

APPENDIX E – Minnesota Legal Titles, Statute Chapters, and Rules Related to Non-Motorized Transportation

Minnesota statutes are organized into categories or titles of general themes and areas. These general categories are further organized into chapters.

Table 1 provides a list of the different categories or titles of Minnesota Laws and statute chapters identified that relate to pedestrian, bicycle, and non-motorized transportation.

Minnesota Rules, also called regulations, implement Minnesota statutes. Minnesota rules have the full force and effect of law but must be consistent with the statute the rule implements. Administrative agencies, such as the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and Minnesota’s Pollution Control Agency (PCA), draft the rules as directed by the legislature through statutes.¹ Minnesota rules are organized by chapter according to the agency (such as MnDOT) that administers the rules.²

Table 2 provides a list of Minnesota Rule chapters related to pedestrian, bicycle, and non-motorized transportation.

Table 1 – Minnesota Categories and Statute Chapters Impacting Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Non-Motorized Transportation

Legal Category	Legal Content
Constitution of the State of Minnesota	Article XIV: Public Highway System. This article creates and identifies the three main components of the state public highway system and the system of funding for these public highways. The constitutionally-created public highway system includes the trunk highway system, county state aid highways, and municipal state aid roads.
Legislature (Ch. 3)	This category and chapter addresses the Indian Affairs Council and its duties to assist other state agencies in providing services to tribal members. A member of MnDOT is required to serve on the council.
Administration and Finance (Ch. 16A)	This category addresses the state’s budgeting system. The state’s budget is generally managed and administered through the Department of Management and Budget and the Department of Administration. These agencies are given decision-making authority over financial decisions such as funding and financing. This category provides information on possible funding sources for pedestrian, bicycle, and non-motorized transportation facilities and programs.
Natural Resources (Ch. 84)	This section addresses the powers and duties of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the use of land under its authority. The DNR is responsible for some facilities used by pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized transportation users.
Recreation (Ch. 85, 86A)	The Division of Parks and Recreation and Outdoor Recreation System chapters discuss recreational trails, grants, designation of such systems, and related responsibilities of different government agencies. Government entities impacted

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	by these chapters include the DNR, local units of government, and others specifically listed and referenced.
Environmental Protection (Ch. 116, 116B-116D)	This section discusses the duties that state agencies have in considering and addressing the environmental impact of their activities.
Transportation (Ch. 160-165, 167-169, 174)	This section addresses many important aspects of the traffic and transportation system; it includes the responsibilities of different government agencies regarding the state transportation system. This is a significant source of the state laws relating to transportation for both state and local government.
Economic Development and Planning (Ch. 116J)	This category includes chapters that cover various aspects of and mechanisms for supporting Minnesota's workforce and economy. This category is relevant as transportation in general is a vital part of the state's infrastructure and its role in economic development is addressed.
Education Code: Prekindergarten – Grade 12 (Ch. 120A, 123B, 124D, 127A)	This category addresses the spectrum of laws that pertain to the governing of the education system in Minnesota. Particularly relevant is the scope of authority and duties a school district has over its land and facilities. These powers and duties impact non-motorized transportation on school property and transportation to and from school.
Postsecondary Education (Ch. 137)	This category covers the broad range of chapters addressing Minnesota's postsecondary education system, including funding and policies, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and the University of Minnesota. Relevant provisions address the powers and duties of the University of Minnesota, which includes the authority to regulate traffic on university property (noted in Minn. Stat. § 169.965). These rules may differ from the statutory traffic regulations and apply to pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized transportation users when on university property.
State History (Ch. 138)	This category includes provisions which seek to preserve aspects of Minnesota's history. This is relevant as some transportation projects may be unable to proceed or may require alteration because of a state historic site or landmark.
Health (Ch. 144-145)	The Health Category includes chapters addressing all aspects of the health of Minnesotans. These include licensing by state boards of health, duties of the state health department, and requirements for the governance and structure of certain healthcare entities. This category is relevant because walking, bicycling, skating, rollerblading, and other modes of non-motorized transportation are active forms of transportation and applicable to public health concerns about fitness and obesity.
Carriers (Ch. 218-219, 222)	The Railroad Commerce and Property and Railroad Safety and Employment chapters address railroad right-of-ways and grade crossings.
Public Welfare and Related Activities (Ch. 245-267)	The Human Services and Disabled Persons chapters address public accommodations, including transportation facilities, for individuals with disabilities and help identify the characteristics of the people using the transportation system.
Excise and Sales Taxes (Ch. 297A)	This category covers different kinds of taxes imposed through Minnesota law including taxes on fuels, sales, liquor, gambling, and insurance. Certain taxes may hinder or provide support for non-motorized transportation projects.
Human Rights	This section addresses public accommodations and services and authority over

Legal Category	Legal Content
(Ch. 363A)	them, including access to the public transportation system and prohibitions against discrimination in the provision of the transportation system.
Towns (Ch. 366, 368)	These sections address the authority, regulation, and funding of streets, roads, and bridges at the town level.
Counties, County Officers, Regional Authorities (Ch. 373, 375, 383A-83B, 394, 398-398A)	These sections address authority and funding aspects at a local level and are located in following chapters: Counties; Powers, Duties, Privileges – County Boards – Ramsey County – Hennepin County – Planning, Development, Zoning – Park Districts – Regional Railroad Authorities.
Cities, Organization (Ch. 412)	The Statutory Cities chapter addresses the authority of cities over land and park property.
Municipal Finance, Taxation, Special Assessments (Ch. 429-430, 435)	The Local Improvements, Special Assessments; Land for Streets and Parks; and Public Improvements, Other Proceedings chapters address land use and funding within municipalities.
Municipal Public Works (Ch. 440-441, 446-446A)	This category includes a chapter addressing various authorities over local public works projects. Included are funding provisions for public projects for streets, roads, bridges, curbs, and bikeways.
Municipal Welfare, Recreation (Ch. 448)	The Parks, Parkways, and Playgrounds chapters address travel regulations on parkways and authority over such land.
Local Government Police Powers (Ch. 462)	This chapter addresses municipal involvement in transportation planning and coordination between municipal and state governmental entities.
Political Subdivisions, General Provisions (Ch. 466)	This category covers topics pertaining to political subdivisions of the state, including the power of eminent domain and tort liability. Political subdivisions, such as cities and municipalities, have broad authority over local planning and transportation.
Local Economic Development (Ch. 469)	The Economic Development chapter addresses redevelopment and improvement of land and transit in cities.
Municipalities (Ch. 471)	The Municipal Rights chapter addresses ramps at crosswalks and funds associated with public works projects within municipalities.
Metropolitan Area (Ch. 473, 473F)	The Metropolitan Government and Metropolitan Revenue Distribution chapters address authorities in charge of governing different components of the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, including funding and design plans.
Public Indebtedness, Borrowing (Ch. 475)	The Debt of Defined Municipalities chapter addresses bonds and grants for transportation or transit projects.
Judicial Procedure, District Court (Ch. 541)	This category provides an overview of laws pertaining to Minnesota's judicial process, including summons, pleadings, motions and orders, trials, and judgments. This category is relevant as it dictates certain judicial procedures

Legal Category	Legal Content
	should a lawsuit arise surrounding the non-motorized transportation system.
Judicial Proof (Ch. 604A)	This category covers various topics relating to evidence in a trial. If an individual is injured while biking, hiking, or horseback riding and sues to recover for her injuries, the trial process would operate according to the rules within this category regarding witnesses, subpoenas, depositions, civil liability standards, and so on.
Statutes, Construction (Ch. 645)	This category includes one chapter that addresses how Minnesota laws are drafted so the reader is able to understand the intended meaning of a law.

Table 2 – Minnesota Rule Chapters Related to Non-Motorized Transportation

Rule Chapter	Title
2400	Capitol Area Zoning and Design
4410	Environmental Review
6100	Outdoor Recreation
6136	Natural Preservation
7380	Loan Programs
7415	School patrols
7440	Slow-Moving Vehicle Emblems
8805	Transportation Project Loans
8810	Trunk Highway System
8820	Local State Aid Route Standards, Financing
8830	Railroads
8835	Public Transit
8910	Railroads, Right of First Refusal

¹ *Minnesota Statutes*, THE OFFICE OF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES, <https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?view=info> (last visited June 28, 2013).

² *Minnesota Administrative Rules*, THE OFFICE OF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES, <https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/rules/> (last visited June 28, 2013).