

Sun Prairie Municipal Code: Chapter 10.32 - BICYCLES

Sections:

10.32.010 - Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

"Bicycle" means every device propelled by the feet acting upon pedals and having wheels, any two of which are not less than fourteen (14) inches in diameter.

"Bicycle way" means any path or sidewalk, or portion thereof, designated for the use of bicycles by the responsible governing body.

"Bicycle's lane" means that portion of a roadway set aside for exclusive use of bicycles and so designated by appropriate signs and markings by the responsible governing body.

"Bike route" means any bicycle lane, bicycle way or highway which has been duly designated by the responsible governing body and identified by appropriate signs and markings.

"Carrier" means any device attached to a bicycle designed for carrying articles.

"Identification tag" means a metal plate or sticker indicating that a bicycle is registered.

"Right-of-way" means the right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other.

(Prior code § 10-2-1)

10.32.020 - Manner of operation restricted.

No bicycle shall be allowed to proceed in any street in the city by inertia or momentum with the feet of the rider removed from the bicycle pedals. No rider of a bicycle shall remove both hands from the handlebars or practice any trick or fancy riding in any street in the city nor shall any bicycle rider carry or ride any other person so that two persons are on the bicycle at one time, unless a seat is provided for a second person.

(Prior code § 10-2-2)

10.32.030 - Lighting and other equipment.

No person shall operate a bicycle upon a highway unless equipped as required in Section 347.489, Wisconsin Statutes.

(Amended during 2000 codification; prior code § 10-2-3)

10.32.040 - Parking a bicycle.

No person shall leave a bicycle at such a place or in such a way as to create a hazard to pedestrians, automobile operators or to anyone else. Bicycles shall be parked either upon the roadway against the curb, in bicycle racks or, if on the sidewalk, in such a manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic, and not in such a manner as to obstruct the ingress and egress to buildings used by the public. If there is no bicycle rack or other facility intended to be used for the parking of bicycles in the vicinity, the operator may park a bicycle on the sidewalk in an upright position parallel to and within twenty-four (24) inches of the curb.

(Prior code § 10-2-4)

10.32.050 - Rules of the road.

The provisions of Chapters 346 and 347, Wisconsin Statutes, and applicable city ordinances shall govern the operation of bicycles where appropriate.

(Prior code § 10-2-5)

10.32.060 - Bicycle regulations.

A. Rules for Turning.

1. The operator of a bicycle intending to turn to the right at an intersection shall approach the point of turning in the traffic lane nearest the right-hand edge or curb of the street, and in turning, shall keep as closely as practicable to the right-hand edge or curb of the highway.
2. The operator of a bicycle intending to turn to the left of an intersection or into a private driveway shall make such turn from the traffic lane immediately to the right or next to the center of the street and pass immediately to the left of the center of the intersection, passing as closely as practicable to the left of the center of the intersection immediately to the right of the center of the intersection of the street.
3. At any intersection where traffic is controlled by a traffic control signal or by a traffic officer, it shall be unlawful for any such operator of such bicycle upon any street to disobey the instructions of any official traffic sign or signal placed in accordance with the laws of the state of Wisconsin and the ordinances of the city.
4. Use of Crosswalks. Crosswalks shall be used when walking a bicycle through an intersection.

B. **Trick Riding.** No person shall operate a bicycle upon the streets of the city without having manual control of the handlebars or operate a bicycle in any other manner which necessitates the element of unusual extraordinary skill and involves unnecessary risk.

C. **Tandem Riding.** No person shall ride or propel a bicycle on a street in the city with another person upon the bicycle unless such bicycle is so constructed as to be a tandem bicycle.

D. **Emerging from Alley or Driveway.** The operator of a bicycle emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on such roadway.

E. **Bicycles Not to be Pulled by Moving Vehicles.** No person riding upon a bicycle shall cling or attach himself or herself or his or her bicycle to any other moving vehicle upon a street or highway, nor shall the operator of any such bicycle tow or draw any coaster wagon, sled, person on roller skates, toy vehicles or any other similar vehicle on such highway.

F. **Speed.** No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under existing conditions or in the excess of any posted speed limit.

G. *Riding on Sidewalk.*

1. *All persons may ride a bicycle upon any of the public sidewalks of the city except the 100 through 300 blocks of East Main Street, the 100 block of West Main Street, and the 100 block of Market Street.*
2. Whenever riding bicycles is permitted on the sidewalk, every person operating a bicycle upon a sidewalk shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle rider or pedestrian proceeding in the same direction. (Prior code § 10-2-6)

10.32.070 - Inspection and registration of bicycles.

A. **Registration Required.** No person shall operate a bicycle upon any street, sidewalk, public property, bicycle pathway or public highway within the city unless such bicycle shall first have been properly registered and an identification tag attached as hereinafter provided.

B. Form of Registration.

1. Identification. Every owner of a bicycle shall list and register his or her bicycle with the police department on a form as provided by the department.
 2. Period of Registration. All bicycle registrations shall be nonexpiring, and shall be transferable without additional cost.
 3. Owner to Register. The licensing authority shall not register any bicycle which it knows or has reasonable grounds to believe is not owned by or lawfully in the possession of the applicant.
 4. The police department may allow several sequentially numbered licenses to be purchased by bicycle sales stores in the city. Those stores shall affix registration stickers as bicycles are sold, and turn in the registration forms to the police department on a weekly basis for entry.
- C. Records and Transmittal of Fees.
1. The police department shall keep at its office a suitable record of applications and registrations.
 2. A complete report shall be made to the city treasurer by the chief of police of funds received for bicycle registration fees, and all such fees shall be paid to the city treasurer for deposit as city revenues.
- D. Bicycles to be Kept in Safe Condition. All bicycles shall be kept in safe mechanical condition. The chief of police of this city shall have authority to suspend the registration of and remove the identification tag from any bicycle or to impound any bicycle, operated contrary to any state law or city ordinance, or operated which is in unsafe mechanical condition. Such suspension and removal, or impounding shall continue for a period not to exceed ten (10) days, but the registration shall not be reinstated or such identification tag replaced if such bicycle is in unsafe condition. Such suspension and removal shall be in addition to other penalties provided for herein.
- E. Change of Ownership. Within ten (10) days after any bicycle registered hereunder shall have changed ownership or been dismantled and taken out of operation such information shall be reported to the police department by the person in whose name the bicycle has been registered.
- F. Registration to be Displayed. The identification tag issued under this section shall be affixed to the registered bicycle so as to be plainly seen and read and shall remain so affixed until ordered removed by the police department for cause. The identification tag shall be installed on the frame of the bicycle which supports the bicycle seat, facing toward the front of the bicycle.
- G. Exemption from Registration. Any nonresident may operate a bicycle which is duly registered in any municipality without obtaining local registration if a valid identification tag is attached thereto.
- H. Removal and Alteration of Identification Tags.
1. Removal Prohibited. No person shall remove an identification tag from a bicycle.
 2. Alteration Prohibited. No person shall alter or counterfeit any identification tag. (Ord. 2001 § 7, 2001; Prior code § 10-2-7)
- 10.32.080 - Bicycle dealers and rental agencies.
- A. Buyers. Every person engaged in the business of buying secondhand bicycles is required to make a monthly report to the police department giving the name and address of the person from whom each bicycle is purchased, the name, color, type, size and serial number of each bicycle purchased and the number of the identification tag, if any, found thereon.
- B. Sellers. All persons engaged in the business of selling new or secondhand bicycles are required to make a monthly report to the police department listing all sales including the name and address of each buyer, a description of the bicycle including the frame number and the number of the identification tag attached thereto, if any.
- C. Rental Agencies. No person shall rent or offer to rent any bicycle within the city which bicycle is not registered and to which an identification tag has not been attached, as provided herein, or which is not equipped as required by the laws of the state of Wisconsin and this chapter. (Prior code § 10-2-8)

10.32.090 - Skateboards.

No person shall operate a skateboard on the sidewalk in a business district. A business district for the purposes of this section is defined as any area containing primarily commercial type uses which generate heavy pedestrian traffic during the business hours. Such business district shall have a minimum street frontage of one hundred (100) feet. Skateboarding on sidewalks is permitted, except as prohibited in this section and otherwise regulated. (Prior code § 10-2-9)

10.32.100 - Penalties.

- A. Any person sixteen (16) years of age or older who shall violate any provision of this chapter may be issued a uniform traffic citation, and be subject to the penalties provided by the Uniform State Traffic Deposit Schedule.
- B. Any person fourteen (14) years of age through fifteen (15) years of age who shall violate any provisions of this chapter may be issued a municipal court citation and be subject to the penalties provided by the municipal court deposit schedule, and upon conviction thereof may be required to forfeit not more than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) together with the cost of prosecution and in default of such payment, the court may suspend the child's operating privileges, as defined in Section 340.01, Wisconsin Statutes, for not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days.
- C. Any person under fourteen (14) years of age who shall violate any provision of this chapter may be issued a special bicycle violation warning notice along with the following additional actions:
 - 1. First Offense in One Year. A warning letter sent to the parent or guardian requiring their signature and return of the warning notice to the police department.
 - 2. Second Offense in the Same Year. A warning letter sent to the parent or guardian.
 - 3. Third Offense in the Same Year. A mandatory parent-child-police conference.
 - 4. Fourth and Subsequent Offense in the Same Year. Mandatory referral to Dane County juvenile court.
- D. Any parent or guardian of any child who authorizes or knowingly permits such child to violate any of the provisions of this chapter may be subject to the provisions of Section 346.77 and 346.82(1), Wisconsin Statutes. (Prior code § 10-2-10)