

## TITLE 16

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, ETC<sup>1</sup>

## CHAPTER

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. EXCAVATIONS AND CUTS.
3. SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS.

## CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS

## SECTION

- 16-101. Acceptance of new streets.
- 16-102. Obstructing streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.
- 16-103. Trees projecting over streets, etc., regulated.
- 16-104. Trees, etc., obstructing view at intersections prohibited.
- 16-105. Projecting signs and awnings, etc., restricted.
- 16-106. Banners and signs across streets and alleys restricted.
- 16-107. Gates or doors opening over streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.
- 16-108. Littering streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.
- 16-109. Obstruction of drainage ditches.
- 16-110. Abutting occupants to keep sidewalks clean, etc.
- 16-111. Parades regulated.
- 16-112. Animals and vehicles on sidewalks.
- 16-113. Fires in streets, etc.
- 16-114. Violations and penalty.

16-101. Acceptance of new streets. Before new streets are accepted and approved for maintenance, both preliminary and completed plans or plats of a proposed subdivision shall have been submitted to and approved by the mayor and board of aldermen. (1970 Code, § 12-201)

16-102. Obstructing streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited. No person shall use or occupy any portion of any public street, alley, sidewalk, or right of way for the purpose of storing, selling, or exhibiting any goods, wares, merchandise, or materials. (1970 Code, § 12-202)

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Related motor vehicle and traffic regulations: title 15.

Subdivision regulations: title 16, chapter 3.

16-103. Trees projecting over streets, etc., regulated. It shall be unlawful for any property owner or occupant to allow any limbs of trees on his property to project out over any street, alley at a height of less than fourteen (14) feet or out over any sidewalk at a height of less than eight (8) feet. (1970 Code, § 12-203)

16-104. Trees, etc., obstructing view at intersections prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any property owner or occupant to have or maintain on his property any tree, hedge, billboard, or other obstruction which prevents persons driving vehicles on public streets or alleys from obtaining a clear view of traffic when approaching an intersection. (1970 Code, § 12-204)

16-105. Projecting signs and awnings, etc., restricted. Signs, awnings, or other structures which project over any street or other public way shall be erected subject to the requirements of the building code. (1970 Code, § 12-205)

16-106. Banners and signs across streets and alleys restricted. It shall be unlawful for any person to place or have placed any banner or sign across or above any public street or alley except when expressly authorized by the board of aldermen after a finding that no hazard will be created by such banner or sign. (1970 Code, § 12-206, modified)

16-107. Gates or doors opening over streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person owning or occupying property to allow any gate or door to swing open upon or over any street, alley, or sidewalk except when required by statute. (1970 Code, § 12-207)

16-108. Littering streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to litter, place, throw, track, or allow to fall on any street, alley, or sidewalk any refuse, glass, tacks, mud, or other objects or materials which are unsightly or which obstruct or tend to limit or interfere with the use of such public ways and places for their intended purposes. (1970 Code, § 12-208)

16-109. Obstruction of drainage ditches. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit or cause the obstruction of any drainage ditch in any public right of way. (1970 Code, § 12-209)

16-110. Abutting occupants to keep sidewalks clean, etc. The occupants of property abutting on a sidewalk are required to keep the sidewalk clean. Also, immediately after a snow or sleet, such occupants are required to remove all accumulated snow and ice from the abutting sidewalk. (1970 Code, § 12-210)

16-111. Parades regulated. It shall be unlawful for any club, organization, or similar group to hold any meeting, parade, demonstration, or exhibition on the public streets without some responsible representative first securing a permit from the recorder. No permit shall be issued by the recorder unless such activity will not unreasonably interfere with traffic and unless such representative shall agree to see to the immediate cleaning up of all litter which shall be left on the streets as a result of the activity. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful for any person obtaining such a permit to fail to carry out his agreement to immediately clean up the resulting litter immediately. (1970 Code, § 12-211)

16-112. Animals and vehicles on sidewalks. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride, lead, or tie any animal, or ride, push, pull, or place any vehicle across or upon any sidewalk in such manner as to unreasonably interfere with or inconvenience pedestrians using the sidewalk. It shall also be unlawful for any person to knowingly allow any minor under his control to violate this section. (1970 Code, § 12-212)

16-113. Fires in streets, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to set or contribute to any fire in any public street, alley, or sidewalk. (1970 Code, § 12-213)

16-114. Violations and penalty. Violations of this chapter shall subject the offender to a penalty under the general penalty provision of this code.

## CHAPTER 2

EXCAVATIONS AND CUTS<sup>1</sup>

## SECTION

- 16-201. Permit required.
- 16-202. Applications.
- 16-203. Fee.
- 16-204. Deposit or bond.
- 16-205. Manner of excavating--barricades and lights--temporary sidewalks.
- 16-206. Restoration of streets, etc.
- 16-207. Insurance.
- 16-208. Time limits.
- 16-209. Supervision.
- 16-210. Driveway curb cuts.
- 16-211. Drainage regulations.

16-201. Permit required. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, association, or others, to make any excavation in any street, alley, or public place, or to tunnel under any street, alley, or public place without having first obtained a permit as herein required, and without complying with the provisions of this chapter; and it shall also be unlawful to violate, or vary from, the terms of any such permit; provided, however, any person maintaining pipes, lines, or other underground facilities in or under the surface of any street may proceed with an opening without a permit when emergency circumstances demand the work to be done immediately and a permit cannot reasonably and practicably be obtained beforehand. The person shall thereafter apply for a permit on the first regular business day on which the office of the recorder is open for business, and said permit shall be retroactive to the date when the work was begun. (1970 Code, § 12-101)

16-202. Applications. Applications for such permits shall be made to the recorder, or such person as he may designate to receive such applications, and shall state thereon the location of the intended excavation or tunnel, the size thereof, the purpose thereof, the person, firm, corporation, association, or others doing the actual excavating, the name of the person, firm, corporation, association, or others for whom the work is being done, and shall contain an

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

This chapter was patterned substantially after the ordinance upheld by the Tennessee Supreme Court in the case of City of Paris, Tennessee v. Paris-Henry County Public Utility District, 207 Tenn. 388, 340 S.W.2d 885 (1960).

agreement that the applicant will comply with all ordinances and laws relating to the work to be done. Such application shall be rejected or approved by the recorder within twenty-four (24) hours of its filing. (1970 Code, § 12-102)

16-203. Fee. The fee for such permits shall be two dollars (\$2.00) for excavations which do not exceed twenty-five (25) square feet in area or tunnels not exceeding twenty-five (25) feet in length; and twenty-five cents (\$.25) for each additional square foot in the case of excavations, or lineal foot in the case of tunnels; but not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for any permit. (1970 Code, § 12-103)

16-204. Deposit or bond. No such permit shall be issued unless and until the applicant therefor has deposited with the recorder a cash deposit. The deposit shall be in the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) if no pavement is involved or seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) if the excavation is in a paved area and shall insure the proper restoration of the ground and laying of the pavement, if any. Where the amount of the deposit is clearly inadequate to cover the cost of restoration, the mayor may increase the amount of the deposit to an amount considered by him to be adequate to cover said cost. From this deposit shall be deducted the expense to the municipality of relaying the surface of the ground or pavement, and of making the refill if this is done by the municipality or at its expense. The balance shall be returned to the applicant without interest after the tunnel or excavation is completely refilled and the surface or pavement is restored.

In lieu of a deposit the applicant may deposit with the recorder a surety bond in such form and amount as the recorder shall deem adequate to cover the costs to the municipality if the applicant fails to make proper restoration. (1970 Code, § 12-104)

16-205. Manner of excavating--barricades and lights--temporary sidewalks. Any person, firm, corporation, association, or others making any excavation or tunnel shall do so according to the terms and conditions of the application and permit authorizing the work to be done. Sufficient and proper barricades and lights shall be maintained to protect persons and property from injury by or because of the excavation being made. If any sidewalk is blocked by any such work, a temporary sidewalk shall be constructed and provided which shall be safe for travel and convenient for users. (1970 Code, § 12-105)

16-206. Restoration of streets, etc. Any person, firm, corporation, association, or others making any excavation or tunnel in or under any street, alley, or public place in this municipality shall restore said street, alley, or public place to its original condition except for the surfacing, which shall be done by the municipality, but shall be paid for by such person, firm, corporation, association, or others promptly upon the completion of the work for which the

excavation or tunnel was made. In case of unreasonable delay in restoring the street, alley, or public place, the recorder shall give notice to the person, firm, corporation, association, or others that unless the excavation or tunnel is refilled properly within a specified reasonable period of time, the municipality will do the work and charge the expense of doing the same to such person, firm, corporation, association, or others. If within the specified time the conditions of the above notice have not been complied with, the work shall be done by the municipality, an accurate account of the expense involved shall be kept, and the total cost shall be charged to the person, firm, corporation, association, or others who made the excavation or tunnel. (1970 Code, § 12-106)

16-207. Insurance. In addition to making the deposit or giving the bond hereinbefore required to insure that proper restoration is made, each person applying for an excavation permit shall file a certificate of insurance indicating that he is insured against claims for damages for personal injury as well as against claims for property damage which may arise from or out of the performance of the work, whether such performance be by himself, his subcontractor, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by him. Such insurance shall cover collapse, explosive hazards, and underground work by equipment on the street, and shall include protection against liability arising from completed operations. The amount of the insurance shall be prescribed by the recorder in accordance with the nature of the risk involved; provided, however, that the liability insurance for bodily injury shall not be less than \$250,000 for each person and \$600,000 for each accident, and for property damages not less than \$85,000 for any one (1) accident. (1970 Code, § 12-107, modified)

16-208. Time limits. Each application for a permit shall state the length of time it is estimated will elapse from the commencement of the work until the restoration of the surface of the ground or pavement, or until the refill is made ready for the pavement to be put on by the municipality if the municipality restores such surface pavement. It shall be unlawful to fail to comply with this time limitation unless permission for an extension of time is granted by the recorder. (1970 Code, § 12-108)

16-209. Supervision. The recorder shall from time to time inspect all excavations and tunnels being made in or under any public street, alley, or other public place in the municipality and see to the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter. Notice shall be given to him at least ten (10) hours before the work of refilling any such excavation or tunnel commences. (1970 Code, § 12-109)

16-210. Driveway curb cuts. No one shall cut, build, or maintain a driveway across a curb or sidewalk without first obtaining a permit from the recorder. Such a permit will not be issued when the contemplated driveway is

to be so located or constructed as to create an unreasonable hazard to pedestrian and/or vehicular traffic. Driveway control dimensions shall be as follows:

- Residential:           10 feet minimum/20 feet maximum.
- Commercial:           20 feet minimum for one way use.  
                              40 feet maximum for two way use.  
                              16 feet minimum.

Distance between double driveways shall be at least the width of the driveway. When two or more driveways are provided for the same business front a safety island of not less than twenty-five (25) feet in width shall be provided. Driveway aprons shall not extend out into the street. (1970 Code, § 12-110)

16-211. Drainage regulations. All driveways and buffer areas shall be constructed so as to not impair drainage within the street right-of-way nor alter the stability of the roadway subgrade and at the same time not impair or materially alter drainage of the adjacent areas. Culverts, catch basins, drainage channels, and other drainage structures shall be installed in order to assure the free flow of water within the buffer area and under the driveway as a result of the property being developed. (1970 Code, § 12-111)

## CHAPTER 3

SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS<sup>1</sup>

## SECTION

- 16-301. Definitions.
- 16-302. Minimum width for street dedications.
- 16-303. Minimum grade for streets.
- 16-304. Minimum width of surface of streets.
- 16-305. Minimum thickness of surface of streets.
- 16-306. Drainage requirements of streets.
- 16-307. Access requirements for subdivisions.
- 16-308. Street monuments.

16-301. Definitions. "Subdivision" means the division of a tract or parcel of land into two (2) or more lots, sites, or other divisions for the purpose (whether immediate or future) of sale or building development. (1970 Code, § 11-101)

16-302. Minimum width of street dedications. The minimum dedication of all streets shall be not less than fifty (50) feet. These widths shall be measured from lot line to lot line, and along existing roads or streets, the minimum distance from lot line to center of road or street shall be not less than twenty-five (25) feet. (1970 Code, § 11-102)

16-303. Minimum grade for streets. All roads or streets shall have a minimum graded width between shoulders of twenty-seven (27) feet. (1970 Code, § 11-103)

16-304. Minimum width of surface of streets. All roads or streets shall have a minimum surfaced width of twenty (20) feet. (1970 Code, § 11-104)

16-305. Minimum thickness of surface of streets. All roadways shall have a minimum compacted surface thickness of six (6) inches, and of satisfactory material. (1970 Code, § 11-105)

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<sup>1</sup>Detailed subdivision regulations of the Town of Decatur are published as a separate document and are of record in the office of the recorder.

Municipal code references

Acceptance of streets: § 16-201.

Water main extensions: §§ 18-107 through 18-109.



16-306. Drainage requirements of streets. All roads shall have adequate drainage structures with inlet and outlet ditches. The clearance between all headwalls of drainage structures shall be twenty-seven (27) feet. (1970 Code, § 11-106)

16-307. Access requirements for subdivisions. The subdivision of the land shall be such as to provide each lot, by means of either a public street or way of permanent easement, with satisfactory access to an existing public highway. (1970 Code, § 11-107)

16-308. Street monuments. Monuments shall be placed at all block corners, angle points, and points of curves in streets. Monuments shall consist of iron rods at least one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch in diameter by two (2) feet long, set in concrete at least six (6) inches in diameter by thirty (30) inches deep, or otherwise as approved by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Decatur, Tennessee. (1970 Code, § 11-108)