## Chapter 54 NUISANCES<sup>1</sup>

## ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

## Sec. 54-1. Certain acts declared nuisances; unlawful conduct.

- (a) Any act of any person whereby the health or life of any individual may be endangered, injured, or impaired; any disease which may, directly or indirectly, be caused by such act; or because of such act any property may be endangered, injured, or damaged, is declared to be a nuisance.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any owner, occupant, or agent of a lot or premises, whether occupied or vacant, within the city, to permit such lot or premises to become unsanitary by allowing any offensive matter or thing upon such lot or premises which may be detrimental to health; to permit any trash, rubbish, waste, refuse, manure, straw, hay, or thing to accumulate and remain upon such premises; or to throw, deposit, or cause to be thrown or deposited upon any vacant lot or premises such thing which may endanger, injure, or damage another's health or property.

(Code 1987, § 14-1)

### Sec. 54-2. Power of council to declare and abate.

It shall be lawful at any time for the council to declare certain things, the existence of which may be deemed unhealthy or harmful to the citizens of the city, as nuisances, whether embraced and defined in any ordinance or not. Such nuisances may be abated by the council.

(Code 1987, § 14-2)

### Sec. 54-3. Failure to abate; abatement by city.

Any person who refuses or neglects to abate a nuisance or any matter or thing which endangers the public health of the city, after having been directed to do so by the appropriate authority, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. For such refusal or neglect, the city shall have the authority to have such nuisance removed or abated. All expenses incurred in abating or removing any nuisance shall be recoverable from the owner or occupant of the premises from which the nuisance shall be removed or abated or from any person causing or maintaining such nuisance in the same manner as debts of the same amount are recoverable.

(Code 1987, § 14-3)

Secs. 54-4-54-30. Reserved.

## ARTICLE II. NOISE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Cross reference(s)—Nuisance animals, § 6-12; buildings and building regulations, ch. 10.

### Sec. 54-31. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Background noise means noise which exists at a point as a result of the combination of many distant sources, individually indistinguishable.

City manager means the duly appointed city manager.

*Construction* means the assembly, erection, substantial repair, alteration, demolition, or site preparation for or of public or private rights-of-way, buildings, or other structures, utilities, or property.

Daytime hours means the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and the hours between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Sunday.

*Emergency* means any occurrence or set of circumstances involving actual or imminent physical trauma or property damage which demands immediate action.

Excessive noise means any sound, the intensity of which exceeds the standards set forth in section 54-36.

*Impulsive noise* means sound of short duration, usually less than a second, with an abrupt onset and rapid decay.

*Intrusion alarm* means a device with an audible signal which, when activated, indicates intrusion by an unauthorized person.

Loud, raucous, and disturbing noise means any sound which because of its volume, level, duration, and character annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, health, peace, safety, or welfare of reasonable persons of ordinary sensibilities within the city limits.

Motor vehicle means a vehicle as defined by state law.

*Nighttime hours* means the hours between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday evening through Saturday morning, and between 10:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. Saturday evening through Sunday morning.

*Noise level* means a frequency weighted sound pressure level as measured with a sound level meter using the A-weighting network. The level so read is designated dBA.

*Premises* means any building, structure, land, or portion thereof, including all appurtenances, owned or controlled by a person.

Property maintenance equipment means all engine- or motor-powered tools and equipment used occasionally in the repair and upkeep of exterior property and including but not limited to lawn mowers, riding tractors, wood chippers, power saws, and leaf blowers.

*Public emergency sound signal* means a device, either stationary or mobile, producing audible signals associated with a set of circumstances involving actual or imminent danger to persons or damage to property which demands immediate action.

*Public facility maintenance* means all activity related to the clearing, cleaning, repairing, and upkeep of public roads, sidewalks, sewers, water mains, utilities, and publicly owned property.

Recreational vehicle means any internal combustion, engine-powered, nonregistered vehicle which is being used for recreational purposes.

Sound means a transmission of energy through solid, liquid, or gaseous media in the form of vibrations which constitute alterations in pressure or position of the particles in the medium and which, in air, evoke physiological sensations, including but not limited to an auditory response, when impinging on the ear.

(Ord. No. 1196, 8-8-2000)

Cross reference(s)—Definitions generally, § 1-2.

## Sec. 54-32. Declaration of policy.

Excessive noise must be controlled by the city to protect, preserve, and promote the public health, safety, and welfare. The council recognizes the fact that people have a right to and should be ensured an environment free from excessive sound and vibration that may jeopardize their health, safety, or welfare.

### Sec. 54-33. Exclusions from article.

This article shall not apply to noise emitted by or related to the following:

- (1) Natural phenomena.
- (2) The unamplified sound made by any wild animal.
- (3) A bell or chime from any building clock, school, or church.
- (4) A public emergency sound signal.
- (5) Farming equipment or farming activity.
- (6) An emergency.
- (7) Snow removal.

## Sec. 54-34. Exemptions from article.

The following shall be exempt from this article, subject to the special conditions noted:

- (1) Noise created by the operation of property maintenance equipment.
- (2) Noise generated by any construction equipment, provided that a permit for such has been obtained from local authorities.
- (3) Noise created by any recreational activities which are sanctioned by the city, including but not limited to parades, sporting events, concerts, and fireworks displays.
- (4) Noise created by blasting, provided that a permit for such blasting has been obtained from local authorities.
- (5) Noise created by refuse and solid waste collection.
- (6) Noise created by fire or intrusion alarm.
- (7) Noise created by public facility maintenance.
- (8) Sounds emanating from any authorized emergency vehicle responding to an emergency or acting at the time of an emergency.

(Ord. No. 1196, 8-8-2000; Ord. No. 3024, 6-13-2006)

### Sec. 54-35. General prohibitions on loud, raucous, and disturbing noise.

It shall be unlawful for any person or group of persons, regardless of number, to willfully make, continue, or cause to be made or continued any loud, raucous, or disturbing noise (as defined in sec. 54-31). The term "loud,

raucous, and disturbing noise" shall be limited to noises heard from any public street, public park, public building or grounds while in use, school building or grounds while in use, church or grounds while in use, hospital or grounds while in use, parking lot open to members of the public as invitees or licensees, or occupied residential unit which is not the source of the noise or upon the grounds thereof.

(Ord. No. 1196, 8-8-2000)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 1196, adopted Aug. 8, 2000, repealed the former § 54-35 and enacted new provisions as set out herein. Formerly, § 54-35 pertained to noise levels—measurement procedures, and derived from original codification.

### Sec. 54-36. Prohibited noise activities.

The following acts are hereby declared to be public nuisances in violation of the above section. The acts enumerated in this section shall not be deemed to be exclusive.

- (1) The use or operation of any mechanical or electrical device, apparatus, or instrument to amplify, intensify, produce, or reproduce a human voice or any other sound when the sound from such activity is clearly audible more than 100 feet from the device, apparatus, or instrument.
- (2) The playing or operation of any radio, cassette tape player, compact disc player, or any other sound producing device, apparatus, or instrument when the speaker volume is elevated to such an extent that the sound is clearly audible more than 100 feet from the device. Where the provisions of this subsection apply to any device, apparatus, or instrument installed or located in a vehicle, they are intended to apply, regardless of whether the vehicle is traveling upon the streets of the city, stopped in traffic, or parked on public or private property.
- (3) The sounding of a horn or any other signal device, except as a danger signal, so as to create an unreasonably loud or harsh sound, or the sounding of such device for an unreasonable period of time. The provisions of this subsection are not intended to apply to sounds emanating from any authorized emergency vehicle responding to an emergency situation.
- (4) The owning, keeping, or harboring of any animal which frequently, or for continued duration, howls, barks, meows, squawks, or makes other sounds which disturb the reasonable comfort and peace of any person in the vicinity by creating a loud, raucous, and disturbing noise.
- (5) The use of any automobile, motorcycle, or other vehicle so out of repair, so overloaded, or altered to amplify sound which creates a loud, raucous, and disturbing noise. All motor vehicles must operate within the standards set forth by State law.
- (6) The creation of any other sound defined as a loud, raucous, or disturbing noise.

(Ord. No. 1196, 8-8-2000)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 1196, adopted Aug. 8, 2000, repealed § 54-36 and enacted new provisions as set out herein. Formerly, § 54-36 pertained to noise level—standards and limits and derived from original codification.

State law reference(s)—All motor vehicles are required to be equipped with mufflers, S.C. Code 1976, § 56-5-5020)

## Sec. 54-37. Penalties for violation of article.

Any person in violation of this article shall be deemed guilty of an offense and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$200.00. In lieu of arrest and issuance of a summons, a police officer may serve upon a violator an infraction notice, which shall be known as a noise ticket. Payment of the fine prescribed

by such noise ticket within the time limit specified thereon shall constitute a plea of nolo contendere and shall save the violator harmless from prosecution for the offense cited.

#### Sec. 54-38. Variances.

- (a) Any person residing or doing business in the city may apply to the city manager for a variance from one or more of the sections of this article which is more stringent than the state department of environmental protection's regulations for the control of noise, provided that the applicant supplies all of the following information to the city manager at least 20 days prior to the start of such activity:
  - (1) The location and nature of activity;
  - (2) The time period and hours of operation of the activity;
  - (3) The nature and intensity of the noise that will be generated; and
  - (4) Any other information required by the city manager.
- (b) No variance from this article shall be issued unless it has been demonstrated that:
  - (1) The proposed activity will not violate any provisions of the state department of environmental protection regulations;
  - (2) The noise levels generated by the proposed activity will not constitute a danger to the public health; and
  - (3) Compliance with this article constitutes an unreasonable hardship on the applicant.
- (c) The application for variance shall be reviewed and either approved or rejected at least five days prior to the proposed start of the activity. The approval or rejection shall be in writing and shall state the condition of approval, if any, or the reasons for rejection.
- (d) Failure to rule on the application in the designated time shall constitute approval of the variance.

### Secs. 54-39—54-65. Reserved.

## ARTICLE III. GENERAL PROPERTY GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

## Sec. 54-66. Failure to control and maintain growth on property grounds prohibited and declared a public nuisance; vegetation standards.

(a) No person shall permit the growth of vegetation, both natural or planted, including but not limited to trees, limbs, shrubbery, hedges, leaves, needles, and flowers, to get out of control, accumulate, or become unkempt, unsightly, or unhealthy on any lot or property they own within the city. (See section 10-38(d) requiring property owners to keep ground cover, grass, plant growth and weeds no higher than 12 inches pursuant to the International Property Maintenance Code.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 4047, adopted April 21, 2011, amended art. III in its entirety, in effect repealing and reenacting said article to read as herein set out. The former art. III, §§ 54-66—54-68, pertained to weeds and derived from §§ 14-4—14-6 of the 1987 Code, and Ord. No. 4029, adopted Jan. 25, 2011.

- (b) Public nuisance declaration. A deficiency or violation of this article may be declared a public nuisance. The city code official and city manager are jointly authorized to declare a property maintenance code violation a public nuisance.
- (c) To avoid being determined a public nuisance by the city code enforcement officer, the following standards shall be maintained for all lots and properties within the city:
  - (1) Trees, shrubbery and hedges shall be trimmed of dead limbs and shall not be permitted to overgrow fence lines or property lines.
  - (2) Leaves, flowers, and needles of deciduous trees and shrubbery shall be collected and properly disposed of by property owners in a timely manner.

(Ord. No. 4047, 4-21-2011)

## Sec. 54-67. Procedure for the abatement of public nuisances.

Whenever the code official determines that a nuisance has occurred or is occurring under the provisions of section 54-66, the violation, including notice, service, orders and appeals, shall be enforced under the provisions of International Property Maintenance Code, as adopted by section 10-38 of this Code.

(Ord. No. 4047, 4-21-2011; Ord. No. 4291, § 4, 6-13-2017; Ord. No. 4324, § 3, 3-13-2018)

## Sec. 54-68. Power to declare nuisances not impaired.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to impair or limit in any way the city's power to define and declare nuisances and to cause their removal or abatement by summary proceedings or otherwise.

( Ord. No. 4047, 4-21-2011 )

Secs. 54-69-54-80. Reserved.

# ARTICLE IV. ACCUMULATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF UNSOLICITED, UNCLAIMED OR UNDESIRABLE MATERIALS

#### Sec. 54-81. Definitions.

*Trash* means litter, waste material, rubbish and the like which is rendered useless and discarded by the owner.

Unsolicited printed material means newspapers, advertising and fliers which are thrown, cast, distributed, scattered or deposited on public or private property and which are provided at no cost to the consumer. Mail distributed by the United States of America, political posters and yard/rummage/book sale posters are not included in the definition.

(Ord. No. 1180, 4-11-00)

### Sec. 54-82. Prohibited conduct.

- (a) Accumulation of junk and trash. It shall be unlawful to allow to accumulate on any premises old fixtures, junk, litter, white goods, debris, bottles, cans, bricks, concrete, scrap lumber or other building debris, trash or any other material which tends to keep the premises wet, exclude the sun or catch and favor the accumulation of filth, or to be present in such quantities and in such condition as to materially increase the danger to property of others from forest or other fires. Such accumulations are hereby declared a nuisance.
- (b) Vacant and abandoned structures. The existence of any vacant dwelling, garage, or other outbuilding, other than agricultural, or livestock outbuildings, or endangered architectural or historical structures, as determined by the city's planning commission, within the city is hereby declared a nuisance.
- (c) Blowing trash from vehicles. Any person who transports trash or waste in the city shall be subject to S.C. Code of Laws 56-5-4110, as amended, which states that loads and covers shall be securely fastened to prevent trash or waste from escaping from the vehicle in which it is being transported. The violation of the said S.C. Code of Laws within the city is hereby declared a nuisance.
- (d) Scattering materials. Dumping, throwing or placing any rubbish, cans, boxes, debris, grass clippings or other waste materials on any private or public place in the city shall be subject to S.C. Code of Laws 16-11-700, as amended, which states that dumping litter on private or public property is prohibited. Dumping of waste materials at a publicly maintained or publicly licensed solid waste collection station or transfer station, in compliance with such regulations as the city manager or his designee may direct, shall not be deemed a violation of this article.
- (e) Distributing unwanted materials and failing to retrieve unclaimed materials. The continued throwing or passing of unsolicited printed material on any public or private place, within three days of positive notification by the occupant of the private property or by the city manager of his designee, respectively, that such distribution is not wanted, is hereby declared a nuisance. The failure to retrieve any unclaimed printed material, which has been distributed on any public or private place, within three days of its distribution, is hereby declared a nuisance.

(Ord. No. 1180, 4-11-2000)

### Sec. 54-83. Persons or organizations responsible.

Any person or organization which is found to be responsible for creating, causing or facilitating the creation, distribution or accumulation of anything declared a nuisance herein shall be subject to the penalties set forth herein.

(Ord. No. 1180, 4-11-2000)

### Sec. 54-84. Penalties for violation of article.

Any person or organization in violation of this article shall be deemed guilty of an offense and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$500.00. In lieu of arrest and issuance of a summons, a police officer may serve upon a violator an infraction notice, which shall be known as a nuisance ticket. Payment of the fine prescribed by such nuisance ticket within the time limit specific thereon shall constitute a plea of nolo contendere and shall save the violator harmless from prosecution for the offense cited.

(Ord. No. 1180, 4-11-2000)

## Sec. 54-85. Provisions of this article optional.

The city manager or his designee have the option of pursuing any of the provisions of this article in lieu of other provisions of the Code which may address the same conduct.

(Ord. No. 1180, 4-11-2000)

### Secs. 54-86-54-90. Reserved.

## ARTICLE V. ABANDONED AND DERELICT VEHICLES<sup>3</sup>

## Sec. 54-91. Authority.

The city is empowered pursuant to S.C. Code 1976, § 56-5-41 (the "Abandoned Vehicles Act"), as amended, to regulate abandoned and derelict vehicles in order to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of the city.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

### Sec. 54-92. Definitions.

- (a) Abandoned vehicle means, for the purpose of this article, a vehicle required to be registered in this state if operated on a public highway in this state, that is left unattended on a highway or other public right-of-way for more than 48 hours, or a vehicle that has remained on private or other public property for a period of more than seven days without the consent of either the owner or person in control of the property upon which the vehicle is situated.
- (b) Derelict vehicle means a vehicle required to be registered in this state if operated on a public highway in this state:
  - (1) Whose certificate of registration has expired and the registered owner no longer resides at the address listed on the last certificate of registration on record with the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (the "SC DMV") and cannot be located after a reasonable search; or
  - (2) Whose motor or other major parts have been removed so as either to render the vehicle inoperable or the operation of which would violate S.C. Code 1976, § 56-5-4410, as amended (the "South Carolina Code"); or
  - (3) Whose manufacturer's serial plates, motor vehicle identification numbers, license number plates, and any other means of identification have been removed making it impossible to locate or identify the registered and legal owner of the vehicle; or
  - (4) Whose registered owner of record disclaims ownership or releases his rights thereto; or
  - (5) Which is more than eight years old and does not bear a current registration; or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Editor's note(s)—Sec. 1 of Ord. No. 4285, adopted March 14, 2017, amended and reenacted art. V to read as herein set out. Former art V pertained to similar subject matter, consisted of §§ 54-91—54-95, and derived from Ord. No. 3074, adopted June 10, 2008.

- (6) A trailer, including semi-trailers, used as storage and (i) which does not bear a current license plate, (ii) is in a state of disrepair, or (iii) remains on private or public property in excess of 30 days.
- (c) Enclosed structure means a building, garage, or other structure erected per requirements of applicable building codes that shields interior items from the view of neighbors and passers-by. Carports, garages without operable doors, tarps, and canvas covers are not considered enclosed structures.
- (d) Reasonable search means (i) as to records related to vehicle ownership, a search of the records of the SC DMV for the last known address of the person listed on the last certificate of registration for such vehicle, and (ii) as to records related to property ownership, a search of the property records of Darlington County for the last known address of the person listed as the owner of such property.
- (e) Vehicle means any motorized transportation apparatus or any apparatus that can be attached to a motorized transportation apparatus, including, but not limited to, cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, trailers and other attachments.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

Cross reference(s)—Definitions generally, § 1-2.

### Sec. 54-93. Abandoned and derelict vehicles as hazard to health and welfare.

Abandoned and derelict vehicles constitute a hazard to the health and welfare of the citizens of the city in that such vehicles can harbor noxious diseases, furnish shelter and breeding places for vermin, and present physical dangers to the safety and well-being of children and other citizens, and are hereby declared a nuisance. It is, therefore, in the public interest that any accumulation of abandoned and derelict vehicles within the city be eliminated and that the future abandonment of such vehicles be prevented.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

## Sec. 54-94. Abandonment and keeping of derelict vehicles prohibited.

- (a) it shall be unlawful for any person to abandon any vehicle on any highway, street, or other public right-of-way within the city for more than 48 hours, or abandon any vehicle on private or public property, other than a public right-of-way, for a period of more than seven days without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property upon which the vehicle is situated. The timeframes set forth herein shall begin to run at such time as a tag has been placed upon such vehicle pursuant to subsection 54-96(a) of this article.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person, including the owner or person in control of private property, to keep on such property any derelict vehicle. Upon the issuance of an ordinance summons after notice has been given pursuant to section 54-97 of this article, each day that the derelict vehicle is kept upon such private property shall constitute and be punishable as a separate offense.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

### Sec. 54-95. Exclusions.

- (a) This article does not apply to:
  - (1) Licensed automobile dealers, and body and auto repair shops, or to vehicles in an enclosed building; or
  - (2) Boat trailers under 2,500 pounds, farm trailers, and other utility trailers which are privately owned and not for hire and that need not be licensed or registered.

(b) The enforcement of section 54-96 of this article shall be held in abeyance for a period of 365 days where the person to whom an ordinance summons is issued is serving in active military deployment; provided that the city must be given notice and satisfactory evidence of such deployment prior to the date of any hearing on the matter.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

### Sec. 54-96. Removal of abandoned vehicles; penalty for abandoning a vehicle.

- (a) Where an abandoned vehicle has been left unattended on a public right-of-way, or other public or private property without the consent of the property owner or person in control of such property, the abandoned vehicle shall be tagged, removed, and disposed of in the manner set forth in Section 56-5-5850 of the Abandoned Vehicles Act, as it may be amended from time to time.
- (b) A person who abandons a vehicle in violation of subsection 54-94(b) of this article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than \$500.00, and shall pay all costs of having such abandoned vehicle removed, stored, sold, or otherwise disposed of. The fact that an abandoned vehicle found in violation of subsection 54-94(b) of this article is registered in the name of a person shall be prima facie proof that such person was in control of the vehicle at the time it was abandoned.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

## Sec. 54-97. Removal of derelict vehicles; penalty for keeping derelict vehicles.

- (a) Pursuant to Section 56-5-5880 of the Abandoned Vehicles Act, the code enforcement officer may enter onto private property for the purposes of enforcing this article and investigating any vehicle reasonably suspected to be an abandoned or derelict vehicle. When a vehicle is found by the code enforcement officer to be a derelict vehicle, the code enforcement officer shall provide notice to the following person or persons of a violation of this article, to the extent that they may be located after a reasonable search:
  - (1) The registered owner of the derelict vehicle or the person listed as the registered owner on the last certificate of registration on record with the SC DMV, the notice of which shall be sent to the last known address of such person; and
  - (2) The owner of the property upon which the derelict vehicle is situated, the notice of which shall be sent to the address of such person used for property taxation purposes; and
  - (3) If the code enforcement officer is aware that such property is not under the control of the property owner, the person in control of the property upon which the derelict vehicle is located, which shall be mailed to the address of the property upon which the derelict vehicle is located.
- (b) The notice sent pursuant to this section shall state that the presence of the derelict vehicle is in violation of subsection 54-94(b) of this article; shall include a description of the derelict vehicle and a description of the property upon which the derelict vehicle is situated; and shall state that if the violation is not cured within 30 days of the date that such notice is sent the individual may be issued an ordinance summons and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than \$500.00 for each offense, which shall be calculated as each day that such violation continues after the 30-day notice period has run. The notice shall also state that the violation may be cured by forfeiting the derelict vehicle to the city for sale or disposal pursuant to the provisions of section 54-98 of this article. The notice shall be personally delivered if the intended recipient resides within the city or may otherwise be mailed first class postage prepaid and shall be considered to have been issued upon personal delivery or upon mailing.

- (c) If the violation is not cured within 30 days of the issuance of notice, the code enforcement officer shall issue an ordinance summons as follows:
  - (1) Upon the owner of the private property upon which the derelict vehicle is situated; or
  - (2) Upon the person in control of the private property upon which the derelict vehicle is located where the person in control of such property, or a member of such person's household or family, is the registered owner of such vehicle or is listed as the registered owner on the last certificate of registration for such vehicle on record with the SC DMV.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

### Sec. 54-98. Forfeiture of derelict vehicles.

Any person may forfeit a derelict vehicle to the city in the following instances:

- (a) Where the property owner or the person in control of the property upon which the derelict vehicle is located is the registered owner or is listed as the registered owner on the last certificate of registration for such vehicle on record with the SC DMV, the person may forfeit the derelict vehicle to the city by surrendering the title certificate for the vehicle to the city or to the city's representative;
- (b) Where, upon investigation it is determined that the vehicle is in fact an abandoned vehicle such that it has remained on private property for a period of more than seven days without the consent of the property owner or, if such property is not under the control of the property owner, the person in control of the property upon which the vehicle is located, and the property owner or person in control of the property consents to the forfeiture, the vehicle shall be treated as an abandoned vehicle pursuant to section 54-96 of this article and removed pursuant to the provisions of that section.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)

### Sec. 54.99. Contracting for removal of abandoned or derelict vehicles.

The city may contract with any qualified private contractor for the necessary collection, storage, transportation or any other services necessary to prepare abandoned or derelict vehicles for sale, recycling, or other methods of disposal. Such private contractor shall bear the sole responsibility for compliance with S.C. Code §§ 29-15-10, 56-5-5636, or 56-5-5945, or any other provision of state law related to the sale, recycling, or disposal of abandoned or derelict vehicles as may now or in the future exist.

(Ord. No. 4285, § 2, 3-14-2017)