

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2024-14

1 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY AMENDING ANCHORAGE**
2 **MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 9.04.010 AND 9.14.040 TO PROHIBIT**
3 **VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM EXECUTING A TURN ON RED IN THE CENTRAL**
4 **BUSINESS TRAFFIC DISTRICT.**

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6 **WHEREAS**, the number of traffic fatalities nationwide has increased dramatically in
7 recent years, despite improved safety standards in automobile design; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users constitute a
10 dramatically increased the percentage of fatalities resulting from automobile
11 collisions, steadily swelling from 20 percent in 1996 to 34 percent in 2020²; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, the central business traffic district constitutes Anchorage's most
14 significant confluence of both motorized and vulnerable road user traffic; and

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16 **WHEREAS**, the overarching principle governing the shared use of our public ways
17 requires travelers to yield the right of way to the more vulnerable road users; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, AMC 9.04.010 defines the central business traffic district as "all streets
20 and portions of streets within the area described as follows: all that area bounded
21 on the south by Ninth Avenue, on the north by Third Avenue, on the west by L Street
22 and on the east by Gambell Street"; now, therefore,

23
24 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**

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26 **Section 1.** Anchorage Municipal Code section 9.04.010 is hereby amended to
27 read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set*
28 *out*):

29
30 **9.04.010 Definitions.**

31
32 * * * * *

33 *Central business traffic district* means all streets and portions of streets within
34 the area described as follows: all that area bounded on the south by Ninth
35 Avenue, on the north by Third Avenue, on the west by L Street and on the
36 east by Gambell Street. Unless otherwise indicated, provisions of this title
37 regulating activity within the central business traffic district shall be construed
38 to include those boundary streets.(CAC 9.04.110; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 80-
39 4)
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¹ T. STEWART, NAT'L HIGH. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN. REPORT NO. DOT HS 813 266: OVERVIEW OF
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES IN 2020 at 3 (March, 2022).

² *Id.* at 6.

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4 **Section 2.** Anchorage Municipal Code section 9.14.040 is hereby amended to
5 read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set*
6 *out*):

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8 **9.14.040 Traffic control signal legend.**

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10 A. Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic control signals exhibiting
11 different colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively, one at
12 a time or in combination, only the colors green, red and yellow shall
13 be used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying a word legend,
14 and the lights shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and
15 pedestrians as follows:

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17 * * * * * * * * *

18 3. Steady red indication.

- 19
20 a. Vehicular traffic facing a steady circular red signal alone
21 shall not enter the intersection and shall stop before
22 entering the crosswalk on the near side of the
23 intersection, or, if there is no crosswalk, then before
24 entering the intersection, and shall remain stopped until
25 a signal to proceed is shown. This traffic may, after
26 stopping, cautiously proceed to make a right turn from a
27 one-way or two-way roadway into a two-way roadway or
28 into a one-way roadway carrying traffic in the direction
29 of the right turn, or it may make a left turn from a one-
30 way or two-way roadway into a one-way roadway
31 carrying traffic in the direction of the left turn;
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33 i. However, the movements described in this
34 subsection are not allowed within the central
35 business traffic district or at any other location
36 where[IF] a sign posted by state or local authority
37 prohibits these movements, or directs the driver's
38 attention to an arrow signal which controls these
39 movements.
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41 ii. Any vehicle making such a turn shall yield the
42 right-of-way to any other vehicle or pedestrian
43 lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent
44 crosswalk at the time the signal is exhibited.
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46 iii. No vehicle shall follow another vehicle through a
47 steady red indication signal without first coming
48 to a complete stop at the stop line, crosswalk or
49 a point nearest the intersecting roadway.
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51 b. Vehicular traffic facing a steady red arrow signal shall

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not enter the intersection to proceed in the direction indicated by the arrow and shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if there is no crosswalk, then before entering the intersection, and shall remain standing until a signal to proceed is shown.

c. Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in section 9.14.050, pedestrians facing a steady red signal alone may not enter the roadway.

B. If an official traffic control signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section shall be applicable, except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application. Any stop required shall be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop shall be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking the stop shall be made at the signal.

(CAC 9.14.040; AO No. 78-72; AO No. 78-146; AO No. 89-52; AO No. 2011-113(S), § 23, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11)

Section 3. This ordinance shall be effective October 1, 2024.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk