

CURRENT CODE

ARTICLE V. - ABANDONED, INOPERABLE, OR UNLICENSED VEHICLES

Sec. 54-91. - Definitions.

Abandoned. For the purpose of this article, a vehicle shall be considered abandoned under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) The certificate of registration for the vehicle has expired, or the registered and legal owner of the vehicle no longer resides at the address listed on the certificate of registration on record with the state department of motor vehicles and cannot be located after a reasonable search;
- (2) The manufacturer's serial plates, motor vehicle's identification numbers, license number plates, or any other means of identification have been removed, making it impossible to locate or identify the registered and legal owner of the vehicle;
- (3) The registered and legal owner of the vehicle disclaims ownership or releases his or her rights thereto;
- (4) The vehicle is left on property owned or operated by the city for more than 48 hours;
- (5) The vehicle is left on private property without the consent of the owner, occupant or lessee of the private property for more than 24 hours; or
- (6) The vehicle is left on any public street or highway more than 48 hours.
- (7) A trailer, including semi-trailers, used as storage and which do not bear a current license plate, is in a state of disrepair, or remains on private or public property in excess of 30 days.

Enclosed structure. A building, garage, etc 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.

Inoperable motor vehicle. A vehicle which cannot be driven for reasons including, but not limited to, being wrecked, abandoned, and/or incapable of being moved under its own power.

Major disassembly. A vehicle in the state of being inoperable, or in the process of being altered to point of becoming inoperable.

Vehicle. 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. 3074, 6-10-2008)

Cross reference— Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 54-92. - Improper storage and display of a vehicle.

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any vehicle to disassemble or abandon such vehicle, or improperly store an unlicensed vehicle, regardless of whether the vehicle is disassembled, stored or abandoned on public or privately owned property. Any disassembled and unlicensed vehicle must be stored within an enclosed structure, whether the vehicle is on any public street or grounds, or upon any privately owned property. However, no private property owner shall be charged and/or prosecuted for any vehicle located on their property that is found to be in violation of this article if the offending vehicle was placed upon their property by another other person without such private property owner's consent.

(Ord. No. 3074, 6-10-2008)

Sec. 54-93. - Exclusions.

- (a) This article does not apply to licensed automobile dealers, and body and auto repair shops, or to vehicles in an enclosed building.
- (b) Exemption of certain boat, farm, and other utility trailers. Boat trailers under 2,500 pounds, farm trailers and other utility trailers which are privately owned and not for hire need not be licensed or registered.
- (c) A military exclusion of 365 days will be provided to an unregistered vehicle for individuals while serving in active military deployment. Said vehicle must be placed on private property.

(Ord. No. 3074, 6-10-2008)

Sec. 54-94. - Allowable storage.

Any inoperable or unlicensed vehicle or vehicle that is in a state of disassembly must be stored in an enclosed structure.

(Ord. No. 3074, 6-10-2008)

Sec. 54-95. - Abatement or removal.

- (a) When a vehicle is found to be in violation of this Code, the code enforcement officer shall issue a citation and serve it upon the vehicle owner and/or the owner of the property where the offending vehicle is located stating the specific code violations. Service of the citation may be completed by personal service or by sending the citation by certified mail to the owner of the offending vehicle or to the owner of the private property where the offending vehicle is located. If the owner of the offending vehicle or the owner of the property where the offending is located cannot be determined or found, service shall be accomplished by posting a copy of the citation on the offending vehicle. The owner of the offending vehicle shall have 20 calendar days following the date of service of the citation to correct the violation(s).
- (b) If the owner of the offending vehicle, or the owner of the private property where the offending vehicle is located, fails to timely cure the deficiencies listed in the citation, the code enforcement officer shall, with police assistance, tow the vehicle away for disposal. The actual cost of such removal shall constitute a lien against the privately owned real property where the offending vehicle was located, and shall be collectible in the same manner as municipal taxes.

(Ord. No. 3074, 6-10-2008)