

ORDINANCE 15110

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA BY AMENDING CHAPTER 73: RECREATIONAL VEHICLES FOR BICYCLES AND SKATEBOARDS, AND ASSOCIATED CODE REFERENCES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA:

Section 1. The Code of Ordinances, City of Marshalltown Chapter 73 subchapter titled “Bicycles” shall be repealed and replaced with the following:

BICYCLES AND SKATEBOARDS

§ 73.015 DEFINITIONS.

BICYCLE (OR OTHER LIKE INSTRUMENT). Any instrument containing handlebars and/or a seat either powered by the force of the rider or with a motor having a displacement no greater than 50 cubic centimeters or output not to exceed 750 watts or not capable of operating at a speed in excess of 28 mph on level ground unassisted by human power. Any ordinance specifically applying to motorized bicycles shall apply to bicycles equipped with a motor as defined above.

SKATEBOARD (OR OTHER LIKE INSTRUMENT). Any instrument used to transport a person by means of wheel(s) or roller(s) not containing handlebars or a seat with an output not to exceed 750 watts or not capable of operating at a speed in excess of 28 mph on level ground unassisted by human power.

BUSINESS DISTRICT. For the purposes of this subchapter only, the business district includes the following streets: Main Street from 2nd Street to 3rd Avenue; 2nd Street from State Street to Church Street; 1st Street from State Street to Church Street; Center Street from State Street to Church Street; 1st Avenue from State Street to Church Street; 2nd Avenue from State Street to Church Street.

PUBLIC PLACE. Alleys, parking lots, buildings owned or occupied by the City, the Iowa Veterans Home, and terraces or parkades adjacent to roadways.

§ 73.016 OBSERVING TRAFFIC LAWS.

Every person, including peace officers, riding a bicycle upon any street, alley or sidewalk within the city shall observe and obey the traffic laws and traffic signals of the city and of the state, so far as the laws and signals apply to the riding of bicycles and, specifically and without limitations, shall include traffic rules relating to traffic lights and highway stop signs, and every such person riding a bicycle must signal any change of direction in the course of travel and must travel on the right-hand side of the center of the street and shall not turn to the right or left in traffic, except at the regular street intersections and shall not weave in and out of the line of traffic.

§ 73.017 PROHIBITED USE.

It shall be unlawful for any person to ride any bicycle or skateboard, at any time, on a public sidewalk in any business district of the city with the exception of a bike lane.

- (A) It shall be unlawful to drive, propel, or ride a bicycle, skateboard, or a similar wheeled contrivance upon any recreational sports court or playground surfacing owned by the public or dedicated to public use.
- (B) No person shall use, operate or permit the use or operation of any skateboard or like instrument on any street in the city or at the Iowa Veterans Home with the exception of a bike lane.

§ 73.018 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED.

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any person to ride or operate a bicycle within the city limits without having the bicycle properly equipped with workable and safe brakes.
- (B) Every bicycle shall be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light, at the times specified in I.C.A. § 321.384, visible from a distance of at least 300 feet to the front and with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 300 feet to the rear; except that, a red reflector may be used in lieu of a rear light. A peace officer riding a police bicycle is not required to use either front or rear lamps if duty so requires.

Penalty, see § 73.999

§ 73.019 PROPER USE OF A BICYCLE OR SKATEBOARD.

- (A) A person propelling a bicycle on the highway shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle if equipped.
- (B) A person shall not use a bicycle on the highway to carry more persons at one time than the number of persons for which the bicycle is designed and equipped.
- (C) This section does not apply to the use of a bicycle in a parade authorized by proper permit from local authorities.
- (D) Any person who shall use, operate or permit to be used or operated any such skateboard or like instrument shall do so in a careful and prudent manner and not in a manner so as to cause or be likely to cause danger or injury to any person or property.
- (E) The user or passenger of any such skateboard or like instrument shall give the right-of-way to any pedestrian, motor vehicle or any other user of the sidewalk or public place and shall not interfere with the proper use of any sidewalk or public place by any other person.

Section 2. The Code of Ordinances, City of Marshalltown sections 130.005 and 130.006 are hereby repealed.

Section 3. The Code of Ordinances, City of Marshalltown section 70.001 definition for "Motorized Bicycle or Motor Bicycle" is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

BICYCLE (OR OTHER LIKE INSTRUMENT). Any instrument containing handlebars and/or a seat either powered by the force of the rider or with a motor having a displacement no greater than 50 cubic centimeters or output not to exceed 750 watts or not capable of operating at a speed in excess of 28 mph on level ground unassisted by human power. Any ordinance specifically applying to motorized bicycles shall apply to bicycles equipped with a motor as defined above.

Section 4. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Marshalltown section 71.092 Motor Vehicle Licenses is hereby repealed to remove reference to "motor scooters and motorized bicycles" and replaced with the following:

- (A) Operators of all motor vehicles operated on the public streets are required to be properly licensed in accordance with the Code of Iowa, except:
 - (1) Motorized wheel chairs, three- or four-wheel, may be operated for the purpose of transporting the disabled;
 - (2) Lawn mowers operated for the purpose of mowing the grass may use the public street to take the most direct route from one residence to another;
 - (3) Farm equipment may be operated for the purpose of agriculture; and
 - (4) Golf cars may be operated and licensed as provided in Chapter 73 Recreational Vehicles.
- (B) The operation of all motorized vehicles is prohibited on public sidewalks with the exception of motorized wheel chairs, three or four wheels, may operate on a public sidewalk for the purpose of transporting the disabled.
- (C) All motor vehicles operated on the public streets must be properly licensed and insured in accordance with the Code of Iowa.

Section 5. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Marshalltown is hereby amended and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 7. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

Passed this 8th day of September, 2025, and signed this 9th day of September, 2025.

CITY OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA


Joel Greer, Mayor

ATTEST:


Alicia Hunter, CMC, City Clerk

I, Alicia Hunter, City Clerk of the City of Marshalltown, Iowa, do hereby certify that the foregoing ORDINANCE was passed and approved by the City Council of the City of Marshalltown, Iowa, on the 8th day of September, 2025, and was published in the Marshalltown Times-Republican, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Marshalltown, Iowa, on the 12th day of September, 2025.


Alicia Hunter, City Clerk