

PART 15 – MOTORCYCLES OR LOW-POWER SCOOTERS

1501. Traffic laws apply to persons operating motorcycles or low-power scooters - special permits.

- (1) Every person operating a motorcycle or low-power scooter shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under this Traffic Code, except as to special regulations in this Traffic Code and except as to those provisions of this Traffic Code which by their nature can have no application.
- (2) For the purposes of a prearranged organized special event and upon a showing that safety will be reasonably maintained, the Colorado Department of Transportation or the City of Fort Collins Transportation Authority may grant a special permit exempting the operation of a motorcycle or low-power scooter from any requirement of this Part 15. (Ord. 016, 2003 §1; Ord. 097, 2009 §36)

1502. Riding on motorcycles or low-power scooters - protective helmet.

- (1) A person operating a motorcycle or low-power scooter shall ride only upon the permanent and regular seat attached thereto, and such operator shall not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on a motorcycle or low-power scooter unless such motorcycle or low-power scooter is designed to carry more than one (1) person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the permanent seat if designed for two (2) persons or upon another seat firmly attached to the motorcycle or low-power scooter at the rear or side of the operator.
- (2) A person shall ride upon a motorcycle or low-power scooter only while sitting astride the seat, facing forward, with one (1) leg on either side of the motorcycle or low-power scooter.
- (3) No person shall operate a motorcycle or low-power scooter while carrying packages, bundles or other articles which prevent the person from keeping both hands on the handlebars.
- (4) No operator shall carry any person nor shall any person ride in a position that will interfere with the operation or control of the motorcycle or low-power scooter or the view of the operator.
- (4.5) (a) A person shall not operate or ride as a passenger on a motorcycle or low-power scooter on a roadway unless:
 - (I) each person under eighteen (18) years of age is wearing a protective helmet of a type and design manufactured for use by operators of motorcycles;

- (II) the protective helmet conforms to the design and specifications set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Subsection (4.5); and
 - (III) the protective helmet is secured properly on the person's head with a chin strap while the motorcycle is in motion.
- (b) A protective helmet required to be worn by this Subsection (4.5) shall:
- (I) be designed to reduce injuries to the user resulting from head impacts and to protect the user by remaining on the user's head, deflecting blows, resisting penetration and spreading the force of impact;
 - (II) consist of lining, padding and chin strap; and
 - (III) meet or exceed the standards established in the United States Department of Transportation Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218, 49 C.F.R. §571.218, for motorcycle helmets. (Ord. 016, 2003 §1; Ord. 097, 2009 §37)

1503. Operating motorcycles or low-power scooters on roadways laned for traffic.

- (1) A person operating a motorcycle is entitled to full use of a traffic lane, and no motor vehicle shall be driven in such a manner as to deprive any motorcycle of the full use of a traffic lane. This Subsection (1) shall not apply to motorcycles operating two (2) abreast in a single lane.
- (2) A person operating a low-power scooter upon a roadway shall ride as close to the right side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one (1) proceeding in the same direction.
- (3) The operator of a motorcycle shall not overtake or pass in the same lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken.
- (4) No person shall operate a motorcycle or low-power scooter between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.
- (5) Motorcycles shall not be operated more than two (2) abreast in a single lane.
- (6) Subsections (3) and (4) of this Section shall not apply to police officers in the performance of their official duties. (Ord. 016, 2003 §1; Ord. 097, 2009 §38; Ord. 119, 2011, §16)

1504. Clinging to other vehicles.

No person riding upon a motorcycle or low-power scooter shall attach himself or herself or the motorcycle or low-power scooter to any other vehicle on a roadway. (Ord. 016, 2003 §1; Ord. 097, 2009 §39)