

## **ARTICLE IX RULES OF THE ROAD**

- Sec. 9.1     **FOLLOWING FIRE APPARATUS PROHIBITED**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §7A.
- Sec. 9.2     **CROSSING FIRE HOSE**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §7A.
- Sec. 9.3     **DRIVING THROUGH FUNERAL OR OTHER PROCESSIONS**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.272, §42.
- Sec. 9.4     **DRIVERS IN A PROCESSION**  
(a) Each driver in a funeral or other procession shall drive as near to the right-hand edge of the roadway as practicable and shall follow the vehicle ahead as close as is practicable and safe.  
(b) At an intersection where a traffic-control signal is operating or a stop sign located, the driver of the first vehicle in a funeral or other procession shall be the only one governed by the traffic signal indication or the stop sign.
- Sec. 9.5     **FUNERAL PROCESSIONS TO BE IDENTIFIED**  
A funeral composed of a procession of vehicles shall be identified as such by the display upon the outside of each vehicle of a pennant or other identifying insignia or by such other method as may be determined and designated by the police department.
- Sec. 9.6     **PARADES, PROCESSIONS AND FORMATIONS**  
No person shall take part in any parade, procession or other organized formation of persons or vehicles, other than a funeral procession in or upon any street, way, highway, road or parkway under the control of the city unless the Traffic Director has issued a permit approved by the Police Commissioner, for such parade, procession or formation. Said permit shall designate the time, place and manner of such parade, procession or formation. Before a permit is issued, written application giving the time, place and manner of such parade, procession or formation shall be filed with the Traffic Director sufficiently in advance to allow for any planning for the event.
- Sec. 9.7     **DRIVE ON RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY-EXCEPTIONS**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §1.
- Sec. 9.8     **OVERTAKING A VEHICLE ON THE LEFT**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §2.
- Sec. 9.9     **OVERTAKING OTHER VEHICLES**  
The driver of a vehicle shall not pass or overtake a vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless there is sufficient clear space ahead on the right side of the roadway to permit the overtaking to be concluded without impeding the safe operation of the vehicles ahead.
- Sec. 9.10    **FURTHER LIMITATIONS ON DRIVING TO LEFT OF CENTER OF ROADWAY**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §4.
- Sec. 9.11    **NO-PASSING ZONES**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §4.
- Sec. 9.12    **OPERATION AT INTERSECTIONS WITH ISLANDS AND AT SAFETY ZONES**  
(a) A vehicle passing around a rotary traffic island shall be driven only to the right of such island.  
(b) At any intersection of ways or other place in which there are marked or permanent channelizing islands or safety zones, drivers of vehicles shall proceed only as indicated by signs, signals, or markings.  
(c) No person shall drive through or over or park a motor vehicle upon, any channelizing island or safety zone unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

Sec. 9.13 **DRIVING ON ROADWAYS LANED FOR TRAFFIC**  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.89, §4A & B.

Sec. 9.14 **FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY**

The driver of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway.

Sec. 9.15 **DRIVING ON DIVIDED HIGHWAYS**

Except on one-way streets, whenever any highway has been divided into two or more roadways by leaving an intervening space or by physical barrier or clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right-hand roadway unless directed or permitted to use another roadway by official traffic-control devices or police officers. No vehicle shall be driven over, across or within any such dividing space, barrier or section, except through an opening in such physical barrier or dividing section or space or at a cross-over or intersection as established.

Sec. 9.16 **CARE IN STOPPING, STARTING, TURNING, OR BACKING**

The driver of any vehicle before starting, turning from a direct line, or backing, shall first see that such movement can be made in safety. If such movement cannot be made in safety or if it interferes with the informal movement of traffic, said driver shall wait for a more favorable opportunity to make such movement.

Sec. 9.17 **BACKING AROUND CORNERS AND INTO INTERSECTIONS**

The driver of any vehicle shall not back the vehicle around a corner or into an intersection and shall not in any event or at any place back a vehicle unless such movement can be made in safety.

Sec. 9.18 **VEHICLE OPERATION AT CROSSWALKS**

- (a) When traffic-control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle, which for the purposes of this regulation shall include bicycles, shall yield the right of way, slowing down or stopping if need be so to yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or when the pedestrian approaches from the opposite half of the roadway to within 5 feet of that half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling. No operator of a vehicle shall pass another vehicle which has been stopped at a marked crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross a way, nor shall any operator enter a marked crosswalk until there is sufficient space on the other side of the crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle he/she is operating notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.
- (b) The provisions of these regulations and those drafted under the provisions of G. L. c.90, §18A, shall not in any way abrogate the provisions of G.L. c.90, §14 and 14A which provides: "Precautions for Safety of Other Travelers" and for the "Protection of Blind Persons Crossing Ways". Furthermore, notwithstanding the provisions of these regulations every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon the roadway and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and shall exercise proper precautions which may become necessary for safe operation.

Sec. 9.19 **VEHICLE SHALL NOT BE DRIVEN ON A SIDEWALK**

The driver of a vehicle shall not drive within any sidewalk area except at a permanent or temporary driveway.

Sec. 9.20 **OPENING AND CLOSING VEHICLE DOORS**

No person shall open the door of a motor vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a motor vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.

Sec. 9.21 **PROHIBITED RIDING**

- (a) No person shall ride on any portion of a motor vehicle not designed or intended for the use of passengers except in that part of a truck within which the load is usually carried.
- (b) No person shall board a moving vehicle without the consent of the person in charge thereof.

Sec. 9.22 **CLINGING TO VEHICLES**

No person riding upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled or toy vehicle shall attach the same or himself to any vehicle upon a roadway.

Sec. 9.23 UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.90, §13.

Sec 9.24 OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC

- (a) No person shall drive in such a manner as to obstruct unnecessarily the normal movement of traffic upon any street or highway. Officers are hereby authorized to require any driver who fails to comply with this section to drive to the side of the roadway and wait until such traffic as has been delayed has passed.
- (b) No driver shall enter an intersection or marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk and on the right half of the roadway to accommodate the vehicle he/she is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed, except that on a one-way street drivers shall not be restricted to the use of the right half of the roadway.

Sec. 9.25 DROPPING OR LEAKING LOADS  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.85, §36.

Sec. 9.26 PUTTING GLASS, ETC., ON HIGHWAY PROHIBITED  
For Law of the Commonwealth, See G.L. c.265, §32 & c.270, §16.

Sec. 9.27 SOUND HORN WHEN NECESSARY

The driver of a vehicle shall give an audible warning with his horn or other suitable warning device whenever necessary to insure safe operation.

Sec. 9.28 DRIVING ON ROAD SURFACES UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR REPAIR

No driver shall enter upon the road surface of any street or highway or section thereof, when, by reason of construction, surface treatment, maintenance or the like, or because of some unprotected hazard, such road surface is closed to travel, and one or more signs, lights or signals have been erected to indicate that all or part of the road surface of the street or highway is not to be used, or when so advised by an officer, watchman, member of a street or highway crew or employee of the city either audibly or by signals.