

ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE MANKATO CITY CODE RELATING TO VEHICLE NOISE

WHEREAS, MN Statutes and rules allow a City to adopt vehicle noise ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to address vehicle noise related to engine retarding braking and finds it in the best interests of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City currently has Section 9.19, subdivision 3 that addresses vehicle noise. The proposed language in this ordinance is intended to replace that section of the code in its entirety. The City is in the process of recodification of the entire code and the ordinance will be renumbered into anticipated Section 11.87.

The City Council of the City of Mankato does ordain:

MOTOR VEHICLE NOISE.

(A) For the purposes of this section, the following phrases are defined as follows:

ABNORMAL OR EXCESSIVE NOISE.

(a) Distinct and loudly audible noise that unreasonably annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort and repose of any person or precludes their enjoyment of property or affects their property's value;

(b) Noise in excess of that permitted by M.S. § 169.69, as it may be amended from time to time, which requires every motor vehicle to be equipped with a muffler in good working order; or

(c) Noise in excess of that permitted by M.S. § 169.693 and Minn. Rules parts 7030.1000 through 7030.1050, as this statute and these rules may be amended from time to time, which establish motor vehicle noise standards.

ENGINE-RETARDING BRAKE. A dynamic brake, jake brake, Jacobs brake, C-brake, Paccar brake, transmission brake or other similar engine-retarding brake system which alters the normal compression of the engine and subsequently releases that compression.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge the exhaust or permit the discharge of the exhaust from any motor vehicle except through a muffler that effectively prevents abnormal or excessive noise and complies with all applicable state laws and regulations.

(C) It shall be unlawful for the operator of any truck to intentionally use an engine-retarding brake on any public highway, street, parking lot or alley within the city which causes abnormal or excessive noise from the engine because of an illegally modified or defective exhaust system, except in an emergency.

(D) Minnesota Statutes §§ 169.69 and 169.693 (motor vehicle noise limits) and Minn. Rules parts 7030.1000 through 7030.1050, as these statutes and rules may be amended from time to time, are hereby adopted by reference.

(E) Signs stating, "VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ENFORCED " may be installed at locations deemed appropriate by the City Council to advise motorists of the prohibitions contained in this section, except that no sign stating "VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ENFORCED " shall be installed on a state highway without a permit from the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The provisions of this section are in full force and effect even if no signs are installed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council for the City of Mankato that Mankato City Code, 11.87 shall be amended and become effective thirty (30) days after publication of notice of its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

Attest: _____

Renae Kopischke, MMC
City Clerk