

**BY-LAW NO. 2712 OF THE  
COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE NO. 1**

A by-law of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, in the Province of Alberta, to control and provide regulations and penalties pertaining to highways, roadways and streets within the County of Grande Prairie, for the orderly and safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and for the parking of vehicles on the said highways, roadways and streets.

**WHEREAS** the Council of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 has the authority pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and amendments thereto, the Provincial Offences Procedures Act, RSA 2000, Chapter P-34 and amendments thereto, the Traffic Safety Act, RSA 2000, Chapter T-6 and amendments thereto, the Council may provide for the control, regulations, and penalties for the traffic and pedestrians moving on County of Grande Prairie highways, roadways and streets, and for the parking of vehicles thereon.

**THEREFORE** the Council of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 enacts as follows:

1. That County of Grande Prairie By-law No. 2308 be hereby repealed.
2. This By-law may be cited as "***The County of Grande Prairie General Traffic By-law***".

**INTERPRETATION**

3. In this By-law, including this Section, unless contrary to any other Act, these definitions shall apply:

**"ACT"** means the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and amendments thereto, the Provincial Offences Procedures Act, RSA 2000, Chapter P-34 and amendments thereto, the Traffic Safety Act, RSA 2000, Chapter T-6 and amendments thereto.

**"ALLEY"** means a narrow highway intended chiefly to give access to the rear of buildings and parcels of land.

**"BICYCLE"** includes any cycle propelled by muscular power upon which a person may ride, regardless of the number of wheels it may have.

**"BOULEVARD"** means, that part of a highway in an urban area that

- i) is not a roadway, and
- ii) is that part of the sidewalk that is not especially adapted to the use of or ordinarily used by pedestrians.

**"CENTRE LINE"** means

- i) the centre of a roadway measured from the curbs, or in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway, or
- ii) in the case of a highway
  - a) that is an offset centre highway as designated by a traffic control device, or
  - b) that is a highway having a certain number of traffic lanes for traffic moving in a certain direction at all times or at specified times as designated by a

traffic control device,

the line dividing the lanes for traffic moving in opposite directions, or

- iii) in the case of a divided highway, that portion of the highway separating the roadways for traffic moving in opposite directions.

**"COUNTY"** means the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

**"COUNCIL"** means the Council of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 duly assembled and acting as such.

**"COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR"** means the Chief Administrative Officer of the County or his delegate.

**"CROSSWALK"** means

- i) that part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connection of the lateral line of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway, or
- ii) any part of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by signs or by lines or by other marking on the road surface.

**"CURB"** means the actual curb, if there is one, and if there is no curb in existence, shall mean the division of a Highway between that part thereof intended for the use of vehicles and that part thereof intended for the use of pedestrians.

**"DRIVER"** or **"OPERATOR"** means a person who is driving or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

**"EMERGENCY"** means a present or imminent event that requires prompt, co-ordination action or special regulation of persons or property, to protect the health, safety and welfare of people and to limit damage to property.

**"EMERGENCY VEHICLE"** means

- i) a vehicle operated by a law enforcement agency ;
- ii) a fire fighting or other type of vehicle operated by the fire protection service of a municipality ;
- iii) an ambulance operated by a person or organization providing ambulance services ;
- iv) a vehicle operated as a gas disconnection unit of a public utility
- v) a vehicle designated as an emergency response unit under s. 29 of the Vehicle Equipment Regulation, AR 322/2202.

**"HIGHWAY"** means any thoroughfare, street, road, trail, avenue, parkway, driveway, viaduct, lane, alley, square, bridge, causeway, trestleway or other place, whether public or privately owned, any part of which the public is ordinarily entitled or permitted to use for the passage or parking of vehicles, and

- i) includes
  - a) a sidewalk including a boulevard adjacent to the sidewalk,
  - b) if a ditch lies adjacent to and parallel with the roadway, the ditch, and

- c) If a highway Right-of-way is contained between fences or between a fence and one side of the roadway, all the land between the fences, or all the land between the fence and the edge of the roadway, as the case may be.
- ii) but does not include a place declared by the Lieutenant Governor in Council not to be a Highway.

**"INTERSECTION"** means the area embraced within the prolongation or connection of:

- i) the lateral curb lines, or if none,
- ii) the exterior edges of the roadways, or two or more highways which join one another at an angle whether or not one highway crosses the other.

**"OWNER"** means the person who owns a vehicle and includes any person renting a vehicle or having the exclusive use thereof under a lease that has a term of more than 30 days or otherwise having the exclusive use of a vehicle for a period of more than 30 days.

**"PARK"** when prohibited, means allowing a vehicle to remain stationary in one place, except:

- i) while actually engaged in loading or unloading of passengers, or
- ii) when complying with a direction given by a peace officer or traffic control device.

**"PEACE OFFICER"** means a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a Special Constable appointed pursuant to the provisions of section 42 of the police Act being chapter P-17 of the statutes of Alberta, 2000 as amended from time to time or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed for the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

**"PEDESTRIAN"** means a person on foot or a person in or on a mobility aid.

**"ROADWAY"** means that part of a highway intended for use by vehicular traffic.

**"SIDEWALK"** means that part of a highway especially adapted to the use of or ordinarily used by pedestrians, and includes that part of a highway between the curb line thereof (or the edge of the roadway, where there is no curb line) and the adjacent property line, whether or not paved or improved.

**"STOP"** means

- i) when required, a complete cessation from vehicular movement, and
- ii) when prohibited, any halting even momentarily of a vehicle whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the direction of a peace officer or traffic control device.

**"TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE"** means any sign, signal, marking or device placed, marked or erected for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.

**"TRAFFIC LANE"** means:

- i) outside an urban area, a longitudinal division of a roadway into a strip of sufficient width to accommodate the passage of a single line of vehicles but does not mean a parking lane, and

- ii) inside an urban area, a longitudinal division of a roadway into a strip of sufficient width to accommodate the passage of a single line of vehicles,

whether or not the division is indicated by lines on the road surface.

**"TRAILER"** means a vehicle so designed that it

- (i) may be attached to or drawn by a motor vehicle or tractor, and
- (ii) is intended to transport property or persons,

and includes any vehicle defined by regulation as a trailer but does not include machinery or equipment solely used in the construction or maintenance of highways.

**"TRUCK"** means a motor vehicle designed and intended for the transportation of goods or carrying of loads.

**"URBAN AREA"** means a town, village or hamlet or residential subdivision.

**"VEHICLE"**, other than an Off-Highway Vehicle, means a device in, on or by which a person or thing may be transported or drawn on a highway and includes a combination of vehicles but does not include a mobility aid.

#### **PEDESTRIANS**

- 4. a) No person shall cross any highway at a point where a sign prohibits such crossing. Anyone contravening the provision of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
- b) No person shall stand, sit or lie on any highway in such a manner as to obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic or so as to annoy or inconvenience any other person lawfully upon the highway. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
- c) Nothing in Subsection (2) of this Section shall be construed as prohibiting the assembling of persons for the purpose of watching a parade or procession duly authorized by the County Council.
- d) i) Nothing shall be construed as prohibiting the congregating or assembling of individuals to attend and listen to street preaching or public speaking so long as the proceedings thereat are peaceable and orderly and sufficient space is left on the highway to allow free movement of traffic; but should any highway at or near such assembly become in consequence thereof so obstructed as to impede such traffic, the persons so obstructing or impeding shall forthwith move away upon being requested to do so by any peace officer. Any person failing to do so shall be in breach of this By-law. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
- ii) Any person who conducts street preaching, public speaking or other public assemblies must provide for the free and orderly movement of traffic. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.

#### **CYCLISTS**

- 5. No person shall ride a bicycle on any sidewalk except where expressly permitted to do so by this By-law. Children's' bicycles and tricycles having a wheel diameter of less than fifty (50) centimetres are excepted from the provision. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a

specified penalty of \$50.00.

**PARKING**

6. No person shall park a vehicle upon any highway in such a manner that any part of the vehicle is within three (3) metres of the centre of the highway, provided that the foregoing shall only apply to highways where the portion thereof intended for vehicular traffic is twelve (12) metres or more in width. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
7. No person shall park a vehicle for any period of time whatsoever at the following locations, namely upon any highway or roadway in front of any buildings in course of erection or repairs when such parking will impede or obstruct traffic. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
8. Notwithstanding any other provision in this By-law, the Council or their authorized representatives may cause movable traffic control devices to be placed on a highway for any reasonable purpose.
  - a) After such signs are placed on a highway, no unauthorized person shall park or leave a vehicle on the portion so prohibited to parking for so long as traffic control device remains.
  - b) When any emergency snow removal or highway clearing commences on the designated highway, then the owner of any vehicle parked on such highway may be charged with unlawful parking and the vehicle may be removed.
  - c) Any person contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
  - d) Any non-authorized vehicle that is on such highway when such traffic control devices are placed shall be removed promptly by its owner or operator.
  - e) If the County is unable to locate the owner or operator of a vehicle parked contrary to the provisions of this By-law, the County may cause the illegally parked vehicle to be towed to a compound and stored there until such time as the owner or operator retrieves the said vehicle. All costs of removal and storage are a debt owing to the towing company by the owner.
  - f) In the event that an Owner of a motor vehicle does not claim such vehicle, the storage and removal charges may be collected pursuant to the provisions of the Traffic Safety Act.
  - g) In the event that an Owner of any other vehicle does not claim such vehicle, the storage and removal charges may be collected pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Government Act.
9.
  - a) Where traffic control devices so indicate, no person shall park any vehicle upon any land owned or maintained by the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, which the said County uses or permits to be used as a playground or recreation area or a public park. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
  - b) No person shall park any vehicle upon any land owned by the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, which the said County uses or permits to be used as a public campground, in excess of twenty-four (24) hours in locations where traffic control devices are located indicate such a time limitation for parking. Anyone

contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.

10. No person shall park any trailer (whether designed for occupancy by persons or for the carrying of goods or equipment), upon any highway unless the said trailer is attached to a vehicle by which may be propelled or drawn and when so attached, the trailer shall be deemed part of the vehicle and subject to the regulations pertaining to vehicles. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.

### **SPECIAL CLASSES OF VEHICLES**

11. No person shall park a vehicle or combination of vehicles used for the conveyance of dangerous goods as defined pursuant to the Dangerous Goods Transportation and Handling Act.
  - a) for longer than two (2) hours upon a highway at any time unless the area is designated as a parking area for Vehicles used to convey dangerous goods.
  - b) this section shall not apply where a vehicle or combination of vehicles is obliged to be parked while making deliveries in the course of its ordinary business and having a warning notice clearly displayed.
  - c) Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$200.00.
12.
  - a) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over or on any highway within the County of Grande Prairie in excess of their allowable axle weights or certificate weight without obtaining a permit from the Motor Transport Board and County of Grande Prairie prior to the operation of the overloaded vehicle. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$200.00.
  - b) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles in excess of the Load limits, or th size limits without first obtaining from the county a permit to subject to such conditions as specified in the permit. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$200.00.
  - c) The Superintendent of Public Works of the County, or his designate, is hereby appointed officers of the County to issue permits on behalf of the County under this part.
  - d) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over or on any highway within the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 when that person has obtained a permit issued by the Alberta Transportation Safety Board without first obtaining authorization from the County of Grande Prairie No. 1. Where a person contacts the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 by a telephone recording device located at the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Administration Office, and complies by leaving the requested information on the said recording device, the operation of the public vehicle shall be deemed to be authorized). Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$500.00.
13.
  - a) No person shall operate or park a truck over or on any highway within the County where signs have been erected indicating that truck traffic is prohibited. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$200.00.

- b) for the purpose of this section truck means a vehicle or trailer or a vehicle trailer combination in excess of 8000 kg tare weight or exceeding (7) metres in overall length.
  - c) The following shall be excepted from subsection (a);
    - i) trucks loading and unloading at destinations within the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, using the shortest distance from and to a truck route;
    - ii) a holder of a Development Permit issued pursuant to the Land Use By-law which authorizes such use;
    - iii) emergency vehicles (fire fighting equipment, road repairs and construction).
- 14.
- a) No person, except with permission of the County shall operate or move upon or over any paved or gravelled highway any vehicle or traction engine having metal cleats, metal tracks, tire chains or other metal devices attached to its wheels or made a part thereof. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$250.00.
  - b) No person, except with the permission of the County, shall operate or move upon or over any County highway any vehicle, load, building, machine, contrivance or things which may obstruct traffic, or which would exceed the maximum weight limitations or any other object or thing which in the opinion of the County Administrator could have some adverse effect on the highway, or persons using the highway. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
  - c) Before granting permission to move the load, object or thing over any highway as prescribed in Subsection "b", the County Administrator or his designate may, if in his opinion it is necessary, direct the applicant as to conditions and route, under which such load, object or thing may be moved.
- 15.
- a) The County may issue a permit in special cases for the operation of a particular type of vehicle or its load, or the movement of any other class of traffic otherwise prohibited by this By-law.
  - b) The County may require the owner, operator, driver, or mover of such vehicle and/or load, or any of them as a condition precedent to obtaining such a permit, to agree to be responsible for all damages which may be caused to the highway by reason of driving, operation or moving of any such vehicles and/or load upon the highway, and the County may, as a condition precedent to the granting of such permit, require a bond SUFFICIENT to cover the cost of repairing such possible injury or damage to the highway. Failure on the part of the holder of the permit, the owner, or the operator, driver or mover of the vehicle and/or load, to comply with the condition set out in such permit shall constitute a breach of this By-law.
  - c) Nothing in the by-law shall be construed as to require the entering into of an agreement by the County.

**AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

16. The Council hereby delegates to the County Administrator the power to prescribe where traffic control devices and traffic control signals are to be located. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, traffic control devices and traffic control signals shall be deemed to mean and include all stop signs, control signals, yield signs, speed limit signs, weight signs and other signs regulating the use of any roadway or highway located within the boundaries of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 and falling within the jurisdiction of the said County.

17. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing section, the County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate any highway for through traffic purposes. Such highway shall be properly marked if stop signs or yield signs are erected at all intersections of such highway.
18.
  - a) The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate safety zones and cause the same to be marked by traffic control devices.
  - b) The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate the location of crosswalks upon any highway and cause the same to be marked by traffic control devices.
19.
  - a) The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate any highway intersection or other place on a highway as a place at which no left hand or right hand turn or both shall be made, and cause the said place to be marked with appropriate traffic control devices.
  - b) The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate any intersection or place on a highway, including a place where a railway right-of-way crosses a highway, as a place where U-turns are prohibited and shall cause the same to be marked with an appropriate traffic control device.
20. When the Council has approved of any highway or part of a highway being designated for one way traffic, the County Administrator shall cause the same to be marked with traffic control devices.
21. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to:
  - a) temporarily close the whole or a part of a road at any time that an emergency or a construction or maintenance project on or adjacent to the road may create a hazard.
  - b) any area as one in which parking privileges are temporarily suspended:  
  
and shall cause such highway or area to be marked with appropriate traffic control devices.
22. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate any highway or roadway as one to be divided into traffic lanes of such number as they consider proper.
23. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate:  
  
"School Zones" and "Playground Zones". Such zones shall be marked by traffic control devices and traffic control signals posted along the highway, or by markings on the pavement or by lights posted or suspended over the highway. A record of the locations of such zones shall be kept by the County Administrator and shall be open to inspection during normal business hours.
24. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate or prescribe:
  - a) in accordance with s. 108 of the Traffic Safety Act, vehicle speeds on any highway or portion of a highway and shall cause the same to be so designated by traffic control devices;
  - b) any boulevard upon which parking is permitted and shall cause traffic control devices to be erected so designating;
  - c) passenger or truck loading spaces and shall cause the same to be marked by traffic control devices;

- d) "Bus Stops" including "School Bus Stops" and shall cause the said areas to be marked by traffic control devices;
25. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to designate:
- a) distance from any intersection within which no parking is permitted;
  - b) portion of a highway where parking is limited to a period of time;
  - c) parking area for County employees;
  - d) areas for angle parking of any highway,
- and shall cause the appropriate traffic control devices to be erected.
26. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to prohibit or restrict by traffic control devices the movement of vehicles from a private driveway onto a highway or from a highway onto a private driveway where such prohibition or restriction is deemed advisable in the public interest and for better regulation of traffic.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

27. a) No person shall allow trees, hedges or shrubs on private property within twenty-five (25) feet or seven decimal sixty-two (7.62) metres of a highway right-of-way boundary, whether planted before or after the date of the passing of this By-law, to grow to such a height that good visibility for safe traffic flow is thereby interfered with. Anyone contravening the provision of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
- b) The County Administrator may require any person concerned to comply with the provisions of subsection (1) hereof within ten days of being notified so to do. If the person fails to comply with such notice the County Administrator may direct employees or agents of the County to enter upon the private property to carry out the necessary work, and may charge the cost of so doing against the person in default, or to the tax role of the property.
28. No person shall pass beyond a point designated by a peace officer or a member of a fire department near the location of an emergency. Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
29. a) No person shall allow himself to be drawn by a moving vehicle upon a highway while riding upon a sleigh, toboggan, skis, bicycle, trailer or other conveyance.
- b) No person shall coast on a sleigh, toboggan, skis or other conveyance, except a bicycle, upon or across a highway.
- c) No person shall ice skate or roller skate on or across a highway.
- d) Anyone contravening any provision of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
30. a) No person shall wash a vehicle upon a highway or so near a highway as to result in depositing mud or creating a slush or ice upon a public sidewalk or highway.
- b) No person operating premises for the sale of new or used vehicles or for washing vehicles shall wash such vehicles so as to result in water, mud or slush upon the public sidewalk or highway.
- c) No person operating a business premise to which entry or exit for vehicles is

made by a crossing located between the highway curb and the private property line shall allow water or mud, slush or ice or icy or frozen snow to remain on the public sidewalk or roadway portion of such crossing, but will keep the same clean and clear of all such matter liquids or substance as may be or become a hazard to pedestrians. The County may remove the said water or mud, slush or ice or icy or frozen snow and charge the costs thereof to the tax roll of the property.

- d) No person owning or occupying property within the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, to which entry or exit for vehicles is made onto a County road or public road, shall allow water, mud, slush, ice, frozen snow or snow to be pushed onto the County or public roadway or let such materials remain on the County road or public roadway as a result of clearing or cleaning the exits or entry to the said property. The County may remove the said water or mud, slush or ice or icy or frozen snow and charge the costs thereof to the tax role of the property.
  - e) Anyone contravening the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence and liable to a specified penalty of \$100.00.
31. When a vehicle is driven, used, parked or left in contravention of any provision of this by-law, the owner of the vehicle is responsible for the contravention and liable for the penalty provided herein unless he proves to the satisfaction of the Judge trying the case that at the time of the contravention the vehicle was not driven, used, parked or left by him or by any other person with his consent, expressed or implied.

### **PROSECUTIONS**

32. Any Person who contravenes this By-law is guilty of an offence.
33. Persons contravening certain sections of this By-law shall be liable for the penalties set out in such sections.
34. (a) A notice or form commonly called a Violation Ticket, distributed by the Province of Alberta, may be issued by a Peace Officer or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer to any person alleged to have breached any provision of this bylaw, and the said ticket shall require the payment to the Court House in the amount specified in this bylaw or the Traffic Safety Act, as amended or the regulations pursuant to the Provincial Offences Procedure Act, as amended;
- (b) A notice or form commonly called a Municipal Tag, having printed wording approved by the County Administrator, may be issued by a Peace Officer or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer to any person alleged to have breached any provision of this bylaw, and the said tag shall require the payment to the County in the amount specified in this bylaw, as amended or the regulations pursuant to the Provincial Offences Procedure Act, as amended.
35. A Violation Ticket or Municipal Tag shall be deemed to be sufficiently served:
- (a) if served personally on the accused; or
  - (b) if mailed to the address of the registered owner of the Vehicle concerned; or to the Person concerned;
  - (c) if attached to or left securely and visibly upon the Vehicle in respect of which the offence is alleged to have been committed.
36. Except as otherwise provided in this By-law, a Person who is guilty of an offence

under this By-law for which a penalty is not otherwise provided, is liable to a fine of not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$500.00 and in default of payment, is liable to imprisonment for a Term not exceeding six (6) months or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months without the option of a fine.

37. This By-Law shall come into effect on the date of passing thereof.

38. **SEVERABILITY**

- a) Should any provisions of this Bylaw become invalid, void, illegal or otherwise not enforceable, it shall be considered separate and severable from the bylaw and the remainder shall remain in force and be binding as though such provision had not been included.

**READ, SECOND AND BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF ALL COUNCILLORS PRESENT,  
A THIRD AND FINAL TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, A.D.  
2004.**

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original signed  
**REEVE**

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original signed  
**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**