

TOWN OF HOPKINTON  
GENERAL BY-LAW  
Chapter 190  
VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

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**HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Meeting of the Town of Hopkinton as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

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**ARTICLE I**

**Removal of Cars for Snow Plowing**

[Adopted 3-5-1959 ATM, Art. 13;  
amended 3-17-1997 STM, Art. 13]

**§ 190-1. Authority of Highway Superintendent.**

The Highway Superintendent, for the purpose of removing or plowing snow or removing ice from any way, shall hereby be authorized to remove or cause to be removed to some convenient place, including in such term of a public garage, any vehicle interfering with such work.

**§ 190-2. Liability for removal costs and storage charges.**

The owner of any vehicle so removed shall be liable for the cost of such removal and for the storage charges, if any, resulting therefrom.

**§ 190-3. Police Department assistance in enforcement.**

The Highway Superintendent, whenever any vehicle is so removed, shall notify the Police Department, and said Department shall render all necessary assistance to the Highway Superintendent in enforcing this article.

**ARTICLE II**

**Handicapped Parking**

[Adopted 5-2-1994 ATM, Art. 41]

**§ 190-4. Number of spaces required.**

Any person or body that has lawful control of a public or private way or of improved or enclosed property used as off-street parking areas for businesses, shopping malls, theaters, auditoriums, sporting or recreational facilities, cultural centers, residential dwellings, or for any other place where the public has a right of access as invitees or licensees, shall be required to reserve parking spaces in said off-street parking areas for any vehicle owned and

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operated by a disabled veteran or handicapped person whose vehicle bears the distinguishing license or permit authorized by MGL c. 90, § 2, according to the following formula: if the number of parking spaces is:

- A. Fifteen or more but not more than 25: one parking space.
- B. More than 25 but not more than 40: 5% of such spaces but not less than two.
- C. More than 40 but not more than 100: 4% of such spaces but not less than three.
- D. More than 100 but not more than 200: 3% of such spaces but not less than four.
- E. More than 200 but not more than 500: 2% of such spaces but not less than six.
- F. More than 500 but not more than 1,000: 1 1/2% of such spaces but not less than 10.
- G. More than 1,000 but not more than 2,000: 1% of such spaces but not less than 15.
- H. More than 2,000 but not more than 5,000: 3/4 of 1% such spaces but not less than 20.
- I. More than 5,000: 1/2 of 1% of such spaces but not less than 30.

**§ 190-5. Identification and location of spaces; size.**

Parking spaces designated as reserved under the provisions of § 190-4 shall be identified by the use of above-grade signs at each space or pair of spaces. Such signs shall have white lettering against blue background and shall bear the words "Handicapped Parking: Special Plate Required. Unauthorized Vehicles May Be Removed At Owner's Expense." These signs shall be as near as possible to a building entrance or walkway and shall be adjacent to curb ramps or other unobstructed methods permitting sidewalk access to a handicapped person. The spaces shall be 12 feet wide or two eight-foot wide areas with four feet of crosshatch between them.

**§ 190-6. Unauthorized use and obstruction of spaces.**

The leaving of unauthorized vehicles within parking spaces designated for use by disabled veterans or handicapped persons as authorized by §§ 190-4 and 190-5 above or in such a manner as to obstruct a curb ramp designed for use by handicapped persons as a means of egress to a street or public way shall be prohibited.

**§ 190-7. Violations and penalties. [Amended 5-7-2001 ATM, Art. 25]**

The penalty for a violation of this article shall be \$100, and the vehicle may be removed according to the provisions of MGL c. 266, § 120D.

**Article III**  
**Temporary Road Closures**  
**[Adopted 5-4-2009 ATM, Art. 21]**

**Section 190-8 Authority of the Police Chief**

The Chief of Police or the Chief's designee is hereby authorized to close any way, as defined by Chapter 90, Section 1, of the General Laws, when the Chief or the Chief's designee deems it necessary in the interest of public safety.

**Section 190-9 Temporary Parking Restrictions**

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The Chief of Police or the Chief's designee is hereby authorized to temporarily prohibit parking on any way or part thereof: in an impending or existing emergency; to allow work to be performed upon, under, above, or adjacent to any way; for lawful assemblage, demonstration or procession; or when it is necessary in the interest of public safety.

In the case of an emergency, the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee may order the towing and removal of vehicles at the expense of the owner of the vehicle.

If vehicles are parked in places or in such a manner that they impede work, and if temporary "no parking" signs were not posted, a police officer may order that a vehicle be relocated by towing it and placing it elsewhere on the same or contiguous street, at the expense and liability of the person, company, or entity performing the work or services in or from the way. If a vehicle is relocated, the Police Department shall attempt to notify the owner of the vehicle's location.

**Section 190-10 Temporary Traffic Plans**

Except upon the consent of the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee, no person shall place, stand, or park a motor vehicle, trailer, construction equipment, other equipment or other vehicle of any kind, nor shall they place goods or materials of any kind, upon any way, including the travel way, parking lanes, sidewalk, or other public appurtenances thereto, (1) with the intent to open said street or highway or to perform work or services upon, under, above, or adjacent to said way, or (2) in such a manner or condition that the movement of vehicles or pedestrians upon or within said street or highway is blocked or impeded.

The Chief of Police or the Chief's designee shall determine appropriate traffic control measures including the erecting of temporary signs, cones, lights, detours, the use of a police officer, or the use of a police officer in the capacity as a private detail, a road flagger, or other measures. It shall be the responsibility of the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee to review, and when the Chief or the Chief's designee concurs, to approve, all construction and safety plans within the Town of Hopkinton.