



**MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
ORDINANCE TO REGULATE PARKING AND TRAFFIC ON  
COUNTY-OWNED, COUNTY-LEASED AND COUNTY-CONTROLLED PROPERTY**

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Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 153A-121, 153A-170, and 20-158, and related statutes, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, that the following ordinance to regulate the parking of vehicles in parking areas on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property and traffic in parking areas and on roadways on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property be and the same is hereby adopted:

**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this ordinance the following definitions shall apply:

**Vehicle:** Every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway.

**Parking:** The stopping or standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading.

**Parking Space:** A space sufficient in size to accommodate a standard automobile, which space is designated by appropriate lines and appropriate markings or signs.

**Person:** Any person, firm, association or corporation.

**SECTION 2.**

This ordinance shall apply to all County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property. Parking vehicle on said County property shall be unlawful unless permitted by the provisions of this ordinance.

**SECTION 2A. VEHICLE CONTROL SIGNS AND SIGNALS**

A. The County Manager, after consultation with the County Engineer, is authorized to direct the placement of and have placed at appropriate locations on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property such stop signs and vehicle control signals as the County Manager deems necessary to control vehicular traffic on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property.

B. It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to fail to stop in obedience to a stop sign on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property, to fail to obey any other vehicle control signal, or to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other vehicles.

C. Violation of this section of the ordinance shall be a misdemeanor and punishable by fine not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) or imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the Court.

**SECTION 3.**

Parking shall be permitted on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property only as follows:

**A. Government Visitor Parking:**

The location and number of government visitor parking spaces shall be designated by sign or other markings.

**B. Parking Space for County Commissioners:**

Five (5) parking spaces are hereby designated as parking spaces for County Commissioners. The location of these parking spaces shall be determined by the County Manager and these spaces shall be designated by sign or other markings.

**C. Law Enforcement Vehicles Parking:**

Parking spaces may be designated as parking spaces for law enforcement vehicles. The location and number of these parking spaces shall be determined by the County Manager and these spaces shall be designated by sign or other markings. Only official government-owned law enforcement vehicles may be parked in the spaces designated for law enforcement vehicles under the provisions of this subsection.

**D. Parking Spaces for Judges:**

Parking spaces shall be reserved for the exclusive use of Judges of the General Court of Justice. The location and number of these parking spaces shall be determined by the County Manager and these spaces shall be designated by sign or other markings.

**E. Parking Spaces for Departments:**

Parking spaces may be assigned to departments for County or State government located in the Mecklenburg County Courthouse and office buildings. The location and number of these parking spaces shall be determined by the County Manager and these spaces shall be designated by sign or other markings.

**F. Parking Spaces for Visitors and Employees:**

All other parking spaces on County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property are hereby reserved for visitors, County employees, and State employees with offices in the Mecklenburg County Courthouse and County office buildings.

**G. Repair and Emergency Vehicles:**

Vehicles being used during repair or construction work, when it is necessary for them to be parked in a space other than a parking space, and emergency vehicles being used for emergency purposes are hereby exempted from this ordinance.

**SECTION 4. PENALTIES**

A. The person actually operating or in control of a vehicle at the time it is parked on said County-owned, County-leased and County-controlled property is charged with compliance with this ordinance; provided that proof of ownership of any vehicle found parked in violation of this ordinance shall be prima facie evidence that said owner parked said vehicle.

B. The following fines are fixed for the traffic violations indicated:

(1) Blocking alley	\$15.00
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(2) Blocking driveway	\$15.00
(3) Parking in more than one space	\$10.00
(4) Meter violation	\$5.00
(5) Nonparking space	\$10.00
(6) Obstructing traffic	\$10.00
(7) Parking between curb and sidewalk	\$10.00
(8) Parking overtime	\$5.00
(9) Parking on sidewalk	\$10.00
(10) Unauthorized parking on County property	\$5.00

C. A county employee authorized by the County Manager shall cause to be attached to any vehicle parked in violation of the provisions of this ordinance a notice to the owner or operator thereof that a violation of this ordinance has been detected.

D. Each such owner or operator may, within 72 hours of the time when such notice or notices were attached to such vehicle, submit to the violation and pay, as a penalty in full satisfaction of such violation, the sum or sums set out above. The failure of such owner or operator to make such payment of said amount, within 72 hours, shall render such owner or operator subject to punishment for a misdemeanor as hereinafter provided.

E. The violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor and punished by fine not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) or imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days, or both, in the discretion of the Court.

F. Any vehicle parked in violation of this ordinance may be removed from the property by Mecklenburg County or any agent of Mecklenburg County to a storage area or garage. If a vehicle is so removed, the owner, as a condition of regaining possession of said vehicle, shall be required to pay to Mecklenburg County all reasonable cost incidental to the removal and storage of the vehicle together with all applicable fines as provided herein.

G. The Cashier on duty at the Mecklenburg County Tax Collector's Office shall accept payment of fines and issue receipts. The Finance Director or his designee shall accept payment of the costs to the County incidental to the removal and storage of said vehicle.

**SECTION 5.**

This ordinance shall apply between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday of each week, except that the County Manager by written notice to the department head or department heads whose departments utilize property may extend the hours of application for certain property to time periods that the County Manager deems appropriate, and except that the spaces reserved for law enforcement vehicles shall be reserved for said vehicles at all times. The change of hours of application from 7:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday to other time periods shall not be effective until notice is posted on the property to be designated.

**SECTION 6.**

The ordinance adopted on October 15, 1979, and amended on January 18, 1983, establishing parking regulations for County-owned properties is hereby repealed and all other ordinances, or parts of other ordinances, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 7.**

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

**SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY**

Should any provision of this ordinance be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof which is not specifically declared to be invalid or unconstitutional.

Adopted this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 1983.