated.
(Code 1971, § 11-28)

State Law References: Power of city to designate one-way streets and require vehicles to move in one specified direction, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 25-102(a)(4); one-way streets, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-308.

Sec. 11-24. Driving over closed street prohibited.

No person shall drive any vehicle across or over any public street at which there is a barrier, sign or authorized person indicating that the street is closed.
(Code 1971, § 11-29)

Sec. 11-25. Driving over curbs and sidewalks.

No person shall drive any vehicle or construction equipment across or over any curb or barrier defining the edge of an improved street or parking area except at an improved driveway entrance or upon obtaining written permission from the city manager. The city manager may require a bond in an amount sufficient to provide for the repair of curbs, sidewalks, lawns and other improvements which may be damaged by the crossing of a curb by vehicles and equipment and may establish reasonable regulations as necessary to prevent damage to public property. Such bond shall be forfeited upon failure of a permit holder to repair any public property damaged as a result of the granting of a permit.
(Code 1971, § 11-30)

Sec. 11-26. Operation on driveway of Greenbelt Youth Center.

It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle on the driveway to the Greenbelt Youth Center beginning at the west parking lot and extending to the west end of the Greenbelt Youth Center, except for the purpose of loading or unloading materials, supplies or equipment, or for the purpose of loading or unloading elderly or disabled persons at the Youth Center. This section shall not apply to the operators of city vehicles or other vehicles having the express permission of the recreation director.
(Code 1971, § 11-31)

Secs. 11-27--11-35. Reserved.

ARTICLE III.

STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING*

* **Cross References:** Permit parking area at Attick Lake Park (Greenbelt Lake), § 12-91 et seq.

State Law References: Authority of city to regulate or prohibit the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 25-102(a)(1); stopping, standing and parking generally, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-1001 et seq.

Sec. 11-36. Citation of violators and penalty.

(a) With reference to the violation of regulations enumerated in this chapter, a police officer or parking enforcement officer shall be authorized to issue to the owner or operator of a vehicle or by attaching to the vehicle in question, if unattended, a notice of violation or failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter. The fine for violations of this chapter shall be fifty dollars ($50.00) with the following exceptions. The fine for violations of handicapped parking regulations established by subsections (1)o. and (2)o. of section 11-39 shall be two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00). The fine for violations of restrictions on parking in a fire lane or obstructing a fire hydrant shall be two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00), unless otherwise provided. The fine for violations of section 11-42 shall be two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00). The fine for violations of section 11-49 shall be two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00).

(b) The notice of violation shall notify the owner or operator to pay the fine to the city within fifteen (15) days from the time of the violation or noncompliance appearing on the notice and further notify such owner or operator that if the fine is paid to the city within such time, no action will be taken to prosecute such owner or operator for the violation of or noncompliance with the provisions of this chapter; otherwise a warrant will be issued in due course subjecting him or her to the penalties provided.

(c) If the owner or operator receiving the notice desires to stand trial for such offense, he or she may elect to do so by notifying the city of his or her intention to stand trial at least five (5) days prior to the payment date set forth in the citation. At the time the notice of intention to stand trial is given, the person receiving the citation must also notify the city that he or she desires the presence at such trial of the officer who issued the citation; otherwise it shall not be necessary that the officer appear, and the copy of the citation bearing the certification of the officer shall be prima facie evidence of the matter therein set forth. Failure of the person receiving the citation to pay the appropriate fine within fifteen (15) days or file a notice of intention to stand trial will subject the violator to an additional fine of twenty-five dollars ($25.00), and failure of the person receiving the citation to pay the appropriate fine within thirty (30) days or file a notice of intention to stand trial will subject the violator to an additional fine of twenty-five dollars ($25.00). The city will also notify the state motor vehicle administration, who shall refuse registration or transfer of registration of the subject vehicle until notified by the city that the charge has been satisfied.

(d) Such notices of violation shall be numbered serially and each copy of each notice shall bear corresponding serial numbers. All blank reports issued shall be accounted for by the respective police officer. A record of each notice of violation issued shall be maintained by the police department, together with information as to its final disposition, either through payment of a fine or by the issuance of warrant or the taking of other action.

(e) It is the intent of this section to provide an aid to the strict enforcement of this chapter without imposing an undue burden upon offenders and shall be construed as a method of enforcement in addition and independent of the other methods provided by law and this chapter.

(Code 1971, § 11-18; Ord. No. 929, 9-19-82; Ord. No. 1049, 2-26-90; Ord. No. 1087, 4-20-92; Ord. No. 1142, 12-11-95; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1183, 5-24-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02; Ord. No. 1253, 6-20-05; Ord. No. 1292, 9-24-07)

Sec. 11-37. Presumption as to liability of owner of vehicle.

In any prosecution charging a violation of any law or regulation governing the standing or parking of a vehicle, proof that the particular vehicle described in the complaint was parked in violation of any such law or regulation, together with proof that the defendant named in the complaint was at the time of such parking the registered owner of such vehicle, shall constitute in evidence a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of such vehicle was the person who parked or placed such vehicle at the point where and for the time during which such violation occurred.
(Code 1971, § 11-40)

Sec. 11-38. Impoundment, etc.

(a) Any unattended vehicle found parked upon any street, alley or public parking lot within the city may be removed, conveyed or impounded by, or under the direction of, any police or parking enforcement officer by towing such vehicle to a garage or vehicle storage area designated or maintained by the director of public safety, under the following enumerated circumstances:

(1) When it is parked illegally so as to constitute a definite hazard or obstruction to the normal movement of traffic.

(2) When it is parked in any posted fire lane, as provided in section 11-9, so as to constitute an obstruction to fire hydrants or fire vehicles.

(3) When it is parked in violation of any temporary "no parking" sign authorized by section 11-8.

(4) When it is disabled or parked so as to constitute an obstruction to traffic, and the person in charge of the vehicle is, by reason of physical injury, incapacitated to such an extent as to be unable to provide for its custody or removal.

(5) When parked in violation of any other provision of this chapter for more than forty-eight (48) hours after a traffic summons or notice of violation has been placed upon the vehicle.

(6) When it is parked on a snow emergency route and the snow emergency plan is in effect.

(7) When it constitutes an immediate danger to the public's health, safety or welfare.

(8) When parked in violation of section 11-45 of this chapter.

(b) An officer who removes a vehicle from a street or other area as authorized by subsection (a) shall have the duty of informing the owner of such impounded vehicle by giving notice of the violation as soon as is reasonably possible after the vehicle has been so impounded, provided the officer is able to ascertain from information available who the owner is and the owner's correct address.

(c) The owner of any impounded vehicle, or the owner's duly authorized agent, shall be permitted to repossess such vehicle upon proof of ownership and by paying all costs in connection with towing and storage of the vehicle and the acceptance of a traffic summons. In the event the owner or agent is a nonresident of the state, the penalty as provided shall also be paid or bond posted.

(d) Any unattended vehicle found parked in any location within the city may be removed, conveyed, or impounded by, or under the direction of, any police officer, code official, parking enforcement officer or any officer designated by the chief of police, when parked within any posted fire lane, as provided in section 11-9 so as to constitute an obstruction to fire hydrants or fire vehicles.

(e) Any commercial vehicle over one ton in weight parked on any public street, alley, or parking lot in violation of section 11-42 may be impounded.
(Code 1971, §§ 11-14--11-16; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02)

Sec. 11-38.1. Delinquent vehicles, multiple parking violations; vehicle immobilization device and penalty.

(a) Any unattended vehicle found parked upon any street, alley or public parking lot within the city may be immobilized by a vehicle immobilization device, commonly referred to as a "boot," by any agent so authorized, if the city has in its files information that the vehicle has three (3) or more citations for which the appropriate fine has not been paid, or if three (3) or more citations have been issued for the same violation of this chapter within seven (7) consecutive days. If the make of the vehicle is such that it will not allow the correct connection or proper use of the immobilization device then the vehicle may be impounded in lieu of immobilization.

(b) A vehicle immobilization device (boot) shall be removed from a vehicle or an impound release form issued only upon payment of the appropriate fine for all parking violation notices which that vehicle has received, along with any late fees which have attached to those violations in accordance with section 11-36 of this chapter; and, if applicable, upon payment of an additional boot fee of one hundred dollars ($100.00) to defray the city's cost of installing, removing and maintaining the boot.

(c) The city shall not be liable for any damage to the motor vehicle by the placement of the vehicle immobilization device on such motor vehicle or its removal. The city further shall not be liable for any damage to such motor vehicle due to the actions of the owner or any other person attempting to remove the device or operate such motor vehicle with such device attached.

(d) If a vehicle of any kind or character is found wrecked, abandoned, or parked in violation of any law of the state, including registration, on any street, alley, parking lot, or roadway within the city, such vehicle may be immobilized using a vehicle immobilization device.

(e) A vehicle that has already been booted may be towed if any of the following circumstances exist:

(1) The owner has not made arrangements with the city to secure the removal of the boot within forty-eight (48) hours after its installation; or

(2) In any zone where parking is prohibited during certain hours, the vehicle remains immobilized

until the commencement of the restricted hours.

(Ord. No. 1088, 4-20-92; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02; Ord. No. 1292, 9-24-07)

Editors Note: Inasmuch as Ord. No. 1088, adopted April 20, 1992 did not specify manner of codification, said provisions have been designated by the editor as § 11-38.1.

Subsequently, pursuant to the provisions of Ord. No. 1292, adopted September 24, 2007, § 11-38.1 has been amended and the title changed accordingly to read as set forth herein. Formerly, § 11-38.1 pertained to multiple parking violations; penalty.

Sec. 11-39. Prohibited in certain locations.

Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic-control device, no person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall:

(1) Stop, stand or park a vehicle:

a. On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street or on a parking shoulder.

b. On a public sidewalk.

c. Within an intersection.

d. On a crosswalk.

e. Left wheels to curb or edge of street, facing against traffic.

f. On a bridge or underpass or approach thereto.

g. Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic.

h. On any railroad tracks.

i. Between the curb or edge of roadway or designated parking shoulder and the street right-of-way line.

j. On any curved roadway so designated and marked.

k. On those areas of parks, public property or adjacent to an improved roadway not specifically designated for the parking of vehicles.

l. In a posted "No Stopping" area.

m. On or over a curb.

n. In front of a curb ramp designed for the use of individuals with disabilities.

o. In a posted or marked handicapped space or zone, including the adjacent access aisle(s), unless for the use of an individual with a disability.

p. In the travel portion of any roadway unless directed to do so by a traffic control signal or device, at the direction of a police officer, or unless the vehicle is temporarily disabled and cannot be safely removed from the travel portion of the roadway.

q. Within a designated bicycle lane.

r. Upon any grass, dirt, or unprepared surface, unless so directed by a police officer, code official, or traffic control device.

(2) Stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger or passengers:

a. In front of a public driveway or alley.

b. Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant.

c. Within twenty (20) feet of the approach side of a crosswalk at an intersection, or within ten (10) feet beyond same.

d. Within thirty (30) feet from the approach to any "Stop" or "Yield" sign located at the side of a roadway.

e. Within twenty (20) feet, or in front of, any fire station.

f. In any public alley or service drive where official signs prohibiting such parking have been or shall have been placed, except when actually engaged in loading or unloading.

g. At any time, at any place or within any areas where official traffic signs or "parking" signs have been, or hereafter shall be erected prohibiting parking within certain hours, or for more than a given period of time within those hours, during which parking is so prohibited, or for a longer period of time than is so prohibited, as indicated respectively by any such sign.

h. At any time, at any place or within any area where official traffic signs or "parking" signs have been, or shall hereafter be erected prohibiting standing or parking at any time.

i. In or upon any public highway, street, alley, court or roadway, when such parking will obstruct the open ingress and egress of other vehicles thereto.

j. Alongside any yellow painted portions of curbing.

k. On any roadway twenty (20) feet or less in width.

l. Within any posted loading zone except when actually engaged in loading or unloading.

m. Within twenty-five (25) feet of the approach side or ten (10) feet beyond a sign designating a bus stop.

n. In any space or area in front of or adjacent to a medical practitioner's office, a medical center, an emergency medical treatment center or a hospital that has been posted with a traffic control device as reserved for emergency or doctors' vehicles, unless properly identified as an emergency vehicle or displaying a valid parking permit designated for authorized users.

o. On any street or private property which is used by the public in general in any space or zone marked or posted for use of handicapped individuals, including the access aisle(s), unless the vehicle is displaying a valid handicapped license plate or a valid state-issued handicapped windshield placard issued to a handicapped individual and only if the handicapped individual is operating or being transported in the vehicle.

p. Within the parking lot of the Green Ridge House during those hours, as designated on a parking sign, when parking within the Green Ridge House lot is restricted to vehicles displaying a valid Green Ridge House parking permit, unless the vehicle is parked in an officially designated visitor parking space.

(3) Park or leave standing a vehicle:

a. So as to interfere with or prevent free passage of other vehicles in both directions.

b. So as to leave less than twelve (12) feet of clearance for the passage of emergency and other vehicles.

c. With the right-hand wheels of such vehicle not parallel to or more than twelve (12) inches from the curb or edge of roadway or, where there is an improved parking shoulder, with any portion of the vehicle upon the traveled portion of the roadway, or, within the turnaround of a cul-de-sac without a landscaped center island, in such a manner as to interfere with or obstruct vehicular access into and out of the turnaround.

d. In front of or obstructing a private driveway or garage, except with the consent of the owner or occupant of the premises.

(Code 1971, § 11-32; Ord. No. 1065, 4-8-91; Ord. No. 1133, 5-22-95; Ord. No. 1143, 2-12-96; Ord. No. 1163, 12-8-97; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1182, 5-10-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02)

Sec. 11-40. Parking within designated spaces.

Where lines have been painted upon the pavement of any street, alley or public parking lot indicating parking spaces, no person shall park any vehicle except within the lines or markings so established. It shall be a violation to park any vehicle across or straddling any such line or marking or to park such vehicle in such position that the same shall not be entirely within the area so designated by such lines or markings. The lines or

markings of such parking spaces shall be so established as to clearly indicate whether parking space be parallel or angle.
(Code 1971, § 11-33)

Sec. 11-41. Angle parking.

On those streets, alleys or public parking lots which may have been signed or marked by the city for angle parking, no person shall park or stand a vehicle other than at the angle to the curb or edge of the roadway indicated by such signs or markings.
(Code 1971, § 11-34)

Sec. 11-42. Parking of vehicles on public roadways.

(a) No vehicle may be parked in or upon any street, road, alley, or thoroughfare within the City of Greenbelt between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday, or at any time on Sundays and holidays, unless that vehicle falls into one of the following excepted categories or has special written permission from the chief of police of the city:

Vehicles less than eighty-four (84) inches in width and twenty-one (21) feet in length, including all protrusions, except side view mirrors, and as described below.

(1) Class "A" passenger vehicles;

(2) Class "B" for-hire vehicles;

(3) Class "D" motorcycles;

(4) Class "E" trucks with a one-ton or less manufacturer's rated capacity;

(5) Class "J" vanpool vehicle with a one-ton or less manufacturer's rated capacity;

(6) Class "L" historic vehicles with a one-ton or less manufacturer's rated capacity;

(7) Class "M" multipurpose vehicles with a one-ton or less manufacturer's rated capacity.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any vehicle while parked for one of the following purposes:

(1) While making deliveries or while loading a vehicle as long as the delivery or loading process takes no longer than three (3) hours.

(2) While on official business or on emergency if the vehicle is a public safety or emergency vehicle.

(Code 1971, § 11-35; Ord. No. 1025, 10-3-88; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02)

State Law References: Classification of Class E vehicles, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 13-917.

Sec. 11-43. Fire lanes, etc.

It shall be unlawful to park either on public or private property any unattended automobile, truck, trailer or other vehicles in a designated fire lane or in such a manner as to obstruct or interfere with the connecting of a hose to a fire hydrant or in such a manner as to obstruct or interfere with the movement of emergency traffic on any public street, highway, road, alley or on any private street, road or driveway serving three (3) or more dwelling units. A vehicle shall be considered unattended unless occupied by an individual who is able to legally operate the vehicle and move the vehicle if requested to do so by a competent authority.
(Code 1971, § 11-12; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99)

Sec. 11-44. Repairing, etc., vehicles.

No person shall park a vehicle upon a street for the purpose of greasing, changing oil or repairing such vehicle, except repairs necessitated by an emergency.
(Code 1971, § 11-36)

Sec. 11-45. Storage of vehicles, etc. generally.

No vehicle of any kind or description which is dismantled or inoperative, or for which registration is expired, suspended, revoked or has not been obtained as required by city or state law, may be stored upon residentially or commercially zoned property in the city unless it is stored in an enclosed garage or unless there is issued a current and valid use and occupancy permit for said property that allows for the storage of dismantled or inoperative vehicles in a commercial zone only.
(Code 1971, § 11-13; Ord. No. 1143, 2-12-96; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02; Ord. No. 1292, 9-24-07)

Sec. 11-46. Inoperative, unlicensed, etc., vehicles.

No person shall park or store on any public street, alley, parking lot or roadway in the city any inoperative or disabled vehicle, or any vehicle for which registration is expired, suspended, revoked, or has not been obtained as required by city or state law.
(Code 1971, § 11-37; Ord. No. 1025, 10-3-88; Ord. No. 1292, 9-24-07)

Editors Note: Ord. No. 1025, adopted Oct. 3, 1988, repealed § 11-46, relative to parking or storage of trailers, trucks with camper bodies, etc., and derived from Code 1971, § 11-38, and renumbered §§ 11-47 and 11-48 as §§ 11-46 and 11-47 herein.

Sec. 11-47. Buses.

The operator of a bus shall not stand or park such vehicle upon any street at any place other than a bus stand or stop.
(Code 1971, § 11-39; Ord. No. 1025, 10-3-88)

Note: See the editor's note following § 11-46.

Sec. 11-48. Displaying expired vehicle registration.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park or store upon any public street, alley, commercial or residential property, or roadway any vehicle that is displaying any form of expired vehicle registration (plate(s), tabs, annual windshield sticker, temporary tags, etc.), unless such vehicle is stored in an enclosed garage.
(Ord. No. 1143, 2-12-96; Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02)

Sec. 11-49. Out-of-state registration of vehicles.

A person may not leave parked a vehicle that is in violation of Maryland Motor Vehicle Law with reference to out-of-state registration. Each day that such a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

Editors Note: Ord. No. 1292, adopted September 24, 2007, amended § 11-49, and changed the title of the section to read as set forth herein. Formerly, § 11-49 pertained to registration of vehicles.

(Ord. No. 1180, 4-12-99; Ord. No. 1228, 8-12-02; Ord. No. 1292, 9-24-07)

Sec. 11-50. Improper display of registration tags or plates.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park or store upon any public street, alley, parking lot or roadway, any vehicle displaying any form of improper, altered or incomplete registration (plate(s), tabs, annual windshield sticker, temporary tags, etc.), including failure to display all plates and tabs required by law, unless otherwise in compliance with applicable state law governing lost, stolen, or damaged cards, plates or tabs; displaying improper registration plates, including any registration plate issued to another vehicle or to a person other than the owner of the vehicle; or displaying altered plates, tabs, windshield stickers or temporary tags.

(Ord. No. 1239, 7-14-03)

Sec. 11-51. Traffic control devices.

It shall be unlawful to disobey any official traffic control device.

(Ord. No. 1239, 7-14-03)

Editors Note: Ord. No. 1239, adopted July 14, 2003, renumbered § 11-50 as 11-51.

Sec. 11-52. Storage of vehicles.

It shall be unlawful to park or store a vehicle upon a public street, alley, roadway or parking lot for a period of thirty (30) consecutive days in a single parking space without movement of such vehicle, unless a long-term parking permit has been issued to the vehicle by the city.

(Ord. No. 1242, 10-13-03)

Secs. 11-53--11-60. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV.

BICYCLES*

* **State Law References:** Authority of city to regulate the operation of bicycles, require them to be registered and impose a registration fee, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 25-102(a)(8); bicycles generally, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-2101 et seq.

Sec. 11-61. Licensing and registration.

(a) All bicycles owned by residents of the city and operated within the city shall be registered and licensed. Applications for such license shall be made with the police department and shall be affixed to the

bicycles in a manner prescribed by the chief of police. The police department is hereby authorized to issue and keep record of all license tags.

(b) No bicycle shall be licensed unless:

(1) It is in good condition;

(2) Has adequate braking and signalling devices;

(3) A serial or identifying number stamped on the frame;

any bicycle which has no such serial or identifying number shall be assigned such number by the police department and such number shall be stamped permanently on the bicycle by the department.

(c) The loss or defacement of license tags shall be reported to the police department within forty-eight (48) hours of the discovery of such loss or defacement, and new license tags shall be obtained. Any transfer or change of ownership shall require re-registration by the purchaser and the issuance of a new license.

(d) No resident shall operate a bicycle upon the streets or roads within the city unless such bicycle shall have been registered and licensed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(e) The police department shall have authority to suspend the registration and remove the license tag from any bicycle operating contrary to any of the provisions of this chapter for a period of ten (10) days in addition to any other penalties provided.

(f) No person shall remove, deface or change any identification mark or number or license tag on any bicycle.
(Code 1971, §§ 11-50, 11-52(b))

Sec. 11-62. Compliance with all laws.

No person shall operate any bicycle in any manner contrary to existing regulations governing the operation of motor vehicles in the city.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(e))

Sec. 11-63. Use without owner's permission.

No person shall take or operate any bicycle without the permission of the owner.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(b))

Sec. 11-64. Impoundment, etc. of illegally parked bicycles.

Bicycles which are illegally parked shall be taken to the police station or to some place designated by the chief of police, and a service charge of fifty cents ($0.50) shall be made against the owner before the bicycle may be reclaimed.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(j))

Sec. 11-65. Riding on roadways or on highways.

Each person operating a bicycle on a roadway:

(1) Shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable and safe, except when making or attempting to make a left turn, when operating on a one-way street, or when passing a stopped or slower moving vehicle;

(2) May ride two (2) abreast only if the flow of traffic is unimpeded;

(3) Shall exercise due care when passing a vehicle; and

(4) May walk a bicycle on the right side of a highway if there is no sidewalk.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(g))

State Law References: Similar provisions, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-1205.

Sec. 11-66. Condition generally.

No person shall operate any bicycle not in good mechanical condition.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(c))

Sec. 11-67. Lamps and other equipment.

(a) If a bicycle is used on a highway at any time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of one thousand (1,000) feet, the bicycle shall be equipped:

(1) On the front, with a lamp that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred (500) feet to the front; and

(2) On the rear, with a red reflector of a type approved by the state and visible from all distances from six hundred (600) feet to one hundred (100) feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle.

(b) A bicycle or bicyclist may be equipped with a lamp that emits a red light or a flashing amber light visible from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the rear in addition to the red reflector required by subsection (a).

(c) A person shall not operate a bicycle unless it is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least one hundred (100) feet. However, a bicycle may not be equipped with nor may any person use on a bicycle any siren or whistle.

(d) Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake that enables its operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement.
(Code 1971, § 11-51)

State Law References: Similar provisions, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-1207.

Sec. 11-68. Reckless operation.

No person shall operate or park any bicycle without due regard for the safety of the operator or any other person or vehicle.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(h))

Sec. 11-69. Trick riding, etc.

No person shall remove both hands from the handlebars at the same time or perform trick riding.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(f))
State Law References: Riding on bicycles generally, Anno. Code of Md., Art. Transportation, § 21-1203.

Sec. 11-70. Passengers.

No person shall have more than one person riding on a bicycle at the same time except for tandem bicycles.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(d))

Sec. 11-71. Restrictions in Greenbelt Commercial Center.

No person shall ride a bicycle in the Greenbelt Commercial Center on Centerway or park a vehicle in the Greenbelt Commercial Center except in the spaces provided by the city.
(Code 1971, § 11-52(j))

Sec. 11-72. Miscellaneous parking restrictions.

No person shall park a bicycle anywhere within the city in such a manner as to injure or endanger any trees, shrubbery or property.
(Code 1971, § 11-52)

Secs. 11-73, 11-74. Reserved.

ARTICLE V.

PARKING METERS

Sec. 11-75. "Parking meter" defined.

For the purposes of this division, the term "parking meter" shall mean an upright mechanical device located at or near the curb or curbline immediately adjacent to the parking place in the street or public way, with a coin receptacle and so constructed with an indicator as to enable the determination of the time remaining in which a vehicle may lawfully be parked in such space, or that no time remains for lawful parking in such space.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Sec. 11-76. Installation, service and maintenance of meters.

The city council shall, by ordinance, designate the streets or public ways or portions thereof upon which parking meters shall be located and installed, and shall fix the time limit and the price for parking on any such street or public way, or portion thereof, and it shall be the duty of the city manager to cause such meters to be installed, serviced and maintained in accordance with such ordinance of the city council.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Sec. 11-77. Hours of operation.

Upon all streets or places designated for the location and installation of parking meters pursuant to the provisions of this article, there is hereby imposed a fee upon every person parking a vehicle upon the streets so designated between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and midnight, on any day except Sundays and legal holidays.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Sec. 11-78. Deposit of coins.

When any vehicle has been parked in any parking space for which a parking meter has been provided, the operator of such vehicle shall immediately deposit, or cause to be deposited, a coin or coins of the United States of such kind and amount as shall be indicated on the particular parking meter provided for the parking space which the operator of the vehicle has entered, and such parking space may then be lawfully occupied by the vehicle during the period of parking time indicated on the parking meter as the time allowed for the particular coin deposited.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Sec. 11-79. Overtime parking.

After a vehicle has remained parked in any parking space beyond the parking time limit as indicated on the meter for the particular coin or coins deposited, the parking meter shall display a sign or signal showing that such parking is illegal, and in that event such vehicle shall be considered parked overtime and in violation of this article. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit a vehicle parked by him or under his control to remain in any parking space beyond the period of time prescribed for such parking space.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Sec. 11-80. Parking outside designated spaces.

It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle across any traffic control line or marking designating a parking space, or to park such vehicle in any way that it shall not be wholly within the parking space as designated by such lines or markers.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Sec. 11-81. Depositing slugs, etc.; injuring, tampering with, etc., meters.

It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or cause to be deposited in any parking meter any slug, device or substitute for any coin of the United States, or for any person to injure, tamper with, open, willfully break, destroy or impair the usefulness of any parking meter heretofore installed or hereafter installed under authority of the city council.
(Ord. No. 1126, 9-12-94)

Secs. 11-82--11-84. Reserved.

ARTICLE VI.

AUTOMATED ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Sec. 11-85. Late fee.

Failure of the owner of a vehicle who receives a citation under the city's automated enforcement program to pay the civil penalty within one hundred five (105) days after the violation or to file a notice of intention to stand trial at least five days prior to the payment due date will subject the owner to a late fee of twenty-five dollars ($25.00).
(Ord. No. 1233, 3-10-03)

Secs. 11-86--11-90. Reserved.