



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer /KDK
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COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Ordinance – Revisions to the Model Traffic Ordinance – December 6, 2016
DATE: November 9, 2016

SUMMARY:

An ordinance amending Chapter 11.05 and Chapter 11.55 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, relating to the Model Traffic Ordinance and the Heavy Haul Industrial Corridor, to revise City regulations applicable to street traffic.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.

The recommended revisions will reflect existing conditions and create consistency with the Transportation Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 11.05, Model Traffic Ordinance, includes the street traffic regulations of the City and all of the state vehicle laws applicable to street traffic in the City. The proposed ordinance will allow the City to regulate and enforce vehicle laws within alignment of the adopted Transportation Master Plan. It also provides a means to improve and address traffic conditions. Chapter 11.55, Heavy Haul Industrial Corridor, identifies the designated arterial streets within the Port of Tacoma that may be used to haul overweight freight with a heavy haul permit.

ISSUE:

The proposed amendments are a result of internal staff, community residents, and stakeholder group requests. City staff reviewed the proposed amendments with the Transportation Commission and the Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group in 2015, and presented to the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Commission on February 10 and July 27, 2016. The recommended changes, summarized and displayed in the attachment, will reflect existing conditions and create consistency with the Transportation Master Plan.

The proposal will amend the following sections of Chapter 11.05, Model Traffic Ordinance:

- 11.05.150 One-way streets designated
- 11.05.250 City Manager regulates and designates on-street parking restrictions
- 11.05.460 Blind pedestrians – Vehicles to stop
- 11.05.470 Blind pedestrians – Use of white canes
- 11.05.490 Arterial streets designated
- 11.05.500 Yield right-of-way intersections designated
- 11.05.520 Thirty miles per hour limit – Streets designated
- 11.05.530 Thirty-five miles per hour limit – Streets designated
- 11.05.540 Forty miles per hour limit – Streets designated



The proposal also amends Chapter 11.55, Heavy Haul Industrial Corridor, by revising Section 11.55.020 Defined terms. A section of Milwaukee Way will be removed as a designated heavy haul corridor which will facilitate the vacation of that section of the roadway.

ALTERNATIVES:

Approval of the proposed amendments can be completed at a later date. No action on the arterial streets and one-way designations may result in a loss of or delay in funding and project completion.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Public Works Department recommends amending Chapter 11.05 and Chapter 11.55 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, relating to the Model Traffic Ordinance and the Heavy Haul Industrial Corridor. The proposed amendments are consistent with the City's Transportation Master Plan and will update the Model Traffic Ordinance with existing street conditions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.