

TITLE 7 – VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

CHAPTER 10 – SNOW EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

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7-10-1 Definitions.

- A. "Street" or Highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained where any part is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.
- B. "Roadway" means that portion of a street or highway improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the berm or shoulder.
- C. "Snow Emergency Routes" are those streets designated as priority.

7-10-2 Snow Emergency Route. The Snow Emergency Routes shall consist of streets or portion of streets as the City Council may from time to time designate by appropriate motion.

7-10-3 Standing and Parking. On those streets or parts thereof designated by the Council as snow emergency routes, special signs shall be posted at intervals not exceeding six hundred feet (600') with the wording: "Snow Emergency Route. No Parking During Snow Removal". These signs shall be distinctive and uniform in appearance, shall be plainly readable to persons traveling on the street or highway and shall comply with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, as adopted by the City.

7-10-4 Notice of Snow Emergency. Whenever the City Administrator or his or her designee determines, on the bases of falling snow, sleet or freezing rain, or predictions of the same indicate that weather conditions will make it necessary that, in the interest of the safety of the community, motor vehicle traffic be expedited and that parking on City streets be prohibited or restricted for snow plowing and other purposes, he or she shall declare a snow emergency on all or a portion of the emergency routes. The City Administrator or his or her designee may also cause such declaration to b announced in newspapers, when time permits. The public announcement shall also specify the time and date when the snow emergency shall commence and its duration.

7-10-5 Duration of Snow Emergency. The time and day for the beginning and end of the snow emergency will be included in the initial declaration. The minimum duration will be 48 hours. However, the ending time and date can be amended, if necessary, because of weather conditions or in the interest of the safety of the community.

7-10-6 Termination of Snow Emergency. Whenever the City Administrator or his or her designee determines the need for a snow emergency no longer exists, he or she may declare to terminate, in whole or in part, effective immediately upon announcement through appropriate media.

7-10-7 Parking on Snow Emergency Routes. While a snow emergency is in effect, in the interests of the safety of the community, no person shall park, or allow to remain parked, any vehicle on any portion of a snow emergency route to which the snow emergency applies. Nothing in this section shall permit parking at any time or place otherwise forbidden by any other provision of law.

7-10-8 Conflict of Ordinances. The provisions of this Chapter which become effective during a snow emergency shall take precedence over conflicting ordinances normally in effect, except those relating to traffic accidents, emergency travel of authorized vehicles or emergency traffic directions by a Police Officer. However, nothing in this Section shall be construed to permit parking at any time or place otherwise forbidden by any other provision of law.

7-10-9 Stalled Vehicles. Whenever a vehicle becomes stalled or immobilized, for any reason, on any part of a snow emergency route during a snow emergency, the person operating that vehicle shall take immediate action to have the vehicle towed or pushed off the roadway of the snow emergency route, either on the first cross street which is not a snow emergency route, or onto the public space portion of a nearby driveway. No person shall abandon or leave his vehicle in the roadway of such snow emergency route except for a reasonable time necessary to receive assistance.

7-10-10 Removal and Impounding Vehicle. In the interests of the safety of the community, members of the Police Department are authorized to remove or have removed a vehicle from a street to a garage or other place of safety when:

- A. The vehicle is parked on a part of a snow emergency route on which a snow emergency is in effect.
- B. The vehicle is stalled or immobilized on a part of a snow emergency route on which there is a snow emergency in effect and the person who was operating such vehicle does not appear to be removing it in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.
- C. The vehicle is parked in violation of any parking Ordinance or provision of law and is interfering or about to interfere with snow removal operation. When an officer removes or has removed a vehicle from a street as authorized herein and the Police Department knows, or is able to ascertain from the registration records in the vehicle, the name and address of the owner thereof, the Police Department shall, within twenty-four (24) hours, give written notice to such owner of the fact of removal, the reasons therefore, and the place to which the vehicle has been removed. If the owner does not appear within three (3) days to identify and claim the vehicle and pay the removal and storage costs, such vehicle shall be considered to be an abandoned vehicle and the Police Department shall proceed to sell or dispose of the same in accord with the provisions of the Code of Iowa.

7-10-11 Citation on Vehicle. Whenever any motor vehicle without a driver is found parked or left in violation of any provision of this chapter, and is not removed and impounded, the officer finding such vehicle may take its registration number and any other information displayed on the vehicle which identifies its user, and conspicuously affix to such vehicle a traffic citation for the driver to answer the charge against him on the date, time, and place specified in the citation. Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting both removal of a vehicle and prosecution of the driver for violation of this chapter.