

THE CODE OF SAN TAN VALLEY, ARIZONA

ARTICLE 9- Traffic and Vehicles

9-1 Applicability of State Law

All of the provisions and requirements of the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways, codified as Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 28, Chapter 6 and in particular Sections 28-601 to 28-1062, inclusive, in regard to the regulation of traffic and the use and operation of vehicles and amendments or additions thereto hereinafter enacted, insofar as such provisions have application within the Town, are hereby adopted and made a part of this chapter as though fully set out herein. Copies of such sections shall be on file in the office of the city clerk and the office of the magistrate court of the Town.

9-2 Administration

9-2-1 The Town Manager shall designate a Town Official, or Town Employees with authority to administer Article 9. The Town Council may enter into Intergovernmental Agreements that it deems necessary and proper for the administration of Title 9.

9-3 Traffic Control

9-3-1 Adoption.

That certain document entitled “11th Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTDC) dated December 19th, 2023 along with the January 2026 Arizona Supplement”, as made a public record by the Town of San Tan Valley Resolution No. [REDACTED], is hereby adopted as the official standard for traffic control devices within the Town of San Tan Valley, and made part of this chapter, the same as though said were specifically set forth herein.

9-3-2 Removal of Signs.

The Town reserves the right to remove any sign that is deemed a nuisance or public hazard, and may, at the discretion of the Town Traffic Engineer impose a reasonable charge to the property owner for the cost of removals from private property;

9-3-3 Placement of Signs by Private Parties in Town Rights-of-Way.

All permanently installed signing within Town right-of-way by private parties (developers) shall comply with the MUTCD handbook (most recently adopted version by the Arizona Department of Transportation) published by the Federal Highway Administration, and the Arizona Department of Transportation Supplement to the MUTCD handbook, as well as the Town's relevant engineering standards, details, and specifications; and

9-3-5 Restitution and Damages for Damaged Signs.

The Town reserves the right to charge monetary damages to any individual, party or organization that is found responsible for damage to any Town owned traffic control device.

Transportation Officials (AASHTO)", or any other condition which would make parking a vehicle unsafe as determined by the Town Engineer based on a traffic study.

3. Signage and Pavement Marking – No prohibition of parking on public roads shall be effective unless or until:
 - a. Signs giving notice of the prohibition are posted on the roadway. Unless otherwise noted on the signs themselves, each sign shall designate a “no parking” area that extends 100 feet in each direction (covering a total length of 200 feet) parallel to the roadway or to the next intersecting roadway, whichever is shorter; or
 - b. The roadway is striped or marked designating bike lanes along the roadway’s outside edge which would prohibit parking in accordance with A.R.S. § 28-815(D); or
 - c. Under direction and written request of a fire district or department, the curb is painted red to designate a fire lane for which standing, stopping, or parking is prohibited.
4. Establishment or Removal of Residential No-Parking Zones - The Town Engineer may establish or remove a Residential No-Parking Zone and install, or remove, no parking signs on any public street owned and maintained by the Town within a residential neighborhood upon written request from a Homeowner’s Association or citizen(s) provided that the following conditions are met:
 - a. A petition with signatures supporting the establishment of a Residential No-Parking Zone from 90% of residents residing on the street segment under consideration is provided to the Town Engineer, and,
 - b. Written support from an authorized representative of the Homeowner’s Association (if applicable) is provided to the Town Engineer, and,
 - c. A map showing the specific street segment under consideration is provided to the Town Engineer, and
 - d. The street segment under consideration is classified as a local or minor collector street, and,
 - e. The street segment under consideration is a continuous section of roadway beginning at a street corner or intersection and ending mid-block or at the next street corner or intersection. Discontinuous street segments that “skip” properties will not be considered.
5. Recreational Vehicles (RV), Heavy Trucks, and Inoperable Vehicles
 - a. Heavy Trucks - It is a violation of this Article to park a Heavy Truck on any public road within a residentially zoned area having a density greater than 2 dwelling units per acre. A Heavy Truck is defined as any commercial vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 19,500 pounds or more including, but not limited to, trucks, truck tractors, road tractors, trailers, semi-trailers, vehicle transporters, or any combination of such vehicles, attended or otherwise, occupied or unoccupied; including the power unit by itself, the combination of the power unit and trailer, or the trailer separately. A Heavy Truck may temporarily park on dedicated Town right-of-way to perform the following activities, except that upon completion of such activity the vehicle must be promptly removed:
 - i. Deliver, pickup, load or unload merchandise, materials, or equipment, including furniture and other household goods; or
 - ii. The Heavy Truck is disabled and is in need of repair, provided the repair is completed within 48 consecutive hours; or
 - iii. Provide construction, repair, or similar services to a property or utility.
 - b. Recreational Vehicles, Buses, Boats, & Trailers - It is a violation of this Article to park a Recreational Vehicle (RV), Travel Trailer, bus, boat, or utility trailer on any public road within a residentially zoned area having a density greater than 2 dwelling units per acre for more than 48 consecutive hours. A Recreational Vehicle (RV) or Travel Trailer is defined as a vehicular-type unit, not exceeding eight feet in width nor more than 40 feet in length, primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping or travel use. The unit either may have its own motive power or may be mounted on or drawn by another vehicle upon the highway. Under no circumstances shall a person be allowed to inhabit any of the prescribed vehicles while parked on the street.

- c. Inoperable Vehicles - It is a violation of this Article to park an inoperable or unregistered vehicle on any public road for more than 48 consecutive hours.
6. Violations – Any vehicle parked in violation of this Code may be towed away and stored at the vehicle owner’s expense, immobilized with a traffic boot or barnacle, and/or be subject to a civil fine not less than \$250 per vehicle per occurrence per day, as authorized by Article of this Town Code.
 - a. In any prosecution charging a violation of any provision of this Code governing the stopping, standing or parking of a vehicle, the person in whose name such vehicle is registered is prima facie responsible for such violation and subject to the penalty thereof. Furthermore, this section applies to those persons in whose names such vehicle is jointly registered. Such persons are jointly and severally prima facie responsible for such a violation and subject to penalty therefor.
 - b. Any violation of this Article shall be a civil traffic violation.
7. Enforcement – The San Tan Valley Police Department and the San Tan Valley Code Enforcement Office are hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Article and may, at their discretion, issue warnings or otherwise determine what method of enforcement is appropriate for any given situation. The Town Council is authorized to enter into Intergovernmental Agreements with other public agencies to assist with the enforcement of the Traffic Code.
8. State Provisions - The state traffic laws regulating stopping, standing and parking apply upon all streets, highways and alleys within the Town. The provisions of this Article are in addition to and shall not be read to conflict with the restrictions in A.R.S. § 28-873 or A.R.S. § 28-815(D).

9-5 Speed Limits

The Town Traffic Engineer or Council will determine and post the appropriate posted speed limit for all street segments based upon the application of accepted engineering standards, practices, and judgment.

1. All local residential streets shall have a prima facie speed limit of 25mph; these types of streets may or may not be posted with a physical sign.
2. Reduced speed limits for school zones (whenever a school fronts onto an arterial street with a posted speed of 45mph or greater) are to be posted either 30mph or 35mph, and are to be in force between the hours of 7:30am to 3:30pm weekdays.
3. Temporary reduced speed limits for construction and maintenance work zones, special events, or any other activity within or adjacent to the right-of way that would require a reduced regulatory speed limit are to be determined at the time of approval of the Traffic Control Plan. All installations of temporary speed limits shall conform to the requirements of the MUTCD handbook and the Arizona Department of Transportation Supplement to the MUTCD.

9-6 Inoperable, Unregistered, or Abandoned Vehicles on Right-of-Way

9-6-1 No person shall park any vehicle which is inoperable on any street or public right-of-way. It is an affirmative defense to a violation of this subsection that the vehicle was removed from the street or public right-of-way within twenty-four hours of becoming inoperable.

9-6-2 No person shall park any vehicle which does not display current registration on any street or public right-of-way.

9-6-3 Violation of this section shall constitute a civil traffic violation, and the violator shall be subject to a civil sanction of not less than fifty dollars nor more than three hundred dollars.

9-7 Bicycles, Electric Bicycles, Human Powered Vehicles, Non-Human Powered Vehicles and Electric Assistive Mobility Devices.

9-7-1 Definitions.

“Bicycle” A device propelled by human power which any person may ride, having 2 tandem wheels or having 3 or more wheels in contact with the ground.

“Electric Bicycle” A 2- or 3-wheeled vehicle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor less than 750 watts (1 horsepower) and maximum speed of 28 miles per hour.

“Motorized Skateboard” A self-propelled device that has a motor, a deck on which a person may ride, and at least one wheel in contact with the ground.

“Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device” A self-balancing device with wheels and an electric propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to 15 miles per hour or less and that is designed to transport only 1 person.

“Electric Standup Scooter” A device which weighs less than 75 pounds, has 2 or 3 wheels, a handlebar, a floorboard on which a person may stand while riding, is powered by an electric motor or human power, or both, has a maximum speed that does not exceed 20 miles per hour, with or without human propulsion, and does not include an electric miniature scooter.

“Motor Driven Cycle” A motorcycle, including a motor scooter, with a motor that produces not more than 5 horsepower.

“Human Powered” Movement accomplished or propelled by human power, such as walking, running, or by any vehicle or device which is designed and equipped to be propelled by human power, including a bicycle.

“Non-Human Powered” Movement accomplished or propelled by anything other than human power, such as electric, gas, or other combustion. This includes motorized skateboards, electric standup scooter, motor driven cycle, or other devices that do not meet the definition of vehicles requiring registration under state law.

9-7-2 Roadways.

Bicycles, electric bicycles, human and non-human powered devices, and electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated upon public roadways under the following conditions:

1. Shall obey the instructions of official traffic-control signals, signs, and other traffic direction devices.
2. Shall operate as close as practicable to the right-hand curb of the roadway, edge of the roadway, or edge of a designated bicycle path or lane.
3. Shall signal all turning movements.
4. Shall yield the right-of-way to all other users upon approaching a sidewalk, bicycle path, bicycle lane, or multi-use path in order to cross.
5. Shall not operate above the posted speed limit or at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the then-existing conditions and shall operate at a speed necessary to avoid colliding with any object, person, vehicle or other conveyance on, entering or adjacent to the roadway in compliance with legal requirements and the duty to exercise reasonable care for the protection of others.
6. Shall not ride or operate in any direction except that permitted by vehicular traffic on a roadway; except where signs or pavement markings on a bikeway or bicycle lane designate 2-way traffic.
7. *Application of traffic laws.* Every person riding a bicycle, electric bicycle, or other human and non-human powered device upon a roadway in the town 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, the rules of the road applicable to vehicles, and the traffic laws of the town applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as otherwise stated herein and except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application.
8. Persons under 16 years of age operating a bicycle, electric bicycle, or other human and non-human powered device on any public roadway shall at all times wear a protective helmet.

9-7-3. Sidewalks and Town Parks.

Bicycles, electric bicycles, human and non-human powered devices, and electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated upon sidewalks and within town parks under the following conditions:

1. Shall obey the instructions of official traffic-control signals, signs, and other direction devices.

2. Shall signal all turning movements.
3. Shall yield the right-of-way to all other users upon approaching a roadway, sidewalk, bicycle path, bicycle lane, or multi-use path in order to cross.
4. Shall yield the right-of-way to all traffic when entering or crossing a roadway from a bikeway, sidewalk, bicycle lane, or multi-use path in order to cross.
5. Shall not operate at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the then-existing conditions and shall operate at a speed to avoid colliding with any object, person, vehicle, or other conveyance on, entering or adjacent to the roadway in compliance with legal requirements and the duty to exercise reasonable care for the protection of others.
6. Shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian or electric personal assistive mobility device and should give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian or electric personal assistive mobility device.
7. Persons under 16 years of age operating a bicycle, electric bicycle or other human and non-human powered device on any sidewalk or within a town park shall at all times wear a protective helmet.

9-7-4. Regulatory Signs.

The town is authorized to erect or place signs as directed by the Town Council on any sidewalk, path, or roadway regulating the riding of bicycles, electric bicycles, or other human and non-human powered devices thereon by any person and when such signs are in place no person shall disobey the same.

9-7-5 No Licensing Required.

This section shall not be construed to require the licensing or registration of a bicycle, electric bicycle, or other human and non-human powered devices.

9-7-6 Responsibilities of Parents, Guardians, and Custodians.

The parent, guardian or legal custodian of any minor or ward shall not authorize or permit such minor or ward to violate any of the provisions of this chapter.

9-7-7 Electric Personal Assistive Devices.

In accordance with state law (A.R.S. § 28-908), a person operating an electric personal assistive mobility device has all of the rights and duties that are applicable to pedestrians except provisions that, by their nature, can have no application. Electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated on sidewalks, shared paths, multi-use paths, and in bicycle lanes. No person shall ride or operate an electric personal assistive mobility device in bicycle lanes in any direction except what is permitted for vehicular traffic on the same side on the roadway.

9-7-8 Unlawful Multiple Users of Personal Assistive Mobility Device.

It shall be unlawful to use an electric personal assistive mobility device to carry more persons at 1 time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

9-7-9 Lamps and Reflectors.

From dusk to dawn, all persons operating a bicycle, electric bicycle, human and non-human powered device, or electric personal mobility assistive device shall have a lamp on the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet and a red reflector or red lamp in the rear that is visible from all distances from 50 feet and 300 feet from the rear.

9-7-10. Penalties.

A violation of this section (9-7) of the San Tan Valley Town Code shall be a civil offense punishable by a sanction as fixed by the Court of no more than \$300.

