

## ARTICLE V. SKATEBOARDS

### Sec. 7-1281. Use of roller skates, roller blades, skateboards and other similar devices restricted.

(a) Except for streets set aside or designated as a play street in accordance with Section 7-1039 of this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person to skate, roller skate, roller blade, ride or use any kind of coaster, skates or skateboard or any similar device on any public street or roadway, except for the purpose of crossing the street or roadway at a crosswalk, and when so crossing, that person shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to a pedestrian. This subsection shall not apply to bicycles, which are governed by Sections 7-1121 through 7-1140 of this chapter.

(b) It shall also be unlawful for any person to ride a bicycle, roller skate, roller blade or ride or use any kind of coaster, skates or skateboard or other similar devices on any sidewalk, public or private park or other public or private area in the Central Business District as that district is designated under the Zoning Ordinance (Part 9, Chapter 4 of this Code), including public and private parking lots, public and private parks and recreational property and other pedestrian walkways or places where pedestrians gather, unless such area is designated as a skating area by the department of public safety. This subsection shall not apply to private parking lots, private parking spaces and other private property in the Central Business District if the consent of the owner has been obtained by the person riding the bicycle, roller skating, roller blading, skateboarding or making any similar use of those devices.

(c) Further, it shall be unlawful for any person to ride a bicycle, roller skate, roller blade, skateboard or ride any other kind of coaster or similar device in any manner that endangers pedestrians or in any manner that damages or causes damage to public or private property, including but not limited to brick walls or walls made of other materials, retaining walls, ramps, landscaped areas, loading docks, park benches and tables, or other similar improvements, especially when such improvements are not designed or intended to be used for bicycle riding, roller skating, roller blading, skateboarding or other similar recreational use. This subsection shall apply not only to the Central Business District but shall also apply to all other public parks and public areas of the city and to private property, unless the consent of the owner of such private property is first obtained.

(d) Under the supervision of the director of public safety, signs may be erected designating the parking lots, parks and recreational areas within the Central Business District where roller skating, skateboarding, roller blading and similar activities are permitted. Skating in areas not specifically designated as a skating area is prohibited whether or not signs are erected.

In those areas where permitted, any person who is using or riding roller skates, roller blades, coasters, skateboards or similar devices upon a sidewalk shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing any pedestrian on any such sidewalk or other approved area. Such pedestrian shall at all times have the right-of-way.

(e) Parents, guardians and other persons who are legally responsible for minors shall be responsible for the acts of their children, wards or the minor entrusted to their care whose acts are in violation of this section. The failure of such adults to supervise or otherwise take action to prevent the continued violation of this section by minors under their supervision shall also be a violation of this section and such adults may be issued a civil citation, a criminal citation or have other enforcement action taken against them as provided in subsection (f) below.

(f) This section shall be enforced by the department of public safety in the same manner that all other traffic rules and regulations concerning motor vehicles shall be enforced, including the issuance of criminal and civil citations in accordance with Section 7-1014. However, neither criminal or civil citations shall be issued to a minor less than six years of age and instead, the enforcement officer shall issue a courtesy notice in writing to the parent or guardian of such child, setting out the date and nature of the offense and stating that continued violations of this section may result in a criminal or civil citation being issued to the parent or guardian. Thereafter, public safety officers and other enforcement personnel shall then issue any enforcement proceedings, including criminal citations and/or civil citations to the parent or guardian or a child who violates this section and who has been previously issued a courtesy notice of such violations. (Ord. No. 97-28, 6-2-97; Am. Ord. No. 99-37, 7-12-99; Ord. No. 00-29, 11-6-00)

**Cross-reference**—For provisions as to play streets see Section 7-1039 of this chapter.