

CIRCULAR



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title	Vision Zero Enhancement Omnibus Amendment Act of 2020: Bicycle Safety Equipment and Headphone Use While Operating a Vehicle
Number	CIR-21-06
Effective Date	April 15, 2021
Expiration Date	April 15, 2023
Related Orders:	GO-SPT-303.01 (Traffic Enforcement) GO-SPT-303.02 (Notice of Infraction Proceedings)

The purpose of this circular is to inform members of the “Vision Zero Enhancement Omnibus Amendment Act of 2020,” which is currently in effect and includes two new enforcement updates.

BICYCLE EQUIPMENT ENFORCEMENT

NEW	Members shall not stop an individual for a violation, or a perceived violation, of bicycle safety equipment requirements under 18 DCMR 1204.
Reference	DC Official Code § 50-1601 sec. 9b: Proper bicycle equipment enforcement restrictions
Need to Know	(1) Members may still issue an NOI or a warning NOI for bicycle safety equipment if the individual is stopped for another reason. (2) Members may still stop an individual and issue an NOI or warning NOI for a bicycle moving violation.

DISTRACTED DRIVER SAFETY

NEW	No person shall use headphones that cover both ears or earbuds in both ears while operating a motor vehicle in the District, except if the headphones or earbuds are being used to assist a hearing-impaired driver.
Reference	DC Official Code § 50-1731.04: Restricted use of mobile telephone and other electronic devices
T-Code	T590 Distracted Driving
Penalty	\$100 fine.

While this circular will expire on April 15, 2023, changes made to District law as described in this circular will be permanent until such time as the law is amended.

Robert J. Contee III
Acting Chief of Police