

ORDINANCE #66692
Board Bill No. 24
(Floor Substitute)

An ordinance pertaining to motorcycles and motorized bicycles; amending Sections 17.02.300 and 17.02.315 of Section Two of Ordinance 58448 defining “motor vehicle” and “motorized bicycle”; further amending Section 17.18 of Section One of Ordinance 57831 to provide that the provisions of such section shall apply to motorized bicycles; containing an emergency clause.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. Section 17.02.300 and Section 17.02.315 of Section Two of Ordinance 58448 is hereby amended to read as follows;

17.02.300 Motor Vehicle.

"Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled, except those which move upon a track(s).

17.02.315 Motorized bicycle.

"Motorized bicycle" shall mean any two- or three-wheeled device having an automatic transmission and a motor with a cylinder capacity of not more than fifty cubic centimeters, which produces less than three gross brake horsepower, and is capable of propelling the device at a maximum speed of not more than thirty miles per hour on level ground, except those devices used by persons with disabilities for the purpose of mobility.

SECTION TWO. Section 17.18 of Section One of Ordinance 57831 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17.18.010 Traffic laws apply to motorcyclists and motorized bicyclists.

Every person operating a motorcycle or motorized bicycle shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under Chapter 17 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis and Sections , except as to special regulations in this article and except as to those provisions of this act which by their nature can have no application.

17.18.020 Riding on motorcycles or motorized bicycles.

A. A person operating a motorcycle or motorized bicycle shall ride only upon the permanent and regular seat attached thereto, and such operator shall not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on a motorcycle or motorized bicycle unless such vehicle is designed to carry more than one person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the permanent and regular seat if designed for two persons, or upon another seat firmly attached to the vehicle at the rear or side of the operator.

B. A person shall ride upon a motorcycle or motorized bicycle only while sitting astride the seat, facing forward, with one leg on each side of the vehicle.

C. No person shall operate a motorcycle or motorized bicycle while carrying any package, bundle or other article which prevents him from keeping both hands on the handlebars.

D. No operators shall carry any person, nor shall any person ride, in a position that will interfere with the operation or control of the motorcycle or motorized bicycle or the view of the operator.

17.18.030 Operating motorcycles or motorized bicycles on roadways laned for traffic.

A. All motorcycles or motorized bicycles are entitled to full use of a lane and no motor vehicle shall be driven in such a manner as to deprive any motorcycle or motorized bicycle of the full use of a lane. This subsection shall not apply to motorcycles or motorized bicycles operated two abreast in a single lane.

B. The operator of a motorcycle or motorized bicycle shall not overtake and pass in the same lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken.

C. No person shall operate a motorcycle or motorized bicycle between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.

D. Motorcycles or motorized bicycles shall not be operated more than two abreast in a single lane.

E. Subsections B and C shall not apply to police officers in the performance of their official duties.

17.18.040 Clinging to other vehicles.

No person riding upon a motorcycle or motorized bicycle shall attach himself or the motorcycle or motorized bicycle to any vehicle on a roadway.

17.18.050 Footrests and handlebars.

A. Any motorcycle or motorized bicycle carrying a passenger, other than in a sidecar or enclosed cab, shall be equipped with footrests for such passenger.

B. No person shall operate any motorcycle or motorized bicycle with handlebars more than 15 inches in height above that portion of the seat occupied by the operator.

17.18.060 Equipment for motorcycle or motorized bicycle riders.

A. No person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motorized bicycle unless such person is wearing protective headgear which complies with standards established by the Missouri Director of Revenue.

B. No person shall operate or ride upon a motorized bicycle unless such motorized bicycle is equipped with a red or orange flag measuring not less than twelve inches by twelve inches. Such flag shall extend not less than forty-eight inches in height above that portion of the seat occupied by the operator.

C. This section shall not apply to persons riding within an enclosed cab or on a golf cart.

17.18.060. Motorized bicycles. Restrictions

A. No person shall operate a motorized bicycle on any highway or street in this city unless the person has a valid license to operate a motor vehicle. No person shall allow or permit a person who does not have a valid license to operate a motor vehicle to operate a motorized bicycle.

B. No motorized bicycle may be operated on any public thoroughfare located within this state which has been designated as part of the federal interstate highway system.

17.18.070. Seizure of Motorized bicycles.

Any motorized bicycle operated by a minor under the age of 16 years, who is unaccompanied by the registered owner of such motorized bicycle, shall be seized and held until proof of ownership is established.

SECTION THREE Emergency clause.

This being an ordinance for the preservation of public peace, health, and safety, it is hereby declared to be an emergency measure within the meaning of Sections 19 and 20 of Article IV of the Charter of the City of St. Louis and therefore shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the mayor.

Approved: June 2, 2005