

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2020 - 2124

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES

WHEREAS, Section 82-2 of the *Code of Ordinances of the City of Athens, Alabama* prescribes certain powers and duties of the Chief of Police relative to traffic (including but not limited to authorizing the chief to designate “no parking” areas and closing streets); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Athens, Alabama wishes to amend Section 82-2 to recognize that the Chief of Police also has the authority, upon consultation with the City Engineer, to authorize and direct traffic calming areas in certain areas of the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, ALABAMA, while in regular session on June 22nd, 2020, at 5:30 p.m., as follows:

Section 1. Section 82-2 of the *Code of Ordinances, City of Athens, Alabama*, is hereby amended so that it states as follows:

Section 82-2. - Powers and duties of chief of police relative to traffic.

(a) The chief of police, except as otherwise directed by this chapter and except as otherwise directed from time to time by the city council, shall have power and he is hereby authorized to regulate the operation and parking of vehicles within the corporate limits of the city by the erection or placing of signs, signals, markers, markings and other authorized traffic control devices at such places in the city and at such times as such officer deems most expedient for the regulation of traffic on the streets and public ways of the city which would be in the best interests of the safety and welfare of the city.

(b) The general powers of the chief of police as provided in this section shall not be limited by, but shall include, the following:

(1) Designation of areas where parking is prohibited or limited.

(2) Designation of one-way streets, through streets, stop streets, "U" turns, play streets, school zones, hospital zones, quiet zones, crosswalks, safety zones and truck routes.

(3) Installation and proper timing and maintenance of traffic control devices.

(4) Marking off of traffic lanes indicating the flow of traffic.

(5) Closing of streets to vehicular or pedestrian traffic for temporary periods of time.

(6) Regulation of traffic during emergencies notwithstanding other regulations.

(7) Designation of bus stops and taxistands.

(8) Designation and placement, upon consultation with the City Engineer, of physical traffic calming measures (including but not limited to rumble strips, lane narrowing areas, pedestrian islands, and speed dips). The Chief of Police, in consultation with the City Engineer, is further authorized to jointly issue rules and regulations concerning the criteria for utilizing traffic calming measures, and for their approval, type, and/or installation.

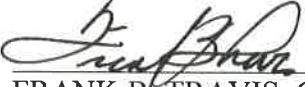
(c) Yellow paint or markings on any street or curbing shall mean parking is prohibited in that area so marked; provided, however, areas marked with yellow paint and designated as loading zones shall be permitted to be used for that purpose or for whatever purpose so designated.

(e) The existence of such signs, signals, markings and devices at any place within the corporate limits of the city shall be prima facie evidence that the same were erected or placed by and at the direction of the chief of police and in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its lawful publication.

Section 3. If any provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, thing or circumstances, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the provisions or application of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

ADOPTED this the 22nd day of June, 2020.



FRANK B. TRAVIS, CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT



WILLIAM R. MARKS, MAYOR

ATTEST:



ANNETTE BARNES, CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

STATE OF ALABAMA)
LIMESTONE COUNTY)

I, Annette Barnes, City Clerk of the City of Athens, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Ordinance duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Athens, on the 22nd day of June, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal of office this the 22nd day of June, 2020.



Annette Barnes, City Clerk