

CIRCULAR



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title	Changes to Title 18, DCMR (Vehicles and Traffic)
Number	CIR-20-02
Effective Date	June 12, 2020
Expiration Date	June 12, 2022
Related Orders:	GO-SPT-303.01 (Traffic Enforcement) GO-SPT-303.02 (Notices of Infraction Procedures)

The purpose of this circular is to inform members of changes to District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR) Title 18 (Vehicles and Traffic), Chapters 22 (Moving Violations), 24 (Stopping, Standing, Parking, and other Non-Moving Violations), and 26 (Civil Fines for Moving and Non-Moving Infractions), which amend rules related to speed restrictions, bus zones, and bicycle lanes.

New and amended regulations are outlined below.

I. AMENDED – SPEED RESTRICTIONS

On all streets and highways, the “default” speed limit in the District has been reduced to 20 miles per hour (MPH) from 25 MPH **unless otherwise posted**.

T-Code	Regulation	Fine
	<u>Default speed limit in the District is 20 MPH [§2200.6]</u>	
T118	o Up to 10 mph in excess of limit [§ 2200.1]	\$50
T119	o 11 to 15 mph in excess of limit [§ 2200.1]	\$100
T120	o 16 to 20 mph in excess of limit [§ 2200.1]	\$150
T121	o 21 to 25 in excess of limit [§ 2200.1]	\$200
T822	o Over 25 mph in excess of limit on controlled access roadways [§ 2200]	\$400
T823	o Over 25 mph in excess of limit on non-controlled access roadways [§ 2200]	\$500
T124	o Minimum, driving too slowly [§ 2200.10]	\$50

II. NEW – WMATA AND BUS PARKING RESTRICTIONS

The DCMR has been modified to add new restrictions for unauthorized vehicles in bus parking zones and a new fine for unauthorized vehicles on WMATA property. A bus parking zone is a designated and marked off section of a public roadway within the marked boundaries of which a tour bus may be parked and the use of which is regulated through parking meter zone payment.

P-Code	Regulation	Fine
	<u>Bus and WMATA Parking Zone infractions</u>	
P177	o Bus parked within a public space curbside area not designated as bus parking zone [§ 2404.12]	\$250
P171	o Bus parking zone, unauthorized vehicle in [§ 2404.7(f)]	\$100

P175	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Failure of bus operator to provide payment for use of designated bus parking zone [§ 2404.5, § 2404.13] 	\$100
P174	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WMATA property, parking, leaving unattended, or storing a vehicle in violation of restrictions at a parking facility on [DC Code § 50-2637] 	\$30

III. NEW – PROHIBITIONS ON ENTERING A BICYCLE LANE

Two new sections have been added to the DCMR to restrict the use of bicycle lanes.

T-Code	Regulation	Fine
T768	<p><u>Improper use of restricted bicycle lanes [§2220.7]</u> “No vehicle may enter a bicycle lane for any purpose other than when necessary to execute safely the following maneuvers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To turn into a private road; • To turn into an alley or driveway, provided the turn shall be made as close as practicable to the alley or driveway; • To turn onto an intersecting roadway, provided the turn shall be made as close as practicable to the intersecting roadway, but no further than 25 feet from the intersection; • To enter a legal parking space or legal area for stopping or standing a vehicle; • To follow the direction of a police officer; or • To comply with emergency vehicles and apparatus (18 DCMR § 2210).” 	\$100
T385	<p><u>No stopping, standing, or parking in a bicycle lane [§ 2405.7]</u> “No vehicle may stop, stand, or park in a bicycle lane. Provided that, stopping in a bicycle lane is only permitted when necessary to enter into a legal parking space or to follow the directions of a police officer.”</p>	\$65

IV. AMENDED – PROHIBITIONS ON PARKING A MOTOR VEHICLE OR TRAILER

18 DCMR 2405.3 has been modified to strengthen prohibitions on parking a motor vehicle or trailer, and removes the following stricken language:

No person shall park a motor vehicle or trailer, whether occupied or not, ~~otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading of passengers or freight~~ in any of the below-listed places.”

P-Code	Regulation	Fine
	<u>Prohibitions on parking a motor vehicle or trailer [§ 2405.3]</u>	
P042	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On the public parking between the sidewalk space and the building line, except parking shall be permitted on public parking at those locations designated under this title and at locations authorized by permit and upon payment of rent; 	\$20
P311	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Between a safety zone and the channelizing island and the adjacent curb or within 90 ft. of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone or channelizing island unless otherwise indicated by official signs; 	\$20
P001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street; 	\$50

P305	o Within 25 ft. of either side of motorists' courtesy mail boxes;	\$20
P002	o In any public alley; provided, that parking shall be permitted in a public alley where authorized by a public space permit or where designated by posted sign; and	\$30
P015	o In a manner to obstruct the entrance to any garage, parking lot or yard, door, or gate used for service purposes."	\$20

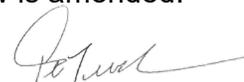
V. AMENDED – STOPPING, STANDING, OR PARKING A MOTOR VEHICLE OR TRAILER

18 DCMR 2405.2 was modified to remove the following stricken language:

No person shall stand or park a motor vehicle or trailer, whether occupied or not, in any of the below listed places (including for the purpose of loading or unloading materials), except ~~when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or~~ at the direction of a police officer, traffic control sign, or signal; provided, that a vehicle may stop momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger or passengers.

P-Code	Regulation	Fine
	<u>Stopping, standing, or parking a motor vehicle or trailer</u> <u>[\$2405.2]</u>	
P013	o In front of or within five feet of an alley, public driveway, or private driveway;	\$20
P020	o Within 10 ft. of a fire hydrant;	\$50
P025/ P024	o Except as provided in § 2411.21 of this title, within 40 feet of the intersection of curb lines of intersecting streets (P025) or within 25 ft. of the intersection of curb lines on the far (non-approach) side of a one-way street (P024); <u>NEED TO KNOW:</u> Trucks vending ice cream shall be permitted to park curbside when stopping to make a sale, as close as possible to a pedestrian cross-walk without entering the intersection, and without unduly interfering with the flow of traffic.	\$20
P050	o Within 25 ft. of the approach side of any "STOP" sign located at the side of the roadway;	\$50
P312	o Within 25 ft. of the approach side of any "YIELD" sign located at the side of the roadway;	\$20
P308	o Within 50 feet of a railroad crossing;	\$20
P019	o Within 20 ft. of a fire station driveway entrance;	\$50
P043	o In or on any street or roadway when such parking will reduce the width of the open roadway to less than 10 feet;	\$25
P004	o In front of any barricade or sign that has been placed for the purpose of closing the street; or	\$20
P059	o In a fire lane located on public or private space."	\$50

While this circular will expire on June 12, 2022, changes made to District law as described in this circular will be permanent until such time as the law is amended.


Peter Newsham
Chief of Police