

Chapter 10.40

SNOW EMERGENCIES

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10.40.010 Snow Emergency; Interference With Snow Removal.

Whenever there is a snowfall in the city to a depth of three inches or more during any period of twenty-four hours or less, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, constituting a serious public hazard, impairing transportation, and jeopardizing the welfare and safety of the city. To meet such an emergency, the Director of Public Works and Utilities may, by rules and regulations, prohibit the parking and stopping of vehicles in such streets, districts, or city-owned or operated parking facilities as he or she may designate to enable the expeditious removal of the snow. It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any vehicle to permit such vehicle to be parked, stopped, or left standing in any street, streets, district, or city-owned or operated parking facility during the periods of time set forth in such rules and regulations. In addition to any penalty assessed for the violation of this section, any vehicle stopped, parked, or left standing in violation of this section or the provisions of any rules or regulations adopted pursuant hereto, may be removed as provided in Section 10.40.110.

Whenever a snow emergency exists, the Director of Public Works and Utilities shall give notice of such emergency by announcement through available news media, such as the press, radio, or television of the streets or parking facilities, or parts thereof, whereon the parking of vehicles will be prohibited and the hours during which prohibition will be in effect. (Ord. 16951 §86; March 11, 1996: prior Ord. 15645 §1; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.28.020: Ord. 11542 §3; December 29, 1975: Ord. 8282 §21; December 16, 1963: Ord. 7794 §7; July 16, 1962: Ord. 6273, February 5, 1956: Ord. 5699 §601.1; April 12, 1954).

10.40.020 Establishment of Snow Emergency Routes.

The Director of Public Works and Utilities is hereby authorized to establish snow emergency routes upon any street or highway of the city and may place appropriate signs, marks, lines, signals or other traffic control devices indicating the existence of said snow emergency routes. Such designation of any street, highway or portion thereof as a snow emergency route shall in no way affect any previous designation of that street or highway as an arterial or other road designation. (Ord. 16951 §87; March 11, 1996: prior Ord. 15645 §2; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.010: Ord. 10311 §4; December 6, 1971).

10.40.030 Declaration of Emergency; Prohibition of Parking on Snow Emergency Routes.

The Mayor may order a parking prohibition on all snow emergency routes by declaring that an emergency exists on the basis of falling snow, sleet, freezing rain, or official forecast by the U.S. Weather Service of snow, sleet, freezing rain, or other weather conditions making it necessary that parking on a snow emergency route be prohibited for snow plowing or other purposes. In such declaration, the Mayor shall state the time that said emergency shall be in effect. It shall be unlawful for any person to park or allow to remain parked any vehicle on any portion of a snow emergency route during a parking prohibition affecting such streets. Once in effect, the parking prohibition imposed under this section shall remain in effect until terminated by the Mayor. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to permit parking at any time or place where it is forbidden by any other provision of law. (Ord. 15645 §3; July 9, 1990).

10.40.040 Prohibition of Parking on Arterials and Bus Routes.

The Mayor may order a parking prohibition on all streets designated as arterial streets in Chapter 10.26 of this code, and residential streets designated as bus routes by declaring that an emergency exists on the basis of falling snow, sleet, freezing rain, or official forecast by the U.S. Weather Service of snow, sleet, freezing rain, or other weather conditions making it necessary that parking on city arterial streets and bus routes be prohibited for snow plowing or other purposes. In such declaration, the Mayor shall state the date and time on which such parking prohibition shall take effect. The parking prohibition shall remain in effect until terminated by the Mayor. It shall be unlawful for any person to park or allow to remain parked any vehicle within any arterial streets during a declared parking prohibition affecting such streets. (Ord. 15645 §4; July 9, 1990).

10.40.050 Prohibition of Parking on Residential Streets.

The Mayor may order a parking prohibition on parts or all of residential streets by declaring an emergency exists on the basis of accumulated snow or other conditions making it necessary that parking on residential streets be prohibited or restricted for snow plowing or other purposes. Streets subject to a total parking prohibition on both sides of the street shall be established only by executive order of the Mayor. For all other streets, the Mayor may order that parking be prohibited on one side of the residential streets, designating either the odd or even address numbered side. In such orders the Mayor shall state the date and time on which such parking prohibitions shall take effect. The parking prohibitions or restrictions shall remain in effect until terminated by the Mayor. It shall be unlawful for any person to park or allow to remain parked any vehicle upon residential streets or parts of residential streets in violation of a declared parking prohibition affecting such streets. (Ord. 15645 §5; July 9, 1990).

10.40.060 Prohibition of Parking on City-owned or Operated Parking Facilities.

The Director of Public Works and Utilities may order a parking prohibition on any part or all of any or all city-owned or operated parking facilities on the basis of accumulated snow or other conditions making it necessary that parking on city-owned or operated parking facilities be prohibited for snow plowing or other purposes. In such declaration, the Director of Public Works and Utilities shall state the date and time on which such parking prohibition shall take effect. The prohibition shall remain in effect until terminated by the Director of Public Works and Utilities. (Ord. 16951 §88; March 11, 1996: prior Ord. 15645 §6; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.045: Ord. 11542 §8; December 29, 1975).

10.40.070 Operation of Motor Vehicles on Snow Emergency Routes.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or person operating a motor vehicle on a snow emergency route to allow such vehicle to become stalled or stuck on such snow emergency route during a declared emergency parking prohibition under Section 10.40.030.

For purposes of this section, stalled shall include any motor vehicles stalled because the motor fuel supply is exhausted or the battery has become inoperative. (Ord. 15645 §7; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.050: Ord. 10311 §8; December 6, 1971).

10.40.080 Stalled Vehicle on Snow Emergency Route.

It shall be unlawful for the person operating a motor vehicle that has stalled for any reason on any snow emergency route on which there is a parking prohibition in effect to fail to take immediate action to have the vehicle towed or pushed off the roadway of such snow emergency route, either onto the nearest cross street which is not a snow emergency route, or other appropriate location. No person shall abandon or leave his or her vehicle in the roadway of a snow emergency route, except for the purpose of securing assistance during the actual time necessary to go to a nearby telephone or to a nearby garage, gasoline station, or other place of assistance and return without delay. (Ord. 15645 §8; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.060: Ord. 10311 §9; December 6, 1971).

10.40.090 Emergency Declarations of the Mayor.

The Mayor shall publicly announce each declaration of a snow emergency made pursuant to this chapter by means of broadcast or telecast from broadcasting stations with a normal operating range covering the city and in newspapers of general circulation when so desired. Each announcement shall describe the action taken by the Mayor, including the time it became or will become effective, and shall specify the streets or areas affected. The Mayor shall issue an executive order to record the details of such snow emergency as soon after the declaration of an emergency as is feasible.

The Mayor may declare the prohibition terminated, in whole or in part, effective immediately upon announcement or at a later specified time. (Ord. 15645 §9; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.070: Ord. 10311 §10; December 6, 1971).

10.40.100 Provisions Temporarily Effective to Take Precedence.

Any provision of this chapter which becomes effective by order or declaration of the Mayor upon the occurrence of a snow emergency, while temporarily in effect, shall take precedence over other conflicting provisions of law normally in effect, except that it shall not take precedence over provisions of law relating to traffic accidents, emergency travel of authorized emergency vehicles,

or emergency traffic directions by a police officer. (Ord. 15645 §10; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.075: Ord. 10311 §11; December 6, 1971).

10.40.110 Removal of Stalled or Parked Vehicles.

Members of the Police Department are hereby authorized to remove or have removed a vehicle from a street or a city-owned or operated parking facility to another place or location on a street or to a lot, garage, or other similar facility designated by the Police Department when:

(a) The vehicle is parked on a snow emergency route on which a parking prohibition is in effect.

(b) The vehicle is stalled on a snow emergency route on which there is a parking prohibition in effect and the person who is operating said vehicle does not appear to be removing it in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(c) The vehicle is parked or stalled on an arterial or bus route on which there is a parking prohibition in effect and is interfering or about to interfere with snow removal operations.

(d) The vehicle is parked on any street or other public area in violation of any parking prohibition or provision of law contained in this chapter and is interfering or about to interfere with snow removal operations. (Ord. 15645 §11; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.080: Ord. 11542 §9; December 29, 1975: prior Ord. 10311 §12; December 6, 1971).

10.40.120 Penalty.

The penalties for violating provisions of this chapter are found in Section 10.06.120. (Ord. 20100 §3; October 20, 2014: prior Ord. 15645 §12; July 9, 1990: P.C. §10.29.090: Ord. 10311 §13; December 6, 1971).