

ORDINANCE NO. 03-2020

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING BICYCLE TRAFFIC WITHIN THE CITY OF  
ATHENS**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS,  
MENARD COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

**WHEREAS**, in order to promote the safety and well-being of the citizens of the City of Athens and the motoring public, the City Council recognizes the need to regulate bicycle traffic within the city limits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Athens City Council finds it to be in the best it interest of the City of Athens to adopt such a policy;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Athens, Menard County, Illinois that the following be enacted:

**CHAPTER 5**

**BICYCLE**

SECTION:

**5-5-1: Traffic Laws Apply**

**5-5-2: Obedience to Traffic Control Devices**

**5-5-3: Operation of Bicycles**

**5-5-4: Bicycle Equipment**

**5-5-5: Penalties**

**5-5-6: Impounding of Bicycle**

**5-5-1: TRAFFIC LAWS APPLY:**

(A) Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of this state declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic ordinances of the city applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to special regulations in this chapter and except as to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application.

**5-5-2: OBEDIENCE TO TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES:**

(A) Any person operating a bicycle shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signals, signs and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

(B) Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right or left or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a bicycle shall disobey the direction of any such sign, except where such person dismounts from the bicycle to make any such turn, in which event such person shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians.

**5-5-3: OPERATION OF BICYCLES:**

(A) Riding on Bicycles:

1. A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

2. No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

(B) Riding on Roadways and Bicycle Paths:

1. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride as near to the right-hand side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.

2. Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two (2) abreast and shall not impede motor vehicle traffic.

3. Whenever a useable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.

(C) Speed: No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

(D) Emerging From Alley Or Driveway: The operator of a bicycle emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right of way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk or sidewalk area and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

(E) Clinging to Vehicles: No person riding upon any bicycle shall attach the same or himself to any vehicle upon a roadway.

(F) Carrying Articles: No person operating a bicycle shall carry any

package, bundle or article which prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

(G) Parking: No person shall park a bicycle upon a street other than upon the roadway against the curb or upon the sidewalk in a rack to support the bicycle or against a building or at the curb, in such manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

(H) Riding on Sidewalks: No person shall ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk within a business district. For the purposes of this code, the business district is defined as: Within the area with a western boundary on the west side of the Main Street from the north side of Clinton Alley to the south side of Washington Street; with a northern boundary on the south side of Washington Street from the west side of Main Street to the east side of West Street; with an eastern boundary on the east side of West Street from the north side of Washington Street to the south side of Jefferson Street; and with a southern boundary on the south side of Jefferson Street from the east side of West Street to the east side of Main Street south to Clinton Alley then west to the west side of Main Street.

1. The chief of police is authorized to erect signs on any sidewalk or roadway prohibiting the riding of bicycles thereon by any person and when such signs are in place, no person shall disobey the same.

2. Whenever any person is riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk, such person shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.

#### **5-5-4: BICYCLE EQUIPMENT:**

(A) Every bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') to the front and with a red reflector on the rear of a type which shall be visible from all distances up to three hundred feet (300') to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet (500') to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

(B) Each bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

**5-5-5: VIOLATIONS/PENALTIES:**

Any person who violates any terms or provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine, upon conviction, in an amount not less than Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) nor more than Five-Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each separate offense.

**5-5-6: IMPOUNDING OF BICYCLE:**

Every person found to have violated any provision of this chapter, may be punished, in addition to any other penalty, provided in this ordinance, by having such person's bicycle impounded by the city police for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

**5-5-7:** This Ordinance is effective beginning immediately upon passage.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Athens, Menard County, Illinois this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020, A.D..

AYES: Chernowsky, Buhr, Reichert, Nichols,  
Thompson

NAYES: Ø

PRESENT: Ø

ABSENT: Lantz

  
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Mayor, City of Athens

ATTEST:  
Nicole McCormick  
temporary clerk  
City Clerk