

CHAPTER 71: TRAFFIC RULES

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TRAFFIC RULES

71.01 SPEED LAWS APPLICABLE

(a) The Indiana Code state traffic laws regulating the speed of vehicles shall be applicable on all streets within this city, except as this traffic code, as authorized by state law, declares and determines on the basis of engineering and traffic investigation that certain speed regulations shall be applicable on specified streets or in certain areas. It shall be a violation for any person to drive a vehicle in excess of the posted speed limit on any street in the City. In this event, it shall be unlawful for any person to drive a vehicle at a speed in excess of any speed so declared in this title when signs are in place giving notice thereof. ('72 Code, 41.29) (Ord. 1781-1960)

(b) It is a violation for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required in this chapter. All violations of this chapter 71 shall be subject to a fine of \$10.00. The procedure for payment or trial is set forth in Section 10.99(h).

(Cross-reference:

Speed on particular streets, see Ch. 76, Sched. I)

Statutory-reference:

Alteration of speed limits by local authorities, see I.C. 9-4-1-58

71.02 REGULATION OF SPEED BY TRAFFIC SIGNALS

The Board is authorized to regulate the timing of traffic signals so as to permit the movement of traffic in an orderly and safe manner at speeds slightly at variance from the speeds otherwise applicable within the district or at intersections and shall erect appropriate signs giving notice thereof. ('72 Code, 41.32) (Ord. 1781-1960)

TURNING MOVEMENTS

71.10 REQUIRED POSITION AND METHOD OF TURNING AT AN INTERSECTION

The driver of a vehicle intending to turn at an intersection shall do so as follows:

(a) Right turns. Both the approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

(b) Left turns on two-way roadways. At any intersection where traffic is permitted to move in both directions on each roadway entering the intersection, an approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of the right half of the roadway nearest the center line and by passing to the right of the center line where it enters the intersection and after entering the intersection to the right of the center line of the roadway being entered. Whenever practicable the left turn shall be made in that portion of the intersection to the left of the center of the intersection.

(c) Left turns on other than two-way roadways. At any intersection where traffic is restricted to one direction on one or more of the roadways, the driver of a vehicle intending to turn left at any such intersection shall approach the intersection in the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of the vehicle and after entering the intersection the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection as nearly as practicable, in the left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction upon the roadway being entered. ('72 Code, 41.33) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

Statutory reference:

Local authorities may regulate turns, see I.C. 9-4-1-28(A)

71.11 TURNING MARKERS

(a) The Board is authorized to place markers, buttons, or signs within or adjacent to intersections indicating the course to be traveled by vehicles turning at the intersections. and the course to be traveled as so indicated may conform to or be other than as prescribed by law or ordinance.

(b) When authorized markers, buttons, or other indications are placed within an intersection, indicating the course to be traveled by vehicles turning there, it shall be a violation to no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of the indications. ('72 Code, 41.34) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.12 RESTRICTED TURN SIGNS

The Board is authorized to determine those intersections at which drivers of vehicles shall not make a right, left, or U-turn, and shall place proper signs at the intersections. The making of such turns may be prohibited between certain hours of any day and permitted at other hours, in which event the hours shall be plainly indicated on the signs or they may be removed when the turns are permitted. ('72 Code, 41.35) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.13 OBEDIENCE TO NO-TURN SIGNS

Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right or left or U-turn is permitted, it shall be a violation to no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of any such sign. ('72 Code, 41.36) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.14 LIMITATIONS ON TURNING AROUND

The driver of any vehicle shall not turn the vehicles so as to proceed in the opposite direction on any street in a business district and shall not upon any other street so turn a vehicle unless the movement can be made in safety and without interfering with other traffic. ('72 Code, 41.37) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

ONE-WAY STREETS AND ALLEYS

71.20 AUTHORITY TO SIGN ONE-WAY STREETS AND ALLEYS

(a) Whenever this traffic code designates any one-way street or alley the Board shall place and maintain signs giving notice thereof, and no such regulation shall be effective unless the signs are in place. Signs indicating the direction of lawful traffic movement shall be placed at every intersection where movement of traffic in the opposite direction is prohibited.

(b) On those streets and in those alleys described in Chapter 76 Schedule II, vehicular traffic shall move only in the indicated direction when signs indicating the direction of traffic are erected and maintained at every intersection where movement in the opposite direction is prohibited. ('72 Code, 41.38, 41.39) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

Statutory reference:

Local authorities may designate one-way streets, see I.C. 9-4-1-28(A)

71.21 AUTHORITY TO RESTRICT DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT ON STREETS DURING CERTAIN PERIODS.

(a) The Board is authorized to determine and designate streets, parts of streets, or specific lanes on which vehicular traffic shall proceed in one direction during one period and the opposite direction during another period of the day and shall place and maintain appropriate markings, signs, barriers, or other devices to give notice thereof. The Board may erect signs temporarily designating lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction, regardless of the center line of the roadway.

(b) It shall be a violation for any person to operate any vehicle in violation of such markings, signs, barriers, or other devices so placed in accordance with this section. ('72 Code, 41.40) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

STOP AND YIELD INTERSECTIONS

71.25 THROUGH STREETS DESIGNATED

Those streets and parts of streets described in Chapter 76 Schedule III are declared to be through streets for the purpose of this section. ('72 Code, 41.41) (Ord. 1781-1960)

Statutory reference:

Local authorities may designate through streets, see I.C. 9-4-1-28(A)

71.26 SIGNS REQUIRED AT THROUGH STREETS

Whenever this traffic code designates and describes a through street it shall be the duty of the Board to place and maintain a stop sign, or on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation at any intersection a yield sign, on each and every street intersecting the through street unless traffic at an intersection is controlled at all times by traffic-control signals. However, at the intersection of two through streets, or at the intersection of a through street and a heavy traffic street not so designated, stop signs shall be erected at the approaches of either of the streets as may be determined by the Board on the basis of an engineering and traffic study. ('72 Code, 41.42) (Ord. 1781-1960)

71.27 OTHER INTERSECTIONS WHERE STOP OR YIELD REQUIRED

The Board is authorized to determine and designate intersections where particular hazard exists on streets other than through streets and to determine either that vehicles shall stop at one or more entrances to the intersection, in which event the Board shall cause to be erected a stop sign at each place where a stop is required, or that vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles on the other street as prescribed in 71.30 (a). In this event the Board shall cause to be erected a yield sign at every place where required. ('72 Code, 41.43) (Ord. 1781-1960)

71.28 STOP SIGNS AND YIELD SIGNS

(a) Every stop sign shall bear the word "Stop" in letters not less than eight inches in height. Every yield sign shall bear the word "Yield" in letters not less than seven inches in height. Every stop sign and every yield sign shall at nighttime be rendered luminous by internal illumination, or by a floodlight projected on the face of the sign, or by efficient reflecting elements in the face of the sign.

(b) Every stop sign and every yield sign shall be erected as near as practicable to the nearest line of the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if there is no crosswalk, then as near as practicable to the nearest line of the intersecting roadway. ('72 Code, 41.44) (Ord. 1781-1960)

71.29 VEHICLE ENTERING STOP INTERSECTION

(a) Except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic-control signal, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop intersection indicated by a stop sign shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection. In the event there is no crosswalk, the driver shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, or, in the event there is no stop line, at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection.

(b) After stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle which has entered the intersection from another highway or which is approaching so

closely on the highway as to constitute an immediate hazard, but the driver having so yielded may proceed and the drivers of all other vehicles approaching the intersection shall yield the right-of-way to the vehicle so proceeding. ('72 Code, 41.45) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.30 VEHICLE ENTERING YIELD INTERSECTION

(a) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall in obedience to such sign slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions, or shall stop if necessary, and shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian legally crossing the roadway on which he is driving, and to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another highway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard. After yielding, the driver may proceed, and the drivers of all other vehicles approaching the intersection shall yield to the vehicle so proceeding. A driver who enters a yield intersection without stopping and has, or causes a collision with a pedestrian in a crosswalk or a vehicle in the intersection shall prima facie be considered not to have yielded as required herein. The foregoing shall not relieve the drivers of other vehicles approaching the intersection at such distance as not to constitute an immediate hazard from the duty to drive with due care to avoid a collision.

(b) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign, if required for safety to stop, shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection. In the event there is no crosswalk, the driver shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, or, in the event there is no stop line, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway. ('72 Code, 41.46) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.31 STOP WHEN TRAFFIC OBSTRUCTED

No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed. ('72 Code, 41.47) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

MISCELLANEOUS DRIVING SECTIONS

71.40 FOLLOWING AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE PROHIBITED

(a) The driver of any motor vehicle other than one on official business associated with the emergency response, shall not follow any emergency vehicle closer than 500 feet while the flashers or sirens of the emergency vehicle are in operation.

(b) Emergency vehicles as pertains to this section are defined as vehicles of the Police Department, ambulances operated by or for health and hospital corporations, and ambulances and other vehicles used in emergency service which are owned by persons, firms, or corporations other than hospitals which are designated as emergency vehicles. and are authorized to operate as such by the Public Service Commission of Indiana. (Ord. 3022-1975) Penalty, see 10.99

71.41 DRIVING THROUGH FUNERAL OR OTHER PROCESSION

No driver of a vehicle shall drive between the vehicles comprising a funeral or other authorized procession while they are in motion and when the vehicles are conspicuously designated as required in this traffic code. This provision shall not apply at intersections where traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals or police officers. ('72 Code, 41.52) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.42 DRIVERS IN A PROCESSION

Each driver in a funeral or other procession shall drive as near to the right-hand edge of the roadway as practicable and shall follow the vehicle ahead as close as is practicable and safe. ('72 Code, 41.53) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 74.99

71.43 FUNERAL PROCESSIONS TO BE IDENTIFIED

A funeral composed of a procession of vehicles shall be identified as such by displaying on the outside of each vehicle a pennant or other identifying insignia. ('72 Code, 41.54) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

(Cross-reference: Traffic Division requires funeral procession to be identified, see 70.14)

71.44 PERMITS FOR PARADES AND PROCESSIONS

No procession or parade containing 25 or more persons or five or more vehicles, except the forces of the U.S. Defense Department or the forces of the Police and Fire Departments, shall occupy, march, or proceed along any street except in accordance and with permission of the Board. ('72 Code, 41.55) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

(Statutory reference: Local control over processions and assemblages, see I.C. 9-4-1-28(A))

71.45 VEHICLE ON SIDEWALKS

The driver of a vehicle shall not drive within any sidewalk area except at a permanent or temporary driveway. ('72 Code, 41.56) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.46 LIMITATIONS ON BACKING

The driver of a vehicle shall not back the vehicle unless the movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other traffic. ('72 Code, 41.57) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99

71.47 OPENING AND CLOSING VEHICLE DOORS

No person shall open the door of a motor vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a motor vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers. ('72 Code, 41.58) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99.

71.48 LOAD RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN HIGHWAYS

No person shall operate any vehicle with a gross weight in excess of 7,000 pounds on any street, alley, or highway in the city, including roadways, streets, or lanes in the parks of the city, but must operate the vehicle only on state or U.S. routes, designated and marked as such, or a city truck route, especially designated and marked as such. However, the vehicle may be operated on city streets over the shortest practical route for the purpose of delivering or picking up materials or merchandise or entering or leaving a terminal in the city. ('72 Code, 41.97) (Ord. 1781-1960) Penalty, see 10.99