

City of Spring Lake Park Staff Report



Agenda Date	Status
May 4, 2026	Discussion
Requestor	Agenda Section
Buchholtz/Antoine	Discussion
Agenda Item #:	
Ordinance Amending Traffic and Parking Regulations (SLPC 7.04 and SLPC 7.08)	
Executive Summary	
<p>The proposed ordinance amends Chapters 7.04 (Traffic Regulations) and 7.08 (Parking Regulations) of the Spring Lake Park City Code to modernize local regulations, align with current Minnesota statutes, and incorporate best practices from the Minnesota Basic Code.</p> <p>Key updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption and clarification of state statutes by reference • Updated definitions (including e-bikes, e-motos, and off-road vehicles) • Enhanced safety regulations for bicycles, ATVs/ORVs, and snowmobiles • Revised seasonal road restrictions and administrative authority • Strengthened parking regulations, including winter parking and commercial vehicle restrictions • Expanded enforcement tools, including administrative citations and parking enforcement officers <p>The ordinance is intended to improve clarity, enforceability, and public safety while ensuring consistency with state law. Chief Antoine has reviewed the proposed changes and offers his support.</p>	
Background	
<p>The City’s traffic and parking regulations have not been recently updated and no longer fully reflect current state statutes, evolving transportation modes, or enforcement best practices.</p> <p>This ordinance represents a comprehensive modernization effort. Major policy and operational updates include:</p>	

- *State Law Alignment:* Adoption of Minnesota Statutes Chapters 168, 169, and 171 by reference to ensure ongoing compliance without repeated code updates
- *Emerging Transportation:* Introduction of definitions and regulations for electric-assisted bicycles (e-bikes) and electric motorcycles (e-motos)
- *Safety Enhancements:*
 - Prohibition on unreasonable acceleration and careless operation
 - Median safety regulations to reduce pedestrian-vehicle conflicts
 - Updated bicycle operating and equipment requirements
- *Off-Road Vehicle Regulation:* Consolidation and clarification of ATV/ORV rules, including operating hours, locations, and equipment standards
- *Seasonal Road Protection:* Expanded authority for the City to impose load restrictions and require financial security for exceptions
- *Parking Modernization:*
 - 24-hour parking limit enforcement clarity
 - Restrictions on large commercial vehicles and recreational vehicles
 - Winter parking restrictions and snow emergency authority
- *Enforcement Improvements:*
 - Administrative citation authority under SLPC 3.20
 - Explicit authority to tow vehicles creating hazards
 - Authorization for parking enforcement officers consistent with Minnesota law

Board/Commission Review

N/A

Financial Impact

Minor. Expenditures include City Attorney review cost and the cost of publication upon adoption

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends forwarding the proposed ordinance to the City Attorney for legal review prior to adoption.

Attachments

1. Ordinance Amending Chapters 7.04 and 7.08 of the Spring Lake Park City Code