

Chapter 9.26 SPEED RESTRICTIONS

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9.26.010 Speed to be safe and appropriate for existing conditions.

No person may drive a vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazard then existing. Consistent with this provision, every person shall drive at a safe and appropriate speed when approaching and crossing an intersection or railroad grade crossing, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hill crest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway, and when special hazards exist with respect to pedestrians or other traffic or by reason of weather or street conditions.

(CAC 9.26.010; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 80-4)

9.26.020 Maximum limits designated.

Except when a special hazard exists that requires lower speed for compliance with [Section 9.26.010](#), the limits specified in this section or established as authorized in this chapter shall be maximum lawful speeds, and no person may drive a vehicle at a speed in excess of such maximum speed limits:

- A. Fifteen miles per hour in any alley or public parking lot.
- B. Not more than 25 miles per hour on streets of less than 600 feet in total length, if determined to be warranted by the traffic engineer.
- C. Twenty-five miles per hour on all streets except as otherwise posted by the traffic engineer or the State of Alaska.

(CAC 9.26.020; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 78-146; AO No. 80-4; AO No. 99-100(S), § 1, 8-10-99; AO No. 2003-73, § 4, 4-22-03)

9.26.030 Alteration of maximum limits.

A. When as a result of a comprehensive speed study the traffic engineer determines that the maximum speed permitted under this chapter is greater or less than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions existing upon a public street or part thereof, the traffic engineer may declare a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit on it which:

- 1. Increases the limit, but not to more than 55 miles per hour or 90 kilometers per hour; or
 - 2. Decreases the limit, but not to less than 20 miles per hour or 30 kilometers per hour.
- B. A limit altered as authorized in this section is effective when an appropriate sign giving

notice thereof is erected. The maximum speed limit may be declared effective at all times or at the times indicated upon the sign; and a different limit may be established for different times of day, different types of vehicles, varying weather conditions or other factors bearing on safe speed, which limits are effective when posted upon an appropriate sign.

C. It is unlawful for a person to drive a motor vehicle in excess of the speed limits established by signs lawfully erected by the traffic engineer or by the State of Alaska.

(CAC 9.26.030; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 78-146; AO No. 2003-73, § 5, 4-22-03)

9.26.040 Minimum speed.

A. No person may drive a motor vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

B. Whenever the traffic engineer determines, on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, that slow speeds on any part of a street consistently impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, the traffic engineer may determine and declare a minimum speed limit below which no person may drive a vehicle, except when necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

(CAC 9.26.040; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 80-4)

9.26.050 Motor-driven cycles.

No person may operate any motor-driven cycle at any time mentioned in [Section 9.36.290](#) at a speed greater than 35 miles per hour unless such motor-driven cycle is equipped with a headlamp or lamps which are adequate to reveal a person or vehicle at a distance of 300 feet ahead.

(CAC 9.26.050; AO No. 78-72)

9.26.060 Vehicles towing house trailers; vehicles with solid rubber or cushion tires.

A. No person may drive any vehicle which is towing a house trailer at a speed greater than a maximum of 40 miles per hour.

B. No person may drive any vehicle equipped with solid rubber or cushion tires at a speed greater than a maximum of ten miles per hour.

(CAC 9.26.060; AO No. 78-72)

9.26.070 Violation notices.

A. In every charge of violation of any speed regulations in this chapter, except those specified by [Sections 9.26.010](#) and [9.26.080](#), the complaint and the summons or notice to appear shall specify the speed at which the defendant is alleged to have driven and the maximum speed applicable within the district or at the location.

(CAC 9.26.070; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 93-171(S), § 1, 1-1-94; AO No. 96-61(S), § 1, 7-1-96; AO No. 97-57, § 1, 4-8-97)

Editor's note: AO No. 97-57, § 1, effective April 8, 1997, repealed subsections B.--G.

9.26.080 Racing on streets.

A. No person may drive, except in specifically designated locations, any vehicle in any race, speed competition or contest, drag race or acceleration contest, test of physical endurance, or exhibition of speed or acceleration, or for the purpose of making a speed record, and no person may in any manner participate in any such race, competition, contest, test or exhibition.

B. For purposes of this section, the term "drag race" is defined as the operation of two or more vehicles from a point side by side at accelerating speeds in a competitive attempt to outdistance each other, or the operation of one or more vehicles over a common selected course, from the same point, for the purpose of comparing the relative speeds or power of acceleration of such vehicles within a certain distance or time limit.

C. For purposes of this section, the term "racing" is defined as the use of one or more vehicles in an attempt to outgain, outdistance or prevent another vehicle from passing, to arrive at a given destination ahead of another vehicle or to test the physical stamina or endurance of drivers over long-distance driving routes.

(CAC 9.26.080; AO No. 78-72)

9.26.090 Owner of vehicle presumed responsible for violations. (Repealed)

(AO No. 93-171(S), § 2, 1-1-94; AO No. 97-57, § 1, 4-8-97)

9.26.100 Enforcement officers. (Repealed)

(AO No. 93-171(S), § 3, 1-1-94; AO No. 97-57, § 1, 4-8-97)