

## Rules of the City of New York

### Title 34 – Department of Transportation

#### §4-02 Compliance With and Effect of Traffic Rules.

(a) Applicability of rules. **The provisions of these rules apply to all vehicles**, operators of vehicles, bicycles, operators of bicycles and pedestrians upon highways, parkways, shopping center parking lots and municipal areas including public housing, public hospital parking lots, and municipal lots and garages. These rules also apply on wharf property and marginal streets, in off-street parking facilities operated by the Department of Transportation, on vacant lots, and upon private roads open to public motor vehicle traffic, which for the purpose of application of these rules shall be considered streets, highways or parkways, except where a different place is specifically referred to.

(c) Dangerous driving. No person shall operate a vehicle in a manner that will endanger any person or property.

(d) All persons are required to comply with traffic rules.

(1) Exceptions. It is a traffic infraction for any person, including government employees, to do any act forbidden by or fail to perform any act required by these rules, except as otherwise provided herein.

#### §4-07 Other Restrictions on Movement.

(3) Bicycles and limited use vehicles.

(i) No person shall ride or operate a bicycle upon any sidewalk area unless permitted by sign. This prohibition shall not apply to the operation of bicycles with wheels of less than 26 inches in diameter upon the sidewalk by children of 12 years or less in age.

(ii) No person shall ride, park or operate a limited use vehicle within any sidewalk area except where permitted by sign. This prohibition shall not apply to the pushing of a limited use vehicle within a sidewalk area or to the pushing of such a vehicle to an authorized parking area.

#### §4-09 Equipment.

(a) Brakes. No person shall operate or park a motor vehicle unless such vehicle is in compliance with §375(1) of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

(b) Lights while driving. (1) When the display of head lamps is required, no operator shall operate the vehicle with parking lights only. The operator shall use the lower beam of multiple beam head lamps, except that the upper beam may be used where the street is not lighted sufficiently to reveal any person, vehicle or substantial object straight ahead of such vehicle for a distance of at least 350 feet, and provided that there is no vehicle within 500 feet approaching from the direction ahead.

(2) No person shall operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle on any street at any time unless it is equipped with head lamps, rear lamps and reflectors complying with the provisions of §§375(2) and 376 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

#### §4-12 Miscellaneous.

(h) Reporting accidents by operators of other than motor vehicles. The operators of any bicycle or vehicle other than a motor vehicle involved in an accident resulting in death or injury to a person or damage to property must stop and give their names and addresses and information concerning liability insurance coverage to the party sustaining injuries or damage, and in the case of death or injury, he/she must, in addition to the above, without delay report the accident to the nearest police station, unless he/she has supplied the information to a police officer on the scene. Accidents involving motor vehicles must be reported as required by the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

(o) Use of roadways.

(1) Pedestrians, horses, bicycles and limited use vehicles prohibited. In order to provide for the maximum safe use of the expressways, drives, highways, interstate routes, bridges and thruways set forth in §4-07 subdivision

(i) of these rules and to preserve life and limb thereon, the use of such highways by pedestrians, riders of horses and operators of limited use vehicles and bicycles is prohibited, unless signs permit such use.

(p) Bicycles. (1) Bicycle riders to use bicycle lanes. Whenever a usable path or lane for bicycles has been provided, bicycle riders shall use such path or lane only except under any of the following situations:

(i) When preparing for a turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.

(ii) When reasonably necessary to avoid conditions (including but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, motor vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, pushcarts, animals, surface hazards) that make it unsafe to continue within such bicycle path or lane.

(2) Driving on or across bicycle lanes prohibited. No person shall drive a vehicle on or across a designated bicycle lane, except when it is reasonable and necessary:

(i) to enter or leave a driveway; or

(ii) to enter or leave a legal curbside parking space; or

(iii) to cross an intersection; or

(iv) to make a turn within an intersection; or

(v) to comply with the direction of any law enforcement officer or other person authorized to enforce this rule; or

(vi) to avoid an obstacle which leaves fewer than ten feet available for the free movement of vehicular traffic.

Notwithstanding any other rule, no person shall drive a vehicle on or across a designated bicycle lane in such manner as to interfere with the safety and passage of persons operating bicycles thereon.

(4) Definitions. For the purpose of this subdivision (r), a restricted use street is a legally mapped street to be permanently closed to motor vehicles by the Department of Transportation, except as provided herein, and open to use by pedestrians. A limited use street is a legally mapped street to be temporarily closed to motor vehicles by the Department of Transportation, except as provided herein, and in accordance with lawfully authorized signs or other traffic control devices.

(s) Crossing buffer zones.

(1) For the purposes of this subdivision, a buffer zone is defined as an area in the roadway, created by white lines, that is

used to separate a parking lane from a travel lane or a bicycle lane from a travel lane, as indicated on the diagram below.

(2) No person shall drive a motor vehicle on or across a designated buffer zone, except when it is reasonable and necessary to enter or leave a legal curbside parking space or a driveway.

#### **§4-14 Parkways and Parks.**

(b) Restrictions on vehicles.

(1) Commercial vehicles. Commercial vehicles are prohibited from using any park, except under permit where necessary to make deliveries in such park. Wherever service roads adjoin the main roadway to a park such vehicles are required to use the service roads set apart for such use. In all cases such vehicles must enter the park from the nearest street intersection or entrance, in the direction of traffic, and leave by the nearest intersecting street or exit in the direction of traffic.

(c) Restricted areas of parks. No person shall, in any park, drive or operate a vehicle within or upon a safety zone, walk, bridle path or any part of any park designated or customarily used for such purposes. No person shall ride a bicycle, limited use vehicle, or scooter in any park, except in places designated for such riding; but persons may push such machines in single file to and from such places, except on beaches and boardwalks. No person shall ride a limited use vehicle upon any bicycle, pedestrian or bridle path or upon any street or walkway that has been set aside for bicycling while such designation is in effect. No wheelchairs shall be operated in any part of any park unless licensed by the Commissioner of Parks, except that invalids' wheelchairs may be pushed along the boardwalk and pedestrian walks. No person shall ride or lead a horse or other beast of burden in a park, except on a bridle path or along routes customarily used for access to and from bridle paths.

(e) Driving off pavement.

(1) No vehicle shall be operated or driven off the improved or paved roadways of any park or parkway unless it is disabled.

### **Title 56 – Department of Parks and Recreation**

#### **§1-04 Prohibited Uses.**

(b) Destruction or abuse of trees, plants, flowers, shrubs and grass.

(1) (i) No person shall deface, write upon, injure, sever, mutilate, kill or remove from the ground any trees under the jurisdiction of the Department without permission of the Commissioner.

(ii) No person shall deface, write upon, sever, mutilate, kill or remove from the ground any plants, flowers, shrubs or other vegetation under the jurisdiction of the Department without permission of the Commissioner.

(2) No person shall go upon or allow any animal or child in his custody to go upon any newly-seeded lawn or grass plot.

(3) No person shall go upon or allow any animal or child in his custody to go upon any area enclosed by fencing, temporary or permanent, where such fencing or signs posted thereon reasonably indicate that entry into such area is forbidden.

(l) Disorderly behavior. It shall be a violation of these rules to engage in disorderly behavior in a park. A person in any park shall be guilty of disorderly behavior who:

(5) interferes with, encumbers, obstructs or renders dangerous any part of a park or park road; obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic; or

(7) engages in a course of conduct or commits acts that unreasonably alarm or seriously annoy another person; or

(9) engages in a course of conduct or commits acts that endanger the safety of others.

#### **§1-05 Regulated Uses.**

(n) Unlawful operation and parking of motor vehicles.

(1) Motor vehicles may not be brought into or operated in any area of a park except on park roads or designated parking areas. Park roads may be closed to motor vehicles at such times and in such places designated by the Commissioner.

(2) A person shall not park any motor vehicle in any park except in areas designated by the Commissioner for parking, and only during the hours of operation of such park.