

TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAPTER 19, SECTIONS 91 AND 92 TO CREATE A SKATEBOARD PILOT PROGRAM WHICH WILL REDESIGN THE NO SKATEBOARD ZONE ON THE PENINSULA, AND AUTHORIZE AND REGULATE THE OPERATION OF SKATEBOARDS ON THE PUBLIC STREETS IN THE CITY OUTSIDE OF THE NO SKATEBOARD ZONE. (AS AMENDED)

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS IN THE CITY COUNCIL ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. Chapter 19, Article V, Section 91 of the Code of the City of Charleston is hereby amended by deleting the following stricken phrases, which shall read as follows:

Sec. 19-91. - Regulation of use of roller skates, in-line skates, ~~skateboards~~, toy scooters, coasters and motorized toy vehicles.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person upon roller skates, in-line skates, ~~skateboards~~, or any coaster, toy scooter, motorized toy vehicle or other similar device to:

- (1) Go upon any roadway designed for vehicular traffic posted more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour except while crossing a street at a crosswalk;
- (2) Use these devices in a city-owned or leased parking garage or surface lot;
- (3) Unless designated otherwise, use these devices upon a city-owned or leased athletic field or tennis court;
- (4) Unless designated otherwise, go upon any sidewalk or roadway in a school overlay zone or in a commercially zoned area on the peninsula as delineated on the zoning map of the city and as the zoning map may hereafter be amended by the ordinances of the city;

- (5) Use these devices in a reckless manner. Persons operating these devices on a sidewalk shall exercise due care for the safety of others using the sidewalk and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians; or
 - (6) Operate these devices in a manner which causes damage to public or private property.
- (b) For purposes of this section a motorized toy vehicle shall mean any toy vehicle which is powered by a twelve-volt battery and when operated at full throttle does not exceed fifteen (15) miles per hour. Any scooter, motorized toy vehicle, coaster, or other similar device which can be operated at a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour shall not be operated on a public sidewalk.
- (c) Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be subject to a maximum fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

Section 2. Chapter 19, Article V, Section 92 of the Code of the City of Charleston is hereby amended by adding thereto the following underlined phrases, which shall read as follows:

"Sec. 19-92. Skateboard Regulations on the Peninsula.

A. The City shall create a committee containing community and neighborhood representatives affected by this ordinance to study, review, and comment on this and any future skateboard ordinance amendments.

B. The provisions of this Section are applicable to the use of skateboards within the municipal limits of the City.

B. Every person riding a skateboard upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of this state declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic regulations of this city applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to special regulations in this Section and except as to those provisions of laws and regulations which by their nature can have no application.

C. Every skateboarder operating a skateboard upon a roadway shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable. A skateboarder may, but is not required to, ride on the shoulder of the roadway in order to comply with the requirements of this subsection. A skateboarder may ride in a lane other than the right-hand lane if only one lane is available that permits the skateboarder to continue on his intended route.

D. A driver of a motor vehicle must at all times maintain a safe operating distance between the motor vehicle and a skateboard.

E. A skateboard may not be used to carry more persons than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

- F. Footwear shall be worn at all times while operating a skateboard.
- G. A person may not operate a skateboard while intoxicated or consuming alcohol.
- H. It is unlawful to harass, taunt, or maliciously throw an object at or in the direction of any person riding a skateboard.
- I. A person riding upon a skateboard may not attach it or himself to a vehicle, or any device which is used or may be used for propulsion.
- J. Skateboarders must be visible from both a minimum distance of 500 feet and a height of at least 3 feet through the use of reflective clothing, lights, or other visible gear.
- K. Hand Signals. A skateboarder shall indicate a right turn by extending the left arm upward, by raising the left arm to the square. A skateboarder shall indicate a left turn by extending the left arm horizontally. A skateboarder shall indicate stopping or decreasing speed by extending the left arm or the right arm downward.
- L. A skateboarder must be able to brake within a five foot stopping distance."
- M. It shall be unlawful for any person upon a skateboard or other similar device to:
- (1) Use these devices in a city-owned or leased parking garage or surface lot;
 - (2) Unless designated otherwise, use these devices upon a city-owned or leased athletic field or tennis court; or
 - (3) Operate these devices in a manner which causes damage to public or private property.
- N. The use of Skateboards is prohibited on the streets and sidewalks identified on the attached Exhibit A which is incorporated by reference herein."

Section 3. This Ordinance shall become effective upon ratification and shall expire six months after ratification unless further legislative action is taken.

Ratified in City Council this 12th day of March in the Year of Our Lord, 2013, in the 237th Year of Independence of the United States of America.

By:

Joseph P. Riley, Jr.
Mayor, City of Charleston

ATTEST:

Vanessa Turner-Maybank
Vanessa Turner-Maybank
Clerk of Council

Skateboard Use Map



