



Boulder County Sheriff 's Office

Curtis Johnson
Sheriff

TO: Trustee Browning
CC: Mayor Rogin and Board of Trustees

DATE: May 16, 2024

FROM: Sergeant Cody Sears

RE: Response to question from May 6, 2024 BOT meeting-Changes made in 2024 MTC from 2010 MTC

Understanding the updates to the 2024 Colorado model traffic code can be time-consuming, given its extensive content. Here's a summary of some recent changes:

- New impaired driving program updates have been implemented.
 - 42-4-213 now mandates that police vehicles must have at least one visible flashing, oscillating, or rotating red light that can be seen from 500 feet during the day.
 - 42-4-239 makes it illegal for individuals 18 or older to text while driving.
 - 42-4-2103 requires motor vehicles abandoned at repair shops to be removed.
 - 42-3-103 now requires motor vehicle owners to register within 60 days of purchase.
 - Some changes to the points assessed for speeding violations:
 - Speeding 40+ over is a 12-point violation.
 - Speeding 5-9 over was changed from a 3-point violation to a 1-point violation.
- Changes around low-powered scooters, low-speed electric vehicles, restrictions on minor drivers (MTC 116), personal mobility devices, and wildlife crossings.

The 2024 model traffic code supersedes all previous versions and encompasses changes through the 2023 legislative session. Municipalities are encouraged to adopt the latest version of the code by reference to ensure consistency and stay current with state traffic laws. This process streamlines ordinance drafting and ensures access to the most up-to-date regulations and recommendations. Staying updated with the model code helps maintain consistency with other jurisdictions and ensures compliance with the latest state traffic laws.

Appendix Part F (below) in the 2024 MTC states:

Appendix Part F: Listing Of Amendments For Updating Previous Edition Of Model Traffic Code Adopted By Reference

Colorado statutes grant municipalities the option of enacting an ordinance in the regular manner for the purpose of amending a code previously adopted by reference. To accomplish this, however, the entire text of the amendments must be set forth in such an ordinance. Local Governments that desire to follow this procedure instead of adopting the current edition of the Code by reference may obtain a listing and description of all pertinent changes from the Colorado Department of Transportation. The procedure for amending a code directly rather than by reference is set forth in Part E of this Appendix.

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Whenever possible, municipalities should to adopt the latest edition of the Code by reference instead of resorting to an amending ordinance. This procedure has several important advantages:

- (1) It avoids the problem of relating the various revisions and additions in an amending ordinance to the adopted edition of the Code;*
- (2) It enables a city or town to have on record the latest references to applicable State statutes and national recommendations as well as informative and current editorial notes relating to the various traffic regulations; and*
- (3) It facilitates the task of drafting the municipal ordinance pertaining to the Code.*

Attached are additional changes to the MTC for the past decade. For further details on the latest additions, please refer to the 2024 MTC and 2023 Colorado Revised Statutes Title 42 Vehicles and Traffic linked below.

2024 MTC link: <https://www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety/assets/documents/2020-model-traffic-code-for-colorado.pdf>

2023 CRS Title 42 link: <https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/images/olls/crs2023-title-42.pdf>

Respectfully,

Sgt. Cody Sears

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