

PUBLIC WORKS

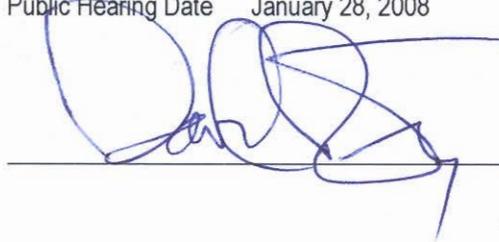
RULES & REGULATIONS

OF THE MANAGER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER

Pertaining to Operation of Horse Drawn Carriages on the Public Right of Way

Date Advertised December 28, 2007
In (Publication) Daily Journal
Public Hearing Date January 28, 2008

Approved as to form:



David R. Fine
Attorney for the City & County of Denver

Approved & Adopted



Guillermo V. Vidal
Manager of Public Works

01/29/08

Effective Date

Adopted Pursuant to Article II of the Charter of the City & County of Denver and Section 2-91 et seq. of the Revised Municipal Code

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES ON THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

I. Purpose

The Rules and Regulations defined are published for the information and guidance of the operators and owners of permitted horse-drawn carriages. It is therefore incumbent upon the permit holders, owners, and operators of these carriages to familiarize themselves with the contents of the Rules and Regulations. Further, it is the sole responsibility of the permit holders to assure that their operators (referred to as drivers through the remainder of these policies) fully understand, and comply with, these Rules and Regulations.

II. Permit Issuance

- A. The owners of horse drawn carriages and their employees, agents, or subcontractors shall use and occupy the public right-of-way in a safe and careful manner.
- B. The signature of the applicant or an authorized representative on a permit shall indicate that all conditions of the application and permit have been agreed upon and have been met, and the applicant may undertake the activity specifically permitted.
- C. For permitting in the Central Business District, the Mall Use Committee may determine the need for limits to the number of permits issued for the Central Business District, based on concerns for pedestrian safety and other activities.
- D. City permits are not transferable. Permits and other supporting documentation (such as insurance) must remain in original applicant and permit holder's name for their duration, regardless of any business partnerships or sales. Partner names may be added to permits and other documents, but original permit holder name must still remain on permit. Exception is made in the case of death of the original permit holder; then the permit may be held by the co-signer. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-serve basis. If there is a waiting list for permits, new permits will first be issued to applicants first on the list. Waiting list information will be available upon request.

III. Testing

- A. Each driver and horse shall be tested by the Denver Police Mounted Patrol to determine the ability of each to operate safely. Drivers and horses who have not been tested by the Mounted Patrol will not be allowed to drive with customers.
- B. Upon adoption of these Rules & Regulations, there shall be a grace period set according to the time at which the first testing can be administered by Mounted Patrol, and all current drivers and horses may continue operation, so as not to severely infringe upon a company's ability to conduct business.
- C. Following the first round of testing of all current drivers and horse, the procedure for schedule of testing shall be as follows: Upon receipt of notice to Mounted Patrol that a carriage company needs testing of either a horse or driver, Mounted Patrol will arrange to administer the test as soon as practical. Every reasonable effort will be made to administer the test within ten (10) days of notification to Mounted Patrol Unit by carriage operator. Each permit applicant shall be responsible for the competency of all his drivers, carriages, and horses.
- D. In addition, thereto, the Denver Police Mounted Patrol may require testing of any driver or horse at any time.
- E. Companies may perform training with untested horses using training carts or carriages. Companies will not take customers on rides with untested horses. Untested drivers may only train with a tested driver on the carriage or carts.
- F. Testing shall consist of the following elements:
 - 1. Harnesses shall be inspected for condition of worn leather, buckles, and proper fit on the horse.
 - 2. Driver testing for ability to harness horse and hitch to carriage or training cart, in a safe and competent manner.
 - i. Driver shall demonstrate the ability to harness the horse and make necessary adjustments for a proper fit.
 - ii. Driver shall hitch horse to carriage or training cart and make adjustments for proper fit.
 - 3. Testing of driver and horse under defined stress conditions for safe and prudent operation. Test may be performed using a training cart rather than a carriage. Location of testing will be arrived at by discussion and evaluation of site which may include weather and footing

considerations. If a driver fails to pass the test, that horse and driver may retake the test at that time. If the driver feels s/he has been unfairly judged to fail the test, the driver may also appeal to the commander in charge of the Mounted Patrol Unit. During the administration of the test the owner/operator of the company being tested may ride with a driver during the testing procedure. Test defined by procedure and diagram following.

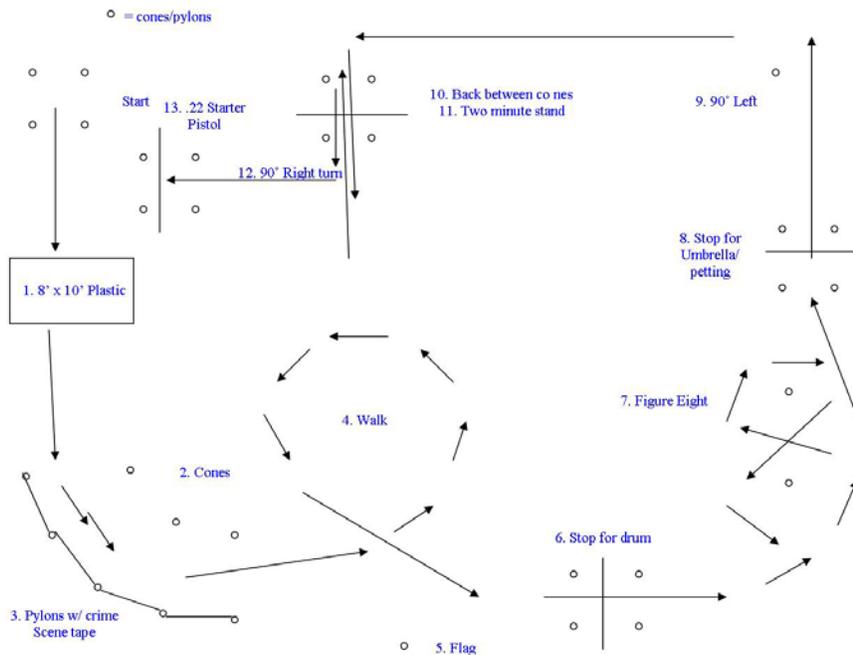
Driver will leave starting gate.

1. Walk over 8' x 10' sheet of black plastic. 1st attempt will be to cross plastic. If unable to do so, driver will guide carriage safely around obstacle.
- 2 & 3. Walk between pylons with crime scene tape and orange cones
4. Make 50' left circle
5. Walk past stationary flag- 3'x 5' flag 10' off the ground-Must pass within 15' of flag
6. Stop within box and stand for drums. Noise will begin after horse stops. Noise will be bass drum, distance of 30 ft, for 10 seconds.
7. Walk forward, complete a symmetrical figure eight around 2 cones.
8. Stop within box for umbrella/petting. Umbrella will be open on approach, and will never touch the horse.
9. 90° left turn around cone
10. Back 5 steps straight back between cones-Starting outside the box, and moving backwards into it
11. Stop within cones for 2 minute stand
12. Pull forward out of cones, complete 90° right turn
13. Stand within box for .22 starter pistol fired twice 50 ft. distant.

End at finish.

Estimated time of test, start to finish: 20 minutes

- **Note: For purposes of the test, all boxes will be marked out with cones, 30' long x 12' wide. The lane of travel will be 12' wide.**
- **If a horse begins to become stressed and/or unmanageable, driver will be allowed to exit the testing area, calm the horse for 5 minutes, then restart the test at the obstacle that they left off at. This will only be allowable once.**
- **Horses to be driven as a team must test as a team. Team horses to be driven singly must be tested singly.**
- **In elements of the test where a box is used, the horse and carriage must remain within the boundaries of the box for the duration required. This does not mean the horse must remain stationary, only that the driver must control the horse and keep it within the box.**



IV. Policies

The following general policies will be followed regarding the issuance of permits to drive horse carriages on the streets of the City and County of Denver:

A. Hours

1. Except in the Central Business District, horse drawn carriages are permitted to operate Monday through Friday except between the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
2. Horse drawn carriages are permitted to operate in the Central Business District between the hours of 6 p.m. to 4 a.m., Monday through Friday.
3. Horse drawn carriages are permitted to operate at any time on Saturdays, Sundays, and National Holidays throughout the City and County of Denver.
4. Horse drawn carriages with a permit for the Central Business District may not delay the Mall Shuttles. To prevent this, the carriage must leave the transit lane at the nearest opportunity.

5. Carriages may park on 16th Street Mall sidewalks and medians only, and must maintain at least ten (10) feet of pedestrian clearance. Carriages may not double-park on 16th Street Mall sidewalks.

6. Carriages operating in the Central Business District shall use the 1200 block of 16th Street (between Lawrence and Larimer Streets) as a one-way street, in regards to parking. All carriages intending to park on the sidewalks of this block must enter either from Larimer or the access ramps mid-block and park facing Lawrence Street.

B. Company Operations

1. Carriage companies shall clearly display the company name on the outside of the carriage. The manner of display will be left to the company's discretion (signs may be removable, design is not controlled). The sign must be easily legible from no less than a 20 foot distance.

2. Each company shall provide to the Denver Police Mounted Patrol and, for companies permitted in the Central Business District, to the Downtown Denver Business Improvement District, proof of registry of business name with the Secretary of State.

3. The Mounted Patrol Unit will hold quarterly meetings with the carriage companies to have an open dialogue about relevant issues.

C. Drivers

1. In accordance with Denver Municipal Code, 55-43, sec. 1, no driver of a vehicle for hire may be under the age of 18.

2. All drivers operating in the Central Business District must register with the Denver Police Department Mounted Patrol Unit and the Downtown Denver Business Improvement District. Registry shall entail providing a copy of his / her current state issued driver's license to said agency(ies).

D. Horses

1. All horses to be used in a carriage business operating within the Central Business District must be registered with the Mounted Patrol and the Downtown Denver Business Improvement District. Registry shall entail providing a copy of current brand inspection of each horse to said agencies.

2. An annual certification from a licensed veterinarian shall be provided for each horse to be used to pull a carriage. The certificate will ensure the horse is serviceably sound. The extent of the exam shall be left to the determination of the veterinarian. Proof of regular vaccinations shall also be provided on an annual basis. Proof of vaccination may include receipts for materials used by permit holder.

This policy is enacted with the recognition that a horse's health may change at any time, but with the goal of providing an initial confirmation of health for all working horses. It is assumed that carriage operators care enough for their horses that they would not make them work if they are unfit. This policy does not preclude action from outside agencies if animal neglect or abuse is suspected and reported.

E. Safety Features

The following procedures shall be used to promote the safe operations of horse-drawn carriages:

1. Use neck ropes or halters, no bridle ties when stopped.
2. All equipment shall be properly adjusted.
3. Do not leave horses unattended while hitched or untied.
4. Never remove bridle while hitched to a carriage.
5. The above list is not intended to be exclusive of other actions to promote safety.

F. Required Equipment

1. Buckles only on hold backs and driving line ends; snaps allowed on other harness parts.
2. Throat latch
3. Blinders
4. Nose Band
5. Brichen
6. Buckle safes or keepers behind all buckles
7. Whip
8. Round collar or breast collar style harness
9. Kickstrap
10. Shoes or barefoot except that borium, driltex, or any other hard surface shall not be used on the 16th Street Mall.
11. Diapers
12. Sharp knife

G. Enforcement

Denver Police Mounted Patrol officers may conduct on-site inspections in the Central Business District. Carriages may be inspected for mechanical condition of parts and supplies, including:

- Condition of harness
- Kickstrap
- Blinders and nose band
- Buckle safes and keepers
- Snaps allowed except on hold backs and driving line ends
- Wheels properly tight
- Lights-powered by generator or battery

Carriage shall be in good condition with all wheels in good order and running free. Shafts shall be inspected for condition.

1. A driver may be issued a written warning or citation at the discretion of the issuing officer.
2. A file shall be maintained on each permit holder and driver by the Denver Mounted Patrol Office of the Denver Police Department the and, for permits in the Central Business District, by the Downtown Denver Business Improvement District. Each violation shall be entered into said file.
3. Upon three or more violations in one permit year, including but not limited to the following, the permit shall be reviewed, based on the violation type, offender information, and corrective actions taken by the carriage company for possible suspension or revocation of either the permit holder or driver:
 - i. No valid drivers license and/or certification on carriage
 - ii. Violation of required harness equipment
 - iii. Unsafe carriage operation
 - iv. Unattended carriage (while hitched or untied)
 - v. Unattended carriage with passengers
 - vi. Driver on ground without having control (eg. No driving lines in hand)
 - vii. Operating a carriage without proper permit.

In the case of a single serious accident involving a carriage, the permit will be reviewed, taking into account the factual basis of the incident.