Chapter 9.38 - BICYCLES

Footnotes:

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9.38.010 - Parental responsibility; applicability of chapter to bicycles operated on pathways.

A. The parent of any child or the guardian of any ward may not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this chapter.

B. The provisions of this chapter applicable to bicycles shall also apply whenever a bicycle is operated upon any sidewalk, trail, or pathway, subject to those exceptions stated in this chapter.

(CAC 9.38.010; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 89-52; AO No. 2005-77, § 1, 11-22-05)

9.38.020 - Applicability of traffic laws to riders.

A. Every person operating a bicycle shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to a person operating a vehicle by this title, except as to special regulations in this chapter, and except as to those provisions of this title which by their nature have no application.

B. A person shall not operate a bicycle so as to suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and move into the path of a vehicle so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

C. A person operating a vehicle by human power upon and along a sidewalk, trail or pathway shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances.
   1. A person operating a vehicle by human power upon and along a sidewalk, trail or pathway shall not operate the vehicle at a speed greater than ten miles per hour when approaching or entering an uncontrolled crosswalk, approaching or crossing a driveway, or crossing a curb cut or pedestrian ramp where a motor vehicle is approaching the uncontrolled crosswalk, driveway, curb cut or pedestrian ramp.
   2. A person operating a vehicle by human power upon and along a sidewalk, trail or pathway, when entering a controlled intersection, shall obey the traffic control device and enter the intersection at a reasonable and prudent speed.
   3. A person operating a vehicle by human power upon and along a sidewalk, trail or pathway shall operate the vehicle at a reasonable and prudent speed when in the presence of pedestrians on the same sidewalk, trail or pathway, consistent with section 9.38.070.

(CAC 9.38.020; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 2, 11-22-05; AO No. 2011-113(S), § 107, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11)

9.38.030 - Obedience to traffic control devices.

A. Any person operating a bicycle shall obey the instructions of official traffic control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, school crossing guard, authorized flagperson, or other individual operating in an official capacity to assist traffic.
B. When authorized signs are erected indicating no right turn, left turn, or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a bicycle shall disobey the direction of any such sign,
   1. Except where such person dismounts from the bicycle to make any such turn;
   2. If a person dismounts from the bicycle, such person shall then obey regulations applicable to pedestrians.

(CAC 9.38.030; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 3, 11-22-05; AO No. 2011-113(S), § 108, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11)

9.38.040 - Riding on seat required; carrying other persons.

A. A person operating a bicycle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

B. No person operating a bicycle shall carry another person, unless the bicycle is equipped with a seat or a trailer for the passenger.

(CAC 9.38.040; GAAB 19.95.040; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 4, 11-22-05; AO No. 2011-113(S), § 109, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11)

9.38.050 - Clinging to vehicles.

No person riding upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, skateboard, sled, skis or toy vehicle shall attach such vehicle or the person to any other vehicle upon a roadway.

(CAC 9.38.050; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2011-113(S), § 110, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11)

9.38.060 - Riders to use right edge of roadway; riding abreast.

A. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway, including a bicycle lane designated pursuant to section 9.16.095, or upon a trail or pathway shall ride as near to the right edge of the roadway or trail or pathway as practicable, exercising due care when avoiding hazards and passing or meeting other vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians or users of the roadway or trail, except in the following situations when it is unreasonable or unsafe to do so:
   1. When overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
   2. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;
   3. When reasonably necessary to avoid unsafe or impracticable conditions including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or when the travel lane is too narrow to provide for the cyclist and an overtaking motor vehicle to travel side by side with a reasonably safe distance between the two, or where it is otherwise unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge;
   4. When approaching a place where a right turn is authorized;
   5. When it is necessary for a cyclist to fully occupy one traffic lane while waiting to cross an intersection in order to increase the cyclist's visibility to drivers of other vehicles; or
   6. When traveling the same speed as other traffic.

B. Persons operating bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast, except on paths or designated bicycle lanes or in the case of a licensed or permitted bicycling event.
9.38.070 - Riding on sidewalk; giving audible warning.

A. No person shall ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk within the central business traffic district.

B. The municipal traffic engineer is authorized to erect signs on any sidewalk or roadway prohibiting the riding of bicycles thereon by any person, and when such signs are in place no person may disobey such signs. Signs shall be based upon the public health, safety and welfare.

C. Whenever any person is riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk, trail or pathway, such person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal by voice or by audible warning device before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.

9.38.080 - Parking.

Bicycles shall be parked so as not to obstruct traffic or pedestrians.

9.38.090 - Carrying articles.

No person operating a bicycle may carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the driver from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

9.38.100 - Lamps and other equipment.

A. Lamps and reflectors. Every bicycle when in use after dusk and before dawn shall be equipped with a lamp on the front of the bicycle, or worn on the body of the person operating the bicycle, which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear which shall be visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

B. Brakes. Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will enable its driver to stop the bicycle within 20 feet from a speed of ten mph on dry, level, clean pavement.

C. Audible warning device. No person shall operate a bicycle unless it is equipped with an audible warning device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least 100 feet, except a bicycle shall not be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a bicycle any siren or whistle.
9.38.110 - License required. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.110; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 80-4; AO No. 2005-77, § 8, 11-22-05)

9.38.120 - Application for license. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.120; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 8, 11-22-05)

9.38.130 - Issuance of license. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.130; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 8, 11-22-05)

9.38.140 - Attachment of license plate. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.140; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 8, 11-22-05)

9.38.150 - Inspection prior to issuance of license. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.150; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 8, 11-22-05)

9.38.160 - Re-registration on transfer of ownership. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.160; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 8, 11-22-05)

9.38.170 - Applicability of requirements to rented bicycles.

A rental agency may not rent or offer any bicycle for rent unless the bicycle is equipped with the equipment required pursuant to section 9.38.100.

(CAC 9.38.170; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 9, 11-22-05; AO No. 2011-113(S), § 114, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11)

9.38.180 - Bicycle dealers—Report required. (Repealed)

(CAC 9.38.180; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 90-24)

9.38.190 - Alteration or mutilation of serial number or registration.

It is unlawful for any person to willfully or maliciously remove, destroy, mutilate or alter the number of any bicycle frame licensed pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the police department from stamping numbers on the frames of bicycles on which no serial number can be found, or on which the number is illegible or insufficient for identification purposes.

(CAC 9.38.190; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 2005-77, § 10, 11-22-05)

9.38.200 - Wearing of bicycle helmets.
Wearing a bicycle helmet is mandatory for any person 15 years of age or younger when on a bicycle in public places. Public places include, but are not limited to, streets, sidewalks, pathways, trails, parking lots and skate parks. Failure to wear a bicycle helmet or other protective headgear is a traffic violation which shall result in a warning for a first offense and which carries a fine of $25.00 for each subsequent offense. The fine may be waived if proof that a bicycle helmet has been obtained is presented to the Anchorage Police Department.

(AO No. 2005-77, § 11, 11-22-05)