

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 204, "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS," AND CHAPTER 103, "DISORDERLY CONDUCT," OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON

Ordinance #14-2023

WHEREAS, residents and law enforcement officials of the Township of Readington have brought to the Township Committee's attention an unsafe increase in the frequency and number of individuals sitting, standing, walking, and waiting for extended periods of time in and alongside roadways and highways within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the presence of individuals and other obstructions in or alongside roadways and highways, and in and among vehicular traffic, poses a significant safety hazard and risk of vehicular collision for both the individuals and the drivers on the roadways and highways;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Preamble Incorporated.

The above preambles are made a part hereof without being repeated.

Section 2. Chapter 204, "Streets and Sidewalks," of the Township Code Amended.

Chapter 204, "Streets and Sidewalks," of the Code of the Township of Readington ("Code" or "Township Code") is hereby amended by adding thereto as follows:

ARTICLE V

Persons In and Alongside Roads

§ 204-32. Loitering in and alongside roads in the Township generally prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person who has not first obtained a special event permit from the Township pursuant to Chapter 201 of the Township Code permitting such activities, to engage in any of the following activities:

- A. Sitting, standing, obstructing traffic, circulating, waiting, loitering, or remaining in, on, or alongside any roads within the Township, including in any lane of vehicular traffic, or in or on any median or shoulder alongside any road within the Township, for time periods

longer than what is reasonably necessary for the person to travel from their point of origin to their destination and/or cross from one side of the road to the other.

- B. Walking in, on, or within 3 feet of any roads within the Township (other than in a crosswalk or on a sidewalk), including in any lane of vehicular traffic, in or on any median or shoulder alongside any road within the Township, for time periods longer than what is reasonably necessary for the person to travel from their point of origin to their destination. Where sidewalks or crosswalks are not present, as a matter of public safety, all pedestrians must limit their time in, on, or in close proximity to vehicular traffic to the amount of time that is reasonably necessary for them to travel from their point of origin to their destination and/or cross from one side of the road to the other.
- C. Walking among and between vehicles in traffic, or approaching vehicles in traffic, regardless of whether vehicles are stopped or in motion.
- D. Approaching vehicles, or persons inside any vehicle, while the vehicle is in, on, or alongside any road in the Township, in a manner that could be perceived by persons inside the vehicle as frightening, threatening, or aggressive.

§ 204-33. Violations and penalties.

Any person who shall violate any provision of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be liable to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, imprisonment in the county jail for a term not exceeding 90 days and/or a period of community service not exceeding 90 days.

Section 3. Chapter 103, “Disorderly Conduct,” of the Township Code Amended.

Chapter 103, “Disorderly Conduct,” of the Township Code is hereby amended by adding new subsections “J” and “K” to § 103-2, “Regulations,” which will read as follows:

J. Persons in and alongside roads. No person, who has not first obtained a special event permit from the Township pursuant to Chapter 201 of the Township Code permitting such activities, shall engage in any of the following activities:

- (1) sitting, standing, obstructing traffic, circulating, waiting, loitering, or remaining in, on, or alongside any roads within the Township, including in any lane of vehicular traffic, or in or on any median or shoulder alongside any road within the Township, for time periods longer than what is reasonably necessary for the person to cross from one side of the road to the other;

- (2) walking in, on, or within 3 feet of any roads within the Township (other than in a crosswalk or on a sidewalk), including in any lane of vehicular traffic, in or on any median or shoulder alongside any road within the Township, for time periods longer than what is reasonably necessary for the person to travel from their point of origin to their destination; or
- (3) walking among and between vehicles in traffic, or approaching vehicles in traffic, regardless of whether vehicles are stopped or in motion.

K. Approaching vehicles in traffic. No person shall approach any vehicle, or person inside any vehicle, while the vehicle is in, on, or alongside any road in the Township, in a manner that could be perceived by persons inside the vehicle as frightening, threatening, or aggressive.

Section 5. Repealer.

All ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are repealed.

Section 6. Severability.

If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this Ordinance shall be judged invalid by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such Order or Judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 7. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication according to law.

THE MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ON **MAY 15, 2023** AND THAT IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON TO CONSIDER PASSAGE OF SAID ORDINANCE AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 509 ROUTE 523, WHITEHOUSE STATION, NEW JERSEY, ON **JUNE 5, 2023** AT 7:45 P.M. AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE, OR AT ANY TIME OR PLACE TO WHICH THE MEETING SHALL BE FROM TIME TO TIME ADJOURNED AN OPPORTUNITY WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED THEREIN TO BE HEARD CONCERNING SAID ORDINANCE.

KARIN M PARKER, *RMC*
MUNICIPAL CLERK