

(Published in the Washington County News December 9, 2004)

ORDINANCE NO 694

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PARKING AND OPERATION OF VEHICLES UPON STREETS DESIGNATED AS EMERGENCY SNOW ROUTES WHEN SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS ARE NECESSARY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, CITY ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL, TO DECLARE A TRAFFIC EMERGENCY AND PRESCRIBING A PENALTY.

Be It Ordained By The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Kansas, as follows:

Section 1. FINDINGS OF GOVERNING BODY. The Governing Body finds that parking and operation of vehicles on certain streets covered by a heavy accumulation of snow is a matter affecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Washington for the reason that parked and stalled vehicles impede snow removal operations and cause serious traffic congestion and hazard.

Section 2. DECLARATION OF TRAFFIC EMERGENCY. Whenever snow has accumulated or there is a possibility that snow will accumulate to such a depth that snow removal operations will be required, the mayor, the City Administrator, or in the absence of the above mentioned, the president of the City Council, may declare a traffic emergency and until such traffic emergency is terminated it shall be unlawful:

- (a) to park a vehicle on any street designated an emergency snow route in Section 5 of this ordinance, or
- (b) to operate a vehicle, unless it is capable of safely traveling through the designated emergency snow route and will not impede snow removal or cause a traffic hazard.

Section 3. NOTICE OF PARKING EMERGENCY, TERMINATION. Upon declaring a traffic emergency, the City shall forthwith cause appropriate notice thereof to be given through the local press, radio, television override, and other media. The parking emergency shall be terminated by notice given substantially in the same manner as the parking emergency was declared.

Section 4. REMOVAL OF PARKED VEHICLES. All vehicles parked on emergency snow routes must be removed within two (2) hours after declaration of a traffic emergency has been given. All stranded or abandoned vehicles impeding snow removal operations or causing traffic congestion may be removed or caused to be removed by law enforcement to the nearest garage or other place of safety and the vehicle

may not be recovered until the towing and storage charges are paid by the owner of the vehicle.

Section 5. EMERGENCY SNOW ROUTES; ESTABLISHMENT; SIGNS. Upon announcement that the Emergency Snow Ordinance is “in effect”, the streets listed in this section shall be designated and marked with “Emergency Snow Route” signs. These signs shall be posted on the right hand side of the driving lane at intervals not to exceed four (4) blocks. The emergency snow routes are as follows:

- (a) C Street from First Street to Fourth Street
- (b) D Street from the north city limits to the north line of Hoerman’s Addition
- (c) F Street from the north city limits to Seventh Street
- (d) Second Street from Crest Street to the east city limits
- (e) Third Street from Lamar Street to the east city limits
- (f) All of Lamar Street
- (g) Sunset Lane from Lamar Street to Crest Street

Appropriate signs shall be installed along each of said streets designated emergency snow routes.

Section 6. PENALTY. Any operator of a vehicle who shall violate the provisions of this ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, be guilty of a traffic infraction and fined an amount not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

Section 7. ALL HAZARD EMERGENCY SNOW ROUTE. This ordinance is designated primarily as a snow removal ordinance, however, it can also be used as an All Hazard Emergency Route in the event of any other emergency conditions.

Section 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take affect and shall be in full force and effect after its publication in the Washington County News, the official city newspaper.

Passed by the Governing Body of the City of Washington Kansas, and approved by the Mayor, this 7th day of December, 2004.

/s/ Travis L. Kier, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Denise M. Powell, City Clerk