

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 886, FOOTPATHS, PEDESTRIAN WAYS, BICYCLE PATHS, BICYCLE LANES  
AND CYCLE TRACKS

**Chapter 886**

**FOOTPATHS, PEDESTRIAN WAYS, BICYCLE PATHS, BICYCLE LANES AND  
CYCLE TRACKS<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>11</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1291-2012 has received set fine approval and came into force January 23, 2014.

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**[History: Adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto May 25, 2007 by By-law 599-2007.  
Amendments noted where applicable.]**

**General References**

**Parks - See Ch. 608.**

**Public squares - See Ch. 636.**

**Highway Traffic Act - See R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8.**

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ARTICLE I  
**Definitions**

**§ 886-1. Definitions.**

A. A term not defined in this chapter shall have the same meaning as the term has in the *Highway Traffic Act*.

B. As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

AUTHORIZED SIGN - Any sign or roadway, curb or sidewalk marking or other device placed or erected on a highway under the authority of this chapter for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.

BICYCLE - Includes a bicycle, tricycle, unicycle, and a power-assisted bicycle which weighs less than 40 kilograms and requires pedalling for propulsion ("pedelec"), or other similar vehicle, but does not include any vehicle or bicycle capable of being propelled or driven solely by any power other than muscular power. **[Amended 2014-02-20 by By-law 121-2014]**

BICYCLE LANE - The lanes or portions of lanes of highways designated as bicycle lanes under § 886-8.

BICYCLE PATH - The portions of highways designated as bicycle paths ways under § 886-6.

CYCLE TRACK - The lanes on highways or portions of lanes on highways designated as cycle tracks under § 886-12. **[Added 2012-10-04 by By-law 1291-2012<sup>2</sup>]**

FOOTPATH - The paths established as footpaths under § 886-2.

GENERAL MANAGER - The City's General Manager of Transportation Services or his or her designate or successor.

PEDESTRIAN WAY - The portions of highways designated as pedestrian ways under § 886-4.

PERSON WITH A DISABILITY - A person with a disability, as defined in the *Highway Traffic Act*, or its regulations.

SCHOOL BUS - A school bus as defined in the *Highway Traffic Act*, or its regulations.

TAXICAB - A taxicab driven or operated by an owner who is licensed by the City to operate within the City.

VEHICLE - Includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road-building machine, bicycle and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle, streetcar, in-line

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<sup>2</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1291-2012 has received set fine approval and came into force January 23, 2014.

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skates, skateboards, coasters, scooters, toy vehicles, toboggan, sleigh or other similar devices.

**ARTICLE II**  
**Footpaths**

**§ 886-2. Paths established.**

The paths shown on the maps in Schedule A to this chapter are established as footpaths.

**§ 886-3. Vehicles excluded; exceptions.**

- A. No person shall park, drive or operate any vehicle, except a bicycle, on a footpath.  
**[Amended 2007-12-13 by By-law 1367-2007]**
- B. Section 886-3A does not apply to:
  - (1) Ambulances, police or fire service vehicles or any other vehicle actively engaged in responding to an emergency; and
  - (2) Vehicles actually and actively engaged in works undertaken for or on behalf of the City, the Toronto Transit Commission or a public transit agency authorized to operate in the City, or a public utility, including utilities providing telecommunications, energy, water supply or wastewater related services.

**ARTICLE III**  
**Pedestrian Ways**

**§ 886-4. Pedestrian ways established.**

The portions of highways shown on the maps in Schedule B to this chapter are established as pedestrian ways.

**§ 886-5. Vehicles excluded; exceptions.**

- A. No person shall park, drive or operate any vehicle, except a bicycle, on a pedestrian way.  
**[Amended 2007-12-13 by By-law 1367-2007]**
- B. Section 886-5A does not apply to:
  - (1) Ambulances, police or fire service vehicles or any other vehicle actively engaged in responding to an emergency;
  - (2) Vehicles actually and actively engaged in works undertaken for or on behalf of the City, the Toronto Transit Commission or a public utility, including utilities providing telecommunications, energy, water supply or wastewater related services.

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ARTICLE IV  
**Bicycle Paths**

**§ 886-6. Paths established.**

- A. The portions of highways listed in Schedule C to this chapter are established as bicycle paths.
- B. Despite the provisions of any other City by-law to the contrary, any person may ride a bicycle on a bicycle path.
- C. No person shall park, drive or operate any vehicle, except a bicycle, on a bicycle path.  
**[Amended 2007-12-13 by By-law 1367-2007]**

**§ 886-7. Exemptions.**

Section 886-6C does not apply to the following vehicles:

- A. Ambulances, police or fire service vehicles or any other vehicle actively engaged in responding to an emergency; or
- B. Vehicles actually and actively engaged in works undertaken for or on behalf of:
  - (1) The City, the Toronto Transit Commission or a public transit agency authorized to operate in the City; or
  - (2) A public utility, including utilities providing telecommunications, energy, water supply or wastewater related services.

ARTICLE V  
**Bicycle Lanes**

**§ 886-8. Lanes designated for the use of bicycles only.**

The lanes or portions of lanes on highways listed in Schedule D to this chapter are established as bicycles lanes.

**§ 886-9. Signs; power to regulate traffic not affected.**

- A. A designation as a bicycle lane under § 886-8 shall be effective upon the erection of authorized signs to that effect.
- B. The General Manager is authorized to place or erect and to maintain all authorized signs, official signs and traffic control signals which are required to give effect to the provisions of this article or as are required to warn or guide traffic for the safety or convenience of the public.
- C. The lawful directions of a police officer for the regulation of traffic on a road shall be obeyed notwithstanding any provisions of this article, and nothing in this article shall affect the powers to regulate traffic held by the Toronto Police Service.

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- D. No person shall place, maintain or display upon or near any highway sign a signal, marking or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an authorized sign or traffic control signal or which conceals from view or interferes with the effectiveness of an authorized sign or traffic control signal.

**§ 886-10. Operation and stopping of vehicles restricted.**

- A. Subject to § 886-11, no person shall operate a vehicle other than a bicycle or a power-assisted bicycle in any bicycle lane except for the purpose of: **[Amended 2014-03-20 by By-law 256-2014<sup>3</sup>]**
- (1) Ingress to or egress from a private lane or driveway adjacent to the bicycle lane;
  - (2) Making a turn at a highway intersecting the bicycle lane;
  - (3) Entering or exiting a curb lane used for parking;
  - (4) Loading or unloading of a person with a disability, while actively engaged in doing so;
  - (5) Operating a school bus while actively engaged in picking up or dropping off school children; or
  - (6) Operating a taxicab while actively engaged in loading or unloading of passengers.
- B. Despite § 886-10A, no person operating a vehicle in a bicycle lane for the purposes set out in § 886-10A shall operate a vehicle in the lane for a distance exceeding 45 metres. **[Amended 2007-06-22 by By-law 665-2007]**
- C. Subject to § 886-10A(4), (5) and (6), no person shall stop a vehicle other than a bicycle or a power-assisted bicycle in a bicycle lane. **[Amended 2014-03-20 by By-law 256-2014<sup>4</sup>]**

**§ 886-11. Exemptions.**

Section 886-10 does not apply to the following vehicles:

- A. Ambulances, police or fire service vehicles or any other vehicle actively engaged in responding to an emergency; or
- B. Vehicles actually and actively engaged in works undertaken for or on behalf of:
- (1) The City, the Toronto Transit Commission or a public transit agency authorized to operate in the City; or
  - (2) A public utility, including utilities providing telecommunications, energy, water supply or wastewater related services.

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<sup>3</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 256-2014 has received set fine approval and came into effect October 15, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 256-2014 has received set fine approval and came into effect October 15, 2014.

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ARTICLE VI  
**Cycle Tracks**  
[Added 2012-10-04 by By-law 1291-2012<sup>5</sup>]

**§ 886-12. Lanes on highways or portions of highways designated for the use of bicycles only.**

The lanes on highways or portions of highways listed in Schedule E to this chapter are established as cycle tracks.

**§ 886-13. Signs; power to regulate traffic not affected.**

- A. A designation as a cycle track under § 886-12 shall be effective upon the erection of authorized signs to that effect.
- B. The General Manager is authorized to place or erect and to maintain all authorized signs, official signs, pavement markings and traffic control signals which are required to give effect to the provisions of this article or as are required to warn or guide traffic for the safety or convenience of the public.
- C. The lawful directions of a police officer for the regulation of traffic on a road shall be obeyed notwithstanding any provisions of this article, and nothing in this article shall affect the powers to regulate traffic held by the Toronto Police Service.
- D. No person shall place, maintain or display upon or near any highway sign a signal, marking or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an authorized sign or pavement marking or traffic control signal or device which conceals from view or interferes with the effectiveness of an authorized sign, pavement marking, traffic control signal or device.

**§ 886-14. Bicycle operation at transit stop.**

Where a person in charge of a bicycle on a cycle track approaches a Toronto Transit Commission bus which is stationary for the purpose of taking on or discharging passengers, the person on a bicycle shall not pass the bus or approach nearer than 2 metres measured back from the rear or front entrance or exit, as the case may be, of the Toronto Transit Commission bus on the side on which passengers are getting on or off until the passengers have crossed the cycle track.

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<sup>5</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1291-2012 has received set fine approval and came into force January 23, 2014. By-law 1291-2012 also renumbered previous Art. VI, VII, VIII and §§ 886-12 to 886-14 to Art.VII, VIII, IX and §§ 886-17 to 19, respectively.

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**§ 886-15. Operation and stopping of vehicles restricted.**

- A. Subject to § 886-16, no person shall operate a vehicle other than a bicycle in any cycle track except for the purpose of:
- (1) Ingress to or egress from a private lane or driveway adjacent to the cycle track;
  - (2) Loading or unloading of persons with a disability from a Wheel-Trans vehicle, operated by or under contract to Toronto Transit Commission, while actively engaged in doing so.
- B. Subject to § 886-15A(2), no person shall stop a vehicle other than a bicycle in a cycle track.

**§ 886-16. Exemptions.**

Section 886-15 does not apply to the following vehicles, if compliance would be impracticable:

- A. Ambulances, police or fire service vehicles or any other vehicle actively engaged in responding to an emergency; or
- B. Vehicles actually and actively engaged in works undertaken for or on behalf of:
- (1) The City; or
  - (2) A public utility, including utilities providing telecommunications, energy, water supply or wastewater related services.

ARTICLE VII  
**Schedules**

**§ 886-17. Schedules.**

The Schedules referred to in this chapter form part of this chapter, and each entry in a column of a Schedule shall be read in conjunction with the entry or entries across from it and not otherwise.



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ARTICLE VIII  
**Offences**

**§ 886-18. Offences and penalties.<sup>6</sup>**

**[Amended 2011-12-01 by By-law 1403-2011; 2012-02-07 by By-law 166-2012; 2012-07-13 by By-law 1012-2012; 2012-10-04 by By-law 1291-2012<sup>7</sup>; 2017-03-29 by By-law 312-2017<sup>8</sup>]**

- A. Every person who contravenes any provision of this chapter is guilty of an offence.<sup>9</sup>
- B. Every owner of a vehicle that has been parked or stopped in contravention of §§ 886-3A, 886-5A, 886-6C, 886-10C or 886-15B is guilty of an offence unless at the time of the offence the vehicle was in the possession of another person without the owner's consent.
- C. Every person convicted of an offence under this chapter is liable to a fine as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*.

ARTICLE IX  
**Transition**

**§ 886-19. Transition.**

- A. Despite this chapter, Chapter 194 of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code (Footpaths, Bicycle Paths and Bicycle Lanes), Chapter 240 of the former City of Etobicoke Municipal Code (Traffic) and By-law 62-91 of the former Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, being a by-law "To provide reserved lanes for bicycles on certain Metropolitan Roads" (collectively referred to as the "Way, Path and Lane By-laws"), shall remain in force until expressly repealed.
- B. In the event of any conflict between any one or more of the Way, Path and Lane By-laws and this chapter, this chapter shall govern.
- C. Reserved.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1403-2011, as amended by By-laws 166-2012 and 1012-2012, has received set fine approval and came into force January 23, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1291-2012 has received set fine approval and came into force January 23, 2014.

<sup>8</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 312-2017 removed the fixed fine system for all parking ticket offences and came into effect April 10, 2017.

<sup>9</sup> Editor's Note: Under section 61 of the *Provincial Offences Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, a person convicted of an offence under this section is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000.

<sup>10</sup> Editor's Note: Subsection C previously referenced set fine approval dates affecting § 886-19B. By-law 79-2014, enacted January 30, 2014, deleted this subsection.