

LEGISTAR 44204 – 3rd Substitute Body

DRAFTER'S ANALYSIS: This is a public safety measure that limits persons from entering a highway and approaching a vehicle that is in operation. It also limits a person from staying upon the median of the highway longer than it takes to cross the highway. This ordinance also applies to vehicle operators who stop for a person violating these two prohibitions. The ordinance provides exceptions for crossing at crosswalks, getting into or out of a vehicle, highway maintenance and others.

The ordinance will apply only to such activities taking place on what are defined as "covered highways." These are "arterial" streets, which is a classification based on heavier traffic levels, and on certain portions of some streets intersecting with arterial streets. A list of each street considered "arterial" is provided in the text of the ordinance. These are the streets with the greatest danger of injury to pedestrians, as has occurred in other cities. Because of their high traffic, these streets also present the greatest danger of distractions to drivers by persons in the median or the highway, resulting in higher risk of car crashes and potential injuries. The ordinance is narrowly tailored to cover those parts of the city with the greatest safety risks. It does not, for example, cover sidewalks, where both pedestrians and drivers are accustomed to seeing persons.

As a safety ordinance, it applies to all persons who violate it, regardless of what they are doing. Thus, it applies to persons in the median or highway advertising a business, seeking contributions, urging persons to vote for a candidate or cause, or asking drivers to "Fill The Boot."

Chapter 12, MGO, adopts the definitions in the State traffic laws. In those laws, "Highway" is defined as "all public ways and thoroughfares and bridges on the same. It includes the entire width between the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purposes of vehicular travel. It includes those roads or driveways in the state, county or municipal parks and in state forests which have been opened to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular travel and roads or driveways upon the grounds of public schools, as defined in s. 115.01 (1), and institutions under the jurisdiction of the county board of supervisors, but does not include private roads or driveways as defined in sub. (46)." Wis. Stats. § 340.01(22). This ordinance also defines medians and arterials.

The Common Council of the City of Madison do hereby ordain as follows:

1. Section 12.325 entitled "Solicitation on Highway Prohibited" of the Madison General Ordinances is repealed and recreated to read as follows:

"12.325 ENTERING OR STAYING UPON HIGHWAYS RESTRICTED.

- (1) Purpose. Pedestrians are increasingly using highways in ways for which the roads were not designed. These uses include approaching vehicles when in use or staying upon medians for purposes other than crossing the highway. These activities create safety hazards for pedestrians and distract drivers, making automobile crashes more likely. This ordinance is designed to decrease the safety hazards by restricting such activity. These safety concerns are most acute on the busiest streets within the City of Madison, identified as arterial streets or highways, and some streets intersecting with those arterial streets. This ordinance applies to those "covered highways" identified in sub. (7) herein.
- (2) Definitions. As used in this ordinance,
 - "Covered Highway" is defined in sub. (7) herein.
 - A vehicle is "in operation" when it has an operator, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(41).
 - A "median" is a paved or unpaved area dividing a street or highway that separates lanes of traffic traveling in opposite directions, or in the case of left or right hand turn lanes, vehicles traveling in the same direction.
- (3) No person, other than a person in or on a vehicle, shall be on a covered highway listed in sub. (7) and approach any vehicle in operation.
- (4) No person shall be upon a median of a covered highway listed in sub. (7) unless that person is in the process of crossing the highway in a safety zone or crosswalk. It is prima facie evidence of a violation of this section if a person stays on the median through two consecutive opportunities to cross the highway in a legal manner under this Chapter and the state traffic laws adopted herein. This may include a change in the traffic control signal or lack of traffic, as applicable. After such two consecutive opportunities, such person shall not be considered to be "using the safety zone or crosswalk to cross the highway" for purposes of the exception in sub. (6)(b).

- (5) No operator of a vehicle shall park, stop or leave standing a vehicle on a covered highway listed in sub. (7) where prohibited or suddenly decrease the speed of said vehicle or deviate from a traffic lane for the purpose of responding to persons violating subs. (3) or (4).
- (6) Exceptions. This ordinance does not apply to (a) persons on the sidewalk, (b) persons using the safety zone or crosswalk to cross the highway, (c) persons engaged in law enforcement or rescue activities, including providing assistance to an injured or disabled vehicle or person, (d) persons entering a vehicle as an invited passenger where it is lawful to do so, including activity permitted under Wis. Stat. § 346.29(1) (taxi), (e) persons engaged in repair or maintenance activities on the highway under the direction or authority of the City of Madison or the State of Wisconsin; or (f) streets or portions thereof that have been closed pursuant to a street use permit or other express authorization from the City.
- (7) Covered Highways. This ordinance applies only to covered highways, which are those highways or portions of highways listed in subs. (a) and (b) below:
 - (a) The following highways are designated as arterial streets, the streets and highways within the City of Madison that have the most traffic, and are covered highways under this ordinance:

Aberg Ave	N & S Gammon Rd	Odana Rd
Allen Blvd	Gorham St	Old Middleton Rd
Agriculture Dr	Hamilton St (Between	Old Sauk Rd
American Pkwy	Wilson St & Doty St)	Olin Ave
Anderson St	Highland Ave	Packers Ave
Atwood Ave	High Crossing Blvd	Park St
Bassett St	Hoepker Rd	Pennsylvania Ave
Beltline Hwy	I 39-90-94	Pflaum Rd (Between
Blair St	International Ln	Monona Dr & Agriculture
Brandt Rd-CTH AB	John Nolen Dr	Dr)
Broom St (Between John	Junction Rd	Pleasant View Rd
Nolen Dr & Gorham St)	Lien Rd (Between Theier	Proudfit St
W Broadway	Rd & Thompson Dr)	Putnam (Between
Buckeye Rd	Little St	McKenna Blvd & Maple
Campus Dr	Maple Grove Dr	Grove Dr)
Commercial Ave	Marsh Rd	Randall (Between Monroe
Cottage Grove Rd	McKee Rd	& University)
Dayton St (Between N	McKenna Blvd (Between	Raymond Rd
Hamilton & State St)	Gammon Rd & Putnam)	Regent St
Doty St	Midtown Rd (Between S	Reiner Rd
Dutch Mill Rd	Gammon Rd & Woods	Rimrock Rd
E & W Johnson St	Rd)	Schroeder Rd
E Springs Dr (Between E	Midvale Blvd	Seminole Hwy
Washington & High	Milwaukee St (Between E	N Sherman Ave (Between
Crossing Blvd)	Washington & Swanton	Fordem & Northport Dr)
E Washington Ave	Rd)	Siggelkow Rd (Between
Eastwood Dr	Mineral Point Rd	Stoughton Rd & Holscher
Fair Oaks Ave	Monona Dr	Rd)
Fairchild St	Monroe St	South Towne Dr
Femrite Dr	Moorland Rd	Speedway Rd
First St	Nakoma Rd	Sprecher Rd
Fish Hatchery Rd	Nelson Rd	STH 30
Fordem Ave	North Shore Dr	Stoughton Rd
	Northport Dr	

Theier Rd (Between E
Washington & Lien Rd)

N Thompson Dr (Between
Swanton and East
Washington)

University Ave

Verona Rd

Vondron Rd (Between
Agriculture Dr & Buckeye
Rd)

W Washington Ave

Watts Rd (Between
Gammon & Junction)

W Wilson St (Between
Bassett & Hamilton)

Webster St

Whitney Way

Williamson St

Winnebago St

Wisconsin Ave (Between
Gorham & Dayton)

Wright St (Between E
Washington & Anderson
St)

Zeier Rd

- (b) In addition to the arterial highways designated above, this ordinance applies to any highway containing a median that intersects with any of the arterial highways, but only for the first two hundred (200) feet of the intersecting highway from the arterial highway, as measured along the center line of the intersecting highway from the point the intersecting highway touches the right of way of the arterial highway.
- (8) Any person violating this ordinance may be required to forfeit not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25) nor more than three hundred dollars (\$300)."

2. Subdivision (a) of Subsection (3) entitled "Schedule of Deposits" of Section 1.08 entitled "Issuance of Citations for Violations of Certain Ordinances and Providing a Schedule of Cash Deposits" of the Madison General Ordinances is amended by amending therein the following:

<u>"Offense</u>	<u>Ord. No./Adopted Statute No.</u>	<u>Deposit</u>
Solicitation <u>Entering or staying upon highway prohibited.</u>	12.325	<u>\$25, 1st</u> <u>\$100, 2nd w/in 1 yr</u> <u>\$200, 3rd/more w/in 1 yr</u>
		<u>\$300, 4th/more w/in 1 yr</u>

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Section 12.325 currently reads as follows:

"12.325 SOLICITATION ON HIGHWAY PROHIBITED.

- (1) No person shall be upon or go upon a highway for the purpose of soliciting employment, business or charitable or other contributions of any kind from the occupant of any vehicle, unless such person shall have obtained a Street Use Permit pursuant to Sec. 10.056, MGO, or other authorization under these ordinances.
- (2) No operator of a vehicle shall park, stop or leave standing a vehicle on a highway where prohibited or suddenly decrease the speed of said vehicle or deviate from a traffic lane for the purpose of responding to an individual engaging in activities prohibited in subsection (1).
- (3) This section is not intended to prohibit conduct permitted under Sec. 346.29(1), Wis. Stats.
- (4) Any person violating subsections (1) or (2) may be required to forfeit not less than thirty dollars (\$30) nor more than three hundred dollars (\$300)."