# **Metropolitan Police Academy**



# 13.4 Non-Traditional Traffic

Approved 4/26/2023

# **13.4.1** Outline the regulations governing pedestrians

Pedestrians are governed by Title 18, Chapter 23 of the DCMR and some of the violations are as follows:

			Effective		
Coc	de	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
T52	27	Crossing Against Red Light		<b>\$20</b>	18 DCMR § 2301.4
		lestrians facing a STEADY RED SIGNAL or the word "STOP" sho cial pedestrian control signals show a "WALK" signal.	all not enter	the roo	adway, except where
T52	28	Walking Suddenly into Path of Vehicle		\$100	18 DCMR § 2303.2
		pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb, safety platform, safety ce of safety and walk or turn into the path of a vehicle which i ld.		• •	
Т52	29	Failure to Yield Right of way to Emergency Vehicle	10/19/70	\$100	18 DCMR § 2305.5
	•	on the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle, pedestri ceed to the nearest point of safety.	ans shall yie	eld righ	t-of-way and immediately
Т57	/5	Walking against "Don't Walk" or "Wait" Signal		\$20	18 DCMR § 2302.3
		lestrians facing a "WALK" signal may proceed across the road en the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.	lway in the d	directio	n of the signal and shall be
Т57	6	Crossing Between Intersection		<b>\$20</b>	18 DCMR § 2304.1
		ween adjacent intersections controlled by traffic control signo Il not cross the roadway at any place except in a crosswalk.	al devices or	by poli	ice officers, pedestrians
Т57	8	Diagonal cross at intersection disobeying signal	10/9/87	\$20	18 DCMR § 2303.3
	No	pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unles	ss authorize	d by of	ficial traffic control devices.
T57	9	Crossing Diagonally at an Intersection		<b>\$20</b>	18 DCMR § 2303.3
		pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unles vices.	ss authorize	d by of	ficial traffic control
Т58	80	Walking in roadway (sidewalk provided)	10/19/70	\$10	18 DCMR § 2305.2
		ere sidewalks are provided, it shall be unlawful for any pedest dway.	trian to wal	k along	and upon an adjacent
Т58	81	Walking on wrong side of roadway (No Sidewalk)	10/19/70	\$10	18 DCMR § 2305.3
	pra	ere sidewalks are not provided, any pedestrian walking alor cticable, walk only on the left side of the roadway or its shou opposite direction.			<b>-</b>
T58	32	Soliciting rides while standing in Roadway	10/19/70	\$10	18 DCMR § 2305.4
	No	person shall stand in a roadway for the purpose of soliciting a	ride from t	he driv	er of any vehicle.

### **13.4.2** Outline the regulations governing non-traditional motor vehicles

#### Commercial Vehicle

A commercial vehicle is defined in two different ways according to DCMR and DC Code.

• Commercial vehicle according to 18 DCMR § 9901:

Any vehicle with more than three (3) wheels and:

- Greater than twenty-two (22) feet in length; or
- Used or maintained for transporting freight, merchandise, or other commercial loads or property; or
- Described as a "commercial" vehicle on its certificate of title; or
- Considered a commercial vehicle by the Director pursuant to 18 DCMR § 413.13 because it has an irremovable commercial advertisement or insignia.

#### • Commercial vehicle according to DC Code Title 50 § 2201.4:

"Commercial vehicle" means a vehicle used to transport passengers or property:

- If the vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating of greater than 26,000 pounds or a lesser rating as determined by federal regulation but not less than a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,001 pounds;
- o If the vehicle is designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver;
- If the vehicle is a locomotive or a streetcar;
- If the vehicle is used to transport a material found to be hazardous by the Mayor in accordance with Chapter 14 of Title 8 [§8-1401, et seq.], or by the Secretary of Transportation in accordance with the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, approved January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2156; 49 U.S.C. § 1801, et seq.); or
- If the vehicle is a vehicle for hire.

Commercial vehicles are required to adhere to all traffic regulations that traditional vehicles are required to follow. Additionally, the department has a **Motor Carrier Unit** that is responsible for the enforcement of commercial vehicle-specific violations. The Motor Carrier Unit is available on the City-Wide radio zone or by phone to assist patrol units as needed.

#### School Bus (18 DCMR § 9901)

A school bus is defined as "a bus which is regularly used by or on behalf of a school to transport children to or in connection with school activities; Provided, that this definition shall not include buses operated by common carriers which are not used primarily for the transportation of school children, or vehicles owned by the United States government."

#### Motorcycle (18 DCMR § 9901)

A motorcycle is any "motor vehicle that has a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and has two (2) or three (3) wheels in contact with the ground. The term "motorcycle" does not include a tractor, a motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle unless operated at speeds in excess of thirty miles per hour (30 mph), or a three (3)-wheeled motor vehicle with a cab and windshield."

Motorcycles are required to have vehicle inspections for emissions every two (2) years. The operator of a motorcycle is required to have a motorcycle endorsement on his or her driver's license. If an operator has an endorsement, it will be indicated by an "M" in the endorsement section of the driver's permit for DC,

MD, and VA. For a licensed operator to operate a motorcycle in Washington, DC, the operator must have the vehicle insured and it must be registered in the operator's state of residence.

#### **Motorcycle Violations**

Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
T045	No mirror		\$25	18 DCMR § 731.6
co the Jui	ch motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror or mirrors so nditions of loading, a view of the highway for a distance of at l e vehicle; Provided, that all vehicles licensed under the provisio ly 1, 1932, shall be equipped with two (2) adjustable rear-view tain a reasonably clear view toward the rear.	least two hu ons of parag	indred ; raph 3:	feet (200 ft.) to the rear of 1(b) and (c) of the Act of
T218	Failure to wear protective helmet or goggles, safety glasses or have windshield while riding	i	\$75	18 DCMR § 2215.3-4
	3 o person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driv e manner for which the helmet was designed and of a type app	•		
	4 o person shall operate a motorcycle unless he or she wears gog rector. [See Chapter 7]	igles or a fa	ce shiel	d of a type approved by the
T562	Improper riding on motorcycle		\$25	18 DCMR § 2215.1
-	person operating a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle shall ric tached, and the operator shall not carry any other person nor .		-	_

# motor-driven cycle unless the motorcycle or motor-driven cycle is designed to carry more than one person.

**Motor-driven Cycles (18 DCMR § 9901)** A motor-driven cycle is "a motor vehicle that has: (a) A seat or saddle for the use of the operator and has: (b) Two (2) or three (3) wheels in contact with the ground; (c) A gas, electric, or hybrid motor with a maximum piston or rotor displacement of fifty cubic centimeters (50 cc), or its equivalent, which will propel the device unassisted at a maximum speed no greater than thirty miles per hour (30 mph). A motor driven cycle shall be a motorcycle when operated at speeds in excess of thirty miles per hour (30 mph) and the operator shall be required to have on their possession a valid motorcycle endorsement and "(d) A direct or automatic power drive system which requires no clutch or gear shift operation by the operator after the drive system is engaged with the power unit."

Motor-driven cycles are required to have vehicle inspections for emissions every two (2) years. The operator of a motor-driven cycle is required to have a driver's license. For a licensed operator to operate a motor-driven cycle in DC, he or she must have the vehicle insured and it must be registered in the operator's state of residence. Motor-driven cycles may be registered for \$30 in DC.

#### **Shared Fleet Devices**

In 2023 DDOT issued permits to four (4) companies to operate Shared Fleet Devices in public space: Lime, Lyft, Spin, and Veo. All four of these companies operate shared scooters. Lime, Spin, and Veo also have permits to operate shared dockless ebikes. The goal of the Shared Fleet Devices program is to allow private

companies to offer District residents a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation option. DDOT works with permitted operators to ensure that Shared Fleet Devices are distributed fairly across all eight (8) Wards, deployed safely, and used appropriately by riders. Companies without a Shared Fleet Device Permit may not deploy scooters, dockless bikes, or other shared micromobility vehicles for rental in public space.

The Shared Fleet Device program is separate from the Capital Bikeshare program, which is a program managed by DDOT that offers publicly owned shared dockable bikes.

#### **Contact Information**

Lime 1 (888) 546-3345 support@li.me https://help.li.me/hc/en-us

Lyft 1-877-452-6699 https://lft.to/lbs-support https://www.lyft.com/scooters/washington-dc

Spin 888-249-9698 <u>support@spin.pm</u> spin.app

Veo 855-836-2256 hello@veoride.com https://www.veo.com/safety/

#### **Motor Driven Cycle Violations**

Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
T218	Failure to wear protective helmet while riding a motor- driven cycle		\$25	18 DCMR § 2215.3-4
	3 o person shall operate or ride upon a motorcycle or motor-driv e manner for which the helmet was designed and of a type ap			5 /
	4 o person shall operate a motorcycle unless he or she wears gog e Director.	igles or a fa	ce shiel	d of a type approved by
т808	Operating in excess of 30 miles per hour		\$100	18 DCMR § 9901
	motor-driven cycle shall be a motorcycle when operated at spe d the operator shall be required to have on their possession a		-	, , , , , ,
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13.4 Non-Traditional Traffic

#### Motorized Bicycle Defined (18 DCMR § 9901)

A motorized bicycle is a two- or three-wheeled vehicle with all of the following characteristics:

"(a) A post mounted seat or saddle for each person that the device is designed and equipped to carry;

(b) A vehicle with two (2) or three (3) wheels in contact with the ground, which are at least sixteen inches (16 in.) in diameter;

(c) Fully operative pedals for human propulsion; and

(d) A motor incapable of propelling the device at a speed of more than twenty miles per hour (20 mph) on level ground. A motorized bicycle shall be a motorcycle when operated by motor at speeds in excess of thirty miles per hour (30 mph) and the operator shall be required to have in their possession a valid motorcycle endorsement. A motorized bicycle shall be a motor-driven cycle when operated by motor at speeds in excess of twenty miles per hour (20 mph) and the operator shall be required to have in their possession a valid motorcycle endorsement. A motorized bicycle shall be a motor-driven cycle when operated by motor at speeds in excess of twenty miles per hour (20 mph) and the operator shall be required to have on their possession a valid driver license."

When operated as a motorized bicycle, no vehicle inspection is required. The operator of a motorized bicycle is not required to have a driver's license. Insurance is not required to operate a motorized bicycle. A helmet is not required on a motorized bicycle. Additionally, motorized bicycles are not permitted to ride on the sidewalk except to park and they may not use the bicycle lanes on the roadway.

#### ATVs and Dirt Bikes (DC Code § 50-2201.02(2) and (6))

An all-terrain vehicle (ATV) is defined as any motor vehicle with not less than three (3) nor more than six (6) low pressure tires, designed primarily for off-road use, and which has a seat or saddle designed to be straddled by the operator.

A dirt bike is defined as "any motorcycle designed primarily for off-road use."

It is a criminal offense to operate an ATV or a dirt bike on any public property in the District. ATVs and dirt bikes are not permitted to be registered in the District.

#### Operation of ATV or Dirt Bike (DC Code § 50–2201.04b)

This statute states that:

- No person shall operate at any time an all-terrain vehicle or dirt bike on public property including any public space in the District.
- All-terrain vehicles or dirt bikes shall not be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- "Any individual violating any provision of this section shall upon conviction be fined not more than the amount set forth in § 22-3571.01 or imprisoned not more than 30 days, or both. All such prosecutions shall be in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia upon information filed by the Attorney General of the District of Columbia or any of his assistants in the name of the District of Columbia."

Violation of this statute is a misdemeanor.

#### Low Speed Vehicles (18 DCMR § 9901)

A Low-speed vehicle is "a four(4)-wheeled motor vehicle whose speed attainable in one (1) mile is more than twenty (20) miles per hour and not more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour on a paved level surface and which has a gross vehicle weight rating of less than three thousand (3,000) pounds."

Low speed vehicles are required to adhere to all laws applicable to traditional motor vehicles and are not permitted on the sidewalk or bike lanes.

#### Personal Mobility Devices (DC Code § 50-2201.02)

Personal mobility device (PMD) "means a motorized propulsion device, designed to transport one person or a self-balancing, two non-tandem wheeled device, designed to transport only one person with an electric propulsion system, but does not include a battery-operated wheelchair."

#### Operation of Personal Mobility Devices (DC Code § 50-2201.04a)

A personal mobility device shall not be operated:

- "By a person under 16 years of age;
- Above the maximum speed limit of 10 miles per hour;
- Upon a sidewalk within the Central Business District, as defined by section 9901 of Title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (18 DCMR 9901);
- By a person carrying any package, bundle, or other article that hinders the person from keeping both hands on the handlebars; or
- On any roadway or sidewalk while the person is wearing a headset, headphone, or earphone, unless the device is used to improve the hearing of a person with a hearing impairment or covers or is inserted in one ear only."

In terms of a penalty for violation, "Any individual violating any provision of this section, except where the offense constitutes Aggravated Reckless Driving, shall be subject to a civil fine under the District of Columbia Traffic Adjudication Act."

Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
T609	Riding on sidewalk where not permitted		<b>\$25</b>	18 DCMR § 1201.9
	There shall be no prohibition against any person riding a bic sidewalk within the District, so long as the rider does not cre ride a bicycle or operate a personal mobility device upon a s except on those sidewalks expressly designated by Order of upon a sidewalk in any area outside of the Central Business the Mayor and appropriate signs to such effect are posted.	ate a hazar idewalk with the Mayor,	d; prov hin the nor sha	ided, that no person shall Central Business District Il any person ride a bicycle

**NOTE:** The exception to the prohibition of PMDs on the sidewalk in the Central Business District is if the PMD is operated by a person with disability.

#### Bicycle (18 DCMR § 9901)

A bicycle is "a device which is propelled solely by human power; which is designed to be ridden by one (1) or more persons; which has a saddle or seat for each person that the device is designed and equipped to carry; which has a tandem arrangement of two (2) wheels (or is a device generally recognized as a bicycle though equipped with two front or rear wheels); and which has either one wheel at least twenty inches (20 in.) in diameter or is designed to be ridden on a roadway. This shall not include any device equipped with a motor or engine capable of propelling such device either exclusively or in combination with human power, whether or not such motor or engine is in actual operation."

When operating on the roadway, bicycles are required to obey all traditional traffic regulations. However, there are some violations that are specific to bicycles.

#### **Bicycle Violations**

Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
T064	Hitching on vehicle	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.16
	No person riding upon a bicycle shall attach himself or herself any vehicle upon a highway, roadway, or in an alley.	or the devic	e upon	which he or she is riding to
т066	Harassment or interference with signals	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.14 -15
1201	.14			
C	No person operating a bicycle shall sound any warning device of obedience to the instructions of official traffic control signals of officers.	•		-
	.15 No person shall operate a bicycle except in obedience to the ins signs, and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless o	-		
	person authorized to direct and control traffic.			,
т067	Impeding or obstructing traffic	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.3 & 7
1201	.3			
-	<ul> <li>A person operating a bicycle may overtake and pass another ne movement to be made with safety.</li> </ul>	vehicle only	v under	conditions which permit
sc	<ul> <li>A person operating a bicycle may overtake and pass other ve ame lane as the overtaken vehicle, or changing to a different lo ass with safety.</li> </ul>		-	
o	) If a lane is partially occupied by vehicles that are stopped, sto perating a bicycle may ride in that or in the next adjacent lane irection.			•
a	.7 ersons riding upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abr side for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding two abreas novement of traffic and, on a lane roadway, shall ride within a	t shall not ii	•	

Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
т069	Riding abreast	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.7
as	rsons riding upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abr ide for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding two abreas ovement of traffic and, on a lane roadway, shall ride within a s	t shall not ii	•	
т070	Excessive speed	3/6/07	\$50	18 DCMR § 1201.8
	o person shall operate a bicycle at a speed in excess of any pos asonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.	ted limit or	at a sp	eed which is greater than is
T71	Fail to yield the right-of-way on roadway	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.12
bu rig rig	e operator of a bicycle or personal mobility device emerging fi ilding, shall upon approaching a sidewalk, or the sidewalk are ht-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk, an ht-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway, to the affic.	a extending d upon ente	across ering th	any alleyway, yield the e roadway shall yield the
T72	Disobeying traffic control device	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.14-15
ob ofj 1201 Na sig	o person operating a bicycle shall sound any warning device at bedience to the instructions of official traffic control signals or ficers. 15 o person shall operate a bicycle except in obedience to the inst gns, and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless oth prson authorized to direct and control traffic.	to the direct	tions of official	<sup>r</sup> police traffic control traffic control signals,
, T533	Fail to give signal	3/6/07	<b>\$25</b>	18 DCMR § 1201.1
du an	ery person who propels a vehicle by human power or rides a b ties as any other vehicle operator under this title, except as ot ad except for those duties imposed by this title which, by their i oplication to a bicycle operator.	herwise exp	pressly	provided in this chapter,
T535	Disregarding slow sign	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.15
sig	o person shall operate a bicycle except in obedience to the inst gns, and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless oth prson authorized to direct and control traffic.	-		
т607	Fail to yield right of way on sidewalk	3/6/07	\$50	18 DCMR § 1201.10-11
ре рг 1201	ny person riding a bicycle or personal mobility device upon a side destrians, and shall travel at a speed no greater than the post ovided, that such speed is safe for the conditions then existing	ed speed lir on the side	nit of tl walk.	he adjacent roadway;
	ossing a roadway in a crosswalk shall have all the rights and d	•		-
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Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation
	me circumstances, except that the bicyclist or personal mobilit the sidewalk or crosswalk.	ty device op	erator r	nust yield to pedestrians
T610	Excessive number of riders	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.5
	person shall operate or ride on a bicycle with more persons o uipped to carry.	n it at any o	one time	e than the bicycle is
T614	Improper Equipment	12/13/13	\$25	18 DCMR § 1204
dry	1 ch bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which enables the op y, level, clean pavement; provided, that a fixed gear bicycle is erator of a fixed gear bicycle shall be able to stop the bicycle u	not required	l to hav	
fla. ref	2 ch bicycle, when in use at night, shall be equipped with a lamp shing white light visible from a distance of at least five hundre flector on the rear which shall be visible from all distances fror ) to the rear when directly in front of upper beams of head lan	ed feet (500 n fifty feet (	ft.) to t 50 ft.) t	he front and with a red o three hundred feet (300
	3 amp emitting a steady or flashing red light visible from a dista ay be used in lieu of the red reflector.	ance of five i	hundred	d feet (500 ft.) to the rear
	4 place of the requirements of § 1204.2, a lamp may be worn or ay be readily seen from the distances set forth in that subsection		f an op	erator; provided, that it
	5 bicyclist riding within the District must be capable of making a echanical device, or with his or her voice, audible for a distance	-		
1204.	6			
	bicycle shall not be equipped with, nor shall any bicycle rider u			
	<b>Mountable rack violation – vehicle</b> 1 mountable rack may be attached to a vehicle for the purpose of mber of bicycles transported in the rack shall not exceed the m		-	•
	2 mountable rack shall extend beyond the bumper design marg zardous or dangerous, nor shall any such mountable rack obst			,
T617	Not riding on seat	3/6/07	\$25	18 DCMR § 1201.4
No	person shall operate or ride a bicycle other than upon or astr	ide a regula	r seat a	ttached to the bicycle.

Code	Description	Effective Date	Fine	Law / Code / Regulation	
T618	Carrying objectives which prevent operator from keeping one hand on handle bars	3/6/07	\$50	18 DCMR § 1201.6	
No person shall operate or ride a bicycle while carrying any package, bundle, or article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand on the handle bars.					

### 13.4.3 Classify offenses involving non-traditional traffic

#### Pedestrian (18 DCMR § 9901)

A pedestrian is "any person afoot or who is using a wheelchair or motorized wheelchair."

When issuing an NOI involving non-traditional traffic violations, the pedestrian is required to make his or her identity known.

#### Failure to Make Identity Known (DC Code § 50-2303.07)

"A pedestrian who is stopped by a police officer or other authorized official after the pedestrian has committed an infraction of these regulations shall be required to inform the officer or other official of their true name and address for the purpose of including that information on a notice of infraction; provided, that no pedestrian shall be required to possess or display any documentary proof of his or her name or address in order to comply with the requirements of this section."

Upon conviction, the person shall be fined not less than \$ 100 nor more than \$ 250.

**NOTE:** This offense is a misdemeanor; however, there is not a jail sentence for violation of this section.

#### **General Order 303.1 (Traffic Enforcement)**

This GO establishes policy for how officers are to exercise police powers when enforcing traffic laws and regulations pertaining to pedestrians. Part of the officer's responsibility is to know that a separate criminal sanction is applicable to situations where a pedestrian violator refuses or fails to inform an officer of his or her true name and address to facilitate proper issuance of a NOI. Be aware that pedestrian violators are not required to produce or display documentary evidence of identity unless the name and address furnished to the officer at the time of the stop is reasonably suspected to be fictitious. In this instance, members shall caution the pedestrian that continued refusals to provide correct identity could result in his or her arrest.

You must give a warning and be able to articulate the reason you believe the name given was fictitious.

# 13.4.4 Issue a Notice of Infraction (NOI) for violations of the regulations encountered in this Instructional Unit

### (Independent Practice)

# **13.4.5** Complete an Event Report and Arrest/Prosecution Report for the offenses encountered in this instructional unit

## (Independent Practice)

### Summary

In this lesson, we discussed various types of non-traditional traffic types and the regulations surrounding their operation. The types we discussed range from slow speed vehicles to personal mobility devices. You were introduced to regulations pertaining to operating a bicycle or personal mobility device within the central business district. We also discussed several offenses that could result in arrest, namely, the charge of Failure to Make Identity Known and Operation of ATV or Dirt Bike." The information you have learned here today will equip you with the knowledge and confidence to handle situations involving non-traditional traffic and the violations surrounding their operation.

### REFERENCES

GO 303.01	Traffic Enforcement	04/30/1992					
SO 13-17	Traffic Enforcement Involving Non-Traditional Motor Vehicles	08/29/2013					
MPD Traffic Enforcement Guide							