

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE
DIVISION 11: RULES OF THE ROAD
CHAPTER 1: OBEDIENCE TO AND EFFECT OF TRAFFIC LAWS
ARTICLE 4: OPERATION OF BICYCLES**

SECTION 21212

(a) A person under 18 years of age shall not operate a bicycle, a nonmotorized scooter, or a skateboard, nor shall they wear in-line or roller skates, nor ride upon a bicycle, a nonmotorized scooter, or a skateboard as a passenger, upon a street, bikeway, as defined in Section 890.4 of the Streets and Highways Code, or any other public bicycle path or trail unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets the standards of either the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), or standards subsequently established by those entities. This requirement also applies to a person who rides upon a bicycle while in a restraining seat that is attached to the bicycle or in a trailer towed by the bicycle.

(b) Any helmet sold or offered for sale for use by operators and passengers of bicycles, nonmotorized scooters, skateboards, or in-line or roller skates shall be conspicuously labeled in accordance with the standard described in subdivision (a) which shall constitute the manufacturer's certification that the helmet conforms to the applicable safety standards.

(c) No person shall sell, or offer for sale, for use by an operator or passenger of a bicycle, nonmotorized scooter, skateboard, or in-line or roller skates any safety helmet which is not of a type meeting requirements established by this section.

(d) Any charge under this subdivision shall be dismissed when the person charged alleges in court, under oath, that the charge against the person is the first charge against that person under this subdivision, unless it is otherwise established in court that the charge is not the first charge against the person.

(e) Except as provided in subdivision (d), a violation of this section is an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than twenty-five dollars (\$25).

The parent or legal guardian having control or custody of an unemancipated minor whose conduct violates this section shall be jointly and severally liable with the minor for the amount of the fine imposed pursuant to this subdivision.

*Added Ch. 1000, Stats. 1993, Effective January 1, 1994.
Amended Sec. 6, Ch. 674, Stats. 1996, Effective January 1, 1997.
Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 475, Stats. 2002, Effective January 1, 2003.*

**CHAPTER 5: PEDESTRIANS' RIGHTS AND DUTIES
SECTION 21967: SKATEBOARDS: PROHIBITIONS**

Except as provided in Section 21968, a local authority may adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution prohibiting or restricting persons from riding or propelling skateboards on highways, sidewalks, or roadways.

Amended Ch. 1184, Stats. 1987, Effective January 1, 1988.

SECTION 21968: MOTORIZED SKATEBOARD PROHIBITED

No motorized skateboard may be propelled on any sidewalk, roadway, or any other part of a highway or on any bikeway, bicycle path or trail, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail.

Added Ch. 275, Stats. 1977, Effective July 8, 1977 by terms of an urgency clause.

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
PART 10: RECREATIONAL SAFETY
CHAPTER 4: SAFE RECREATIONAL LAND USE
ARTICLE 2: WOODEN PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
SECTION 115775-115800**

SECTION 115800

(a) No operator of a skateboard park shall permit any person to ride a skateboard therein, unless that person is wearing a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

(b) With respect to any facility, owned or operated by a local public agency, that is designed and maintained for the purpose of recreational skateboard use, and that is not supervised on a regular basis, the requirements of subdivision (a) may be satisfied by compliance with the following:

(1) Adoption by the local public agency of an ordinance requiring any person riding a skateboard at the facility to wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

(2) The posting of signs at the facility affording reasonable notice that any person riding a skateboard in the facility must wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads, and that any person failing to do so will be subject to citation under the ordinance required by paragraph (1).

(c) "Local public agency" for purposes of this section includes, but is not limited to, a city, county, or city and county.

(d)

(1) Skateboarding at any facility or park owned or operated by a public entity as a public skateboard park, as provided in paragraph (3), shall be deemed a hazardous recreational activity within the meaning of Section 831.7 of the Government Code if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) The person skateboarding is 12 years of age or older.

(B) The skateboarding activity that caused the injury was stunt, trick, or luge skateboarding.

(C) The skateboard park is on public property that complies with

subdivision (a) or (b).

(2) In addition to the provisions of subdivision (c) of Section 831.7 of the Government Code, nothing in this section is intended to limit the liability of a public entity with

respect to any other duty imposed pursuant to existing law, including the duty to protect against dangerous conditions of public property pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 830) of Part 2 of Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code. However, nothing in this section is intended to abrogate or limit any other legal rights, defenses, or immunities that may otherwise be available at law.

(3) For public skateboard parks that were constructed on or before January 1, 1998, this subdivision shall apply to hazardous recreational activity injuries incurred on or after January 1, 1998, and before January 1, 2001. For public skateboard parks that are constructed after January 1, 1998, this subdivision shall apply to hazardous recreational activity injuries incurred on or after January 1, 1998, and before January 1, 2012. For purposes of this subdivision, any skateboard facility that is a movable facility shall be deemed constructed on the first date it is initially made available for use at any location by the local public agency.

(4) The appropriate local public agency shall maintain a record of all known or reported injuries incurred by a skateboarder in a public skateboard park or facility. The local public agency shall also maintain a record of all claims, paid and not paid, including any lawsuits and their results, arising from those incidents that were filed against the public agency. Beginning in 1999, copies of these records shall be filed annually, no later than January 30 each year, with the Judicial Council, which shall submit a report to the Legislature on or before March 31, 2011, on the incidences of injuries incurred, claims asserted, and the results of any lawsuit filed, by persons injured while skateboarding in public skateboards or facilities.

(5) This subdivision shall not apply on or after January 1, 2001, to public skateboard parks that were constructed on or before January 1, 1998, but shall continue to apply to public skateboard parks that are constructed after January 1, 1998.

(e) This section shall remain in effect until January 1, 2012, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, enacted before January 1, 2012, deletes or extends that date.

SECTION 115800

(a) No operator of a skateboard park shall permit any person to ride a skateboard therein, unless that person is wearing a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

(b) With respect to any facility, owned or operated by a local public agency, that is designed and maintained for the purpose of recreational skateboard use, and that is not supervised on a regular basis, the requirements of subdivision (a) may be satisfied by compliance with the following:

(1) Adoption by the local public agency of an ordinance requiring any person riding a skateboard at the facility to wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

(2) The posting of signs at the facility affording reasonable notice that any person riding a skateboard in the facility must wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads, and that any person failing to do so will be subject to citation under the ordinance required by paragraph (1).

(c) "Local public agency" for purposes of this section includes, but is not limited to, a city, county, or city and county.

(d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2012.

**CITY OF BURBANK MUNICIPAL CODE
TITLE 6
ARTICLE 27**

6-1-2701: PURPOSE:

The Council finds that use of skateboards in roadways are a danger to the public safety. The Council further finds that the unregulated use of skateboards upon sidewalks is a danger to the public safety. *[Added by Ord. No. 3033; formerly numbered Section 29-196; renumbered by Ord. No. 3058, eff. 2/21/87.]*

6-1-2702: SKATEBOARDS, PROHIBITED ON ROADWAYS:

No person may ride or propel a skateboard upon or across any roadway. For the purpose of this section the term "roadway" includes crosswalk. Violation of this section is an infraction. *[Added by Ord. No. 3033; formerly numbered Section 29-197; renumbered by Ord. No. 3058, eff. 2/21/87.]*

6-1-2703: SKATEBOARDS, RIGHT OF WAY:

The rider of any skateboard shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian upon a sidewalk. Violation of this section is an infraction. *[Added by Ord. No. 3033; formerly numbered Section 29-198; renumbered by Ord. No. 3058, eff. 2/21/87.]*

**CITY OF GLENDALE MUNICIPAL CODE
TITLE 10**

CHAPTER 10.64: MISCELLANEOUS TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

10.64.080: SKATING OR COASTING DEVICES IN CERTAIN AREAS.

A. No person shall operate or use any skating or coasting device while:

1. Upon any public roadway, alley or sidewalk in any business district within the city;

2. In any public park, playground or recreation area, except where the city has posted signs permitting the use of the device;

3. Upon any city-owned or operated parking facility;

4. Upon the civic center complex.

B. For the purpose of this section, the term "skating or coasting device" means and includes any skateboard, roller skate, scooter, coaster or other rolling or wheeled device self-propelled by human, motor or wind power.

C. The prohibitions of this section shall not apply to a wheelchair or bicycle. *(Prior code § 27-33)*

**TITLE 9: PUBLIC PEACE AND WELFARE
CHAPTER 9.20: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES**

9.20.135: SKATE FACILITIES - PROTECTIVE GEAR REQUIRED.

A. As used in this section, the term "public skate facility" means any skate facility owned or operated by the city of Glendale which is identified by a sign stating "City of Glendale Skate Facility".

B. It is unlawful for any person to use or ride a skateboard, roller skates, in-line skates or other skating device at any public skate facility unless that person is wearing a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

C. Violation of this Section 9.20.135 may result in expulsion of the individual from the skate facility. In addition, violation of this section is an infraction punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars for the first violation; a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars for a second violation within one year; a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars for each additional violation of this section within one year. Any fine imposed herein is in addition to and not in lieu of expulsion. *(Ord. 5248 § 1, 2000)*

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE
TITLE 15: VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC
CHAPTER 15.08: DEFINITIONS[1]**

15.08.185: SKATEBOARD.

"Skateboard" means any board or any other object or device which has wheels attached to it by any means whatsoever and which is propelled by pushing, pulling, or gravitational forces, and to which there is not affixed any device or mechanism for steering. *(Ord. 12259 § 1, 1980; Ord. 6544 Ch. 1 Art. 2 § 1222, 1954.)*

CHAPTER 15.54: SKATEBOARDS AND ROLLER SKATES

15.54.010: SKATEBOARDS - PROHIBITED ON GREATER THAN THREE-PERCENT GRADE.

No person shall ride on or propel any skateboard, as defined in Section 15.08.185, on any county road, street, highway, lane or alley which has a grade in excess of three percent, nor shall any person ride on or propel any skateboard on any county road, street, highway, lane or alley in excess of 10 miles per hour. *(Ord. 12259 § 2, 1980; Ord. 6544 Ch. 1 Art. 4 § 1404.1, 1954.)*

**TITLE 17: PARKS, BEACHES AND OTHER PUBLIC AREAS
CHAPTER 17.04: PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS
PART 9: SKATEBOARD PARKS**

17.04.1300: SKATEBOARD PARKS - SKATEBOARD EQUIPMENT.

Any person riding a skateboard at a skateboard park owned or operated by the county, that is designed and maintained for the purpose of recreational skateboard use, must wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads. *(Ord. 2002-0002 § 1, 2002)*

17.04.1310: SKATEBOARD PARKS - IN-LINE SKATING EQUIPMENT.

Any person using in-line skates at a skateboard park owned or operated by the county, that is designed and maintained for the purpose of recreational skateboard and/or in-line skate use, must wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads. *(Ord. 2002-0002 § 1, 2002)*

**CHAPTER 17.20: MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS
PART 1: PROHIBITION OF SKATEBOARDING AND ROLLER SKATING AT CERTAIN COUNTY BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

17.20.010: SKATEBOARDING AND ROLLER SKATING PROHIBITED.

No person shall use or operate any skateboard or roller skates on county property at the following locations, except in areas designated for such purposes by the director of the county department having jurisdiction thereof:

A. The Los Angeles County Superior Court at 200 West Compton Boulevard, Compton, California;

B. The Compton Branch of the County Public Library at 240 West Compton Boulevard, Compton, California. *(Ord. 2001-0015 § 1 (part), 2001.)*

17.20.020: DEFINITIONS.

Unless the context requires otherwise, the definitions set forth in this section apply to the following terms as used in this chapter.

A. "County property" means real property in the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the county which property is owned, leased, or controlled by the county, including, without limitation, public buildings and facilities and their surrounding grounds and improvements, walkways, footpaths, stairs, access ramps, railings, monuments, fountains, plazas, driveways, parking lots, or other paved areas. For the purposes of this chapter, "county property" shall not include county roads, streets, highways, sidewalks, lanes or alleys, which are defined and regulated by Title 15 of this code.

B. "Roller skates" means any device or conveyance with any number of wheels, tracks or gliding surfaces, whether off-set or in-line, worn on the feet or that can be attached to the sole of a shoe, and which are designed to be or can be propelled by human power, and includes "in-line skates" or "rollerblades."

C. "Skateboard" means any board or any other object with a flat surface which has wheels attached to it by any means whatsoever and which is designed to be or can be ridden or propelled by one or more persons standing or kneeling upon it. *(Ord. 2001-0015 § 1 (part), 2001.)*

17.20.030: PENALTY.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Part 1 shall be guilty of an infraction, the punishment of which shall be as provided in Chapter 1.24 of this code. *(Ord. 2001-0015 § 1 (part), 2001.)*

17.20.040: SEVERABILITY.

If any provision or clause of this Part 1 or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this Part 1

which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Part 1 are declared severable. (Ord. 2001-0015 § 1 (part), 2001.)

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE
CHAPTER V: PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION
ARTICLE 6: PUBLIC HAZARDS**

SECTION 56.15: BICYCLE RIDING – SIDEWALKS (Amended by Ord. No. 148,990, Eff. 12/17/76.)

1. No person shall ride, operate or use a bicycle, unicycle, skateboard, cart, wagon, wheelchair, rollerskates, or any other device moved exclusively by human power, on a sidewalk, bikeway or boardwalk in a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. (Amended by Ord. No. 166,189, Eff. 10/7/90.)

2. No person shall ride, operate or use a bicycle or unicycle on Ocean Front Walk between Marine Street and Via Marina within the City of Los Angeles, except that bicycle or unicycle riding shall be permitted along the bicycle path adjacent to Ocean Front Walk between Marine Street and Washington Boulevard. (Amended by Ord. No. 153,474, Eff. 4/12/80.)

3. No person shall operate on a beach bicycle path, or on an area of a beach which is set aside for bicycle or unicycle use, any bicycle or tricycle which provides for side-by-side seating thereon or which has affixed thereto any attachment or appendage which protrudes from the side of the bicycle or tricycle and is used or designed to carry another person or persons thereon.

4. For the purposes of this section motorized bicycles as defined by Section 406 of the California Vehicle Code shall be included within the terms "motor vehicle" as defined in Section 415 of the Vehicle Code and as used in Section 21663 of the Vehicle Code.

**CHAPTER VI: PUBLIC WORKS AND PROPERTY
ARTICLE 3: PUBLIC PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, BEACHES AND OTHER PROPERTY
SECTION 63.44: REGULATIONS AFFECTING PARK AND RECREATION AREAS**

J. Within the limits of any park containing a fishing pier:

1. No person shall operate any vehicle on a fishing pier, except as permitted by the Board or its authorized representative.

2. No person shall ride a bicycle, scooter, skate, skateboard, or other wheeled device on any pier. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of this subsection shall not apply to the use of wheelchairs by persons whose physical condition necessitates such use.

N. (New Subsec. N. Added by Ord. No. 173,878, Eff. 4/12/01.) Within the limit of any park or portion thereof designated by the Board as a skateboard facility, whether the facility is supervised or unsupervised:

1. No person shall ride a skateboard unless that person is wearing a helmet, elbow pads and knee pads.

2. No person shall ride a bicycle or scooter in the skating area.

3. The opening and closing hours of the park shall be 12:00 noon to sunset on Monday through Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to sunset on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays; however, skate parks shall also be closed during periods of wet weather or when conditions, such as wet weather, make it unsafe to skate.

4. The Board shall cause signs to be posted at all skateboard facilities providing reasonable notice that any person riding a skateboard at the facility must wear a helmet, elbow pads and knee pads while skateboarding; that no bicycles or scooters are allowed in the skating area; that the park hours are 12:00 noon to sunset Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. to sunset on Saturday, Sunday and holidays; that the park will be closed during periods of wet weather or when conditions make it unsafe to skate; and, that any person in violation of this ordinance will be subject to citation for violation thereof.

**CHAPTER VIII: TRAFFIC
DIVISION "Q": MISCELLANEOUS
SECTION 85.07: REGULATION OF ROLLER-SKATING, SKATEBOARDING AND BICYCLING.**

(Added by Ord. No. 166,526, Eff. 1/27/91.)

(a) The Department of Transportation is hereby authorized to install any traffic control devices it determines necessary to regulate roller-skating, skateboarding and bicycling on sidewalks and roadways in order to improve vehicular or pedestrian movement, reduce congestion or diminish accident potential. Such determinations shall be made only on the basis of traffic engineering principles and traffic investigations. When such determinations have been made, the Department is authorized to install signs giving notice as to the nature of the regulation as well as signs that provide such safety warnings as it determines will assist those engaged in the regulated activities.

(b) No person shall roller-skate, skateboard, or operate a bicycle in violation of the limitations set forth on regulatory signs posted pursuant to this section.

**CITY OF SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE
ARTICLE 4: PUBLIC WELFARE, MORALS AND POLICY
CHAPTER 4.68: COMMUNITY EVENTS**

4.68.100 INTERFERENCE WITH A COMMUNITY EVENT PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with a community event permitted under this Chapter by engaging in the following acts when done with the intent to cause interference:

(a) Blocking, obstructing, or impeding the passage of participants, vehicles, or animals in the community event along the community event route;

(b) Walking or running, driving a vehicle, riding a bicycle or skateboard, or using any similar device through, between, with, or among participants, vehicles, or animals in the community event;

(c) Dropping, throwing, rolling, or flying any object toward, among, or between participants, vehicles, or animals in a community event;

(d) Grabbing at, taking hold of, hitting, pulling, or pushing any participant, vehicle,

or animal in the community event or anything in the possession of any participant in the community event;

(e) Throwing, squirting, dumping, or dropping any liquid or gaseous substance on, toward, among, or between participants, vehicles, or animals in the community event;

(f) Vending or offering for sale any food or merchandise from the roadway, curb to curb, of a community event route during the hours the community event route is closed to normal motor vehicle traffic without first having obtained the written permission of the person holding the permit for the community event, in addition to any permits and/or licenses required for such activity by the City or any other governmental entity. (Added by Ord. No. 2008CCS § 1 (part), adopted 5/8/01)

**ARTICLE 3: PUBLIC SAFETY
CHAPTER 3.12: TRAFFIC REGULATIONS**

3.12.540: BICYCLE RIDING OR COASTING RESTRICTED.

(a) It shall be unlawful to ride a bicycle or to coast in any vehicle upon any public sidewalk, except as provided for in Section 3.12.550. It shall be unlawful to ride a bicycle or to coast in any vehicle in any public parking structure.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, or any other section of this Code, public safety personnel may operate bicycles or roller skates at any place in the City in the performance of their duties. (Prior code § 3350; amended by Ord. No. 1039CCS, adopted 8/24/76; Ord. No. 1756CCS § 1, adopted 7/26/94)

3.12.550: BIKE-PATH AND BEACH PROMENADE.

It shall be unlawful to ride a bicycle or to coast in any vehicle upon the Beach Promenade; bicycle riding shall be permitted along the beach bike-path, within the City limits and in those areas where the Promenade constitutes a portion of the bikeway and are otherwise permitted by sign. All persons riding bicycles on the bike-path shall comply with all lawful signs and directional markings, including, but not limited to, painted directional arrows, bike-path route boundaries, and signs designating permissible travel lanes. (Prior code § 3350A; amended by Ord. No. 1039CCS, adopted 8/24/76)

3.12.560: PROHIBITED VEHICLES.

In the area where bicycle riding is permitted by Section 3.12.550, no vehicle of any type shall be permitted except unicycles, bicycles, bicycles with training wheels, wheelchairs, and single-person tricycles operated by a person eighteen (18) years of age or older. (Prior code § 3350B; added by Ord. No. 1273CCS, adopted 2/22/83)

3.12.590: REGULATION OF ROLLER SKATES, SKATEBOARDS AND SIMILAR DEVICES WITH WHEELS ON PUBLIC STREETS AND OTHER PUBLIC AREAS AND BICYCLES ON THE THIRD STREET PROMENADE ROADWAY.

The City Council may, by resolution, adopt regulations prohibiting or limiting the use of bicycles on the Third Street Promenade roadway and the use of roller skates, skateboards and similar devices with wheels in public street rights-of-way, or sections thereof, and other public areas, or sections thereof, where necessary for public safety. (Added by Ord. No. 1756CCS § 2, adopted 7/26/94; amended by Ord. No. 1920CCS, adopted 8/11/98)

3.12.600: REGULATIONS OF BICYCLES, ROLLER SKATES, SKATEBOARDS AND SIMILAR DEVICES WITH WHEELS IN PUBLIC PARKS AND OTHER CULTURAL OR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

The City Council may, by resolution, adopt regulations prohibiting or limiting the use of bicycles, roller skates, skateboards and similar devices with wheels in public parks, or sections thereof, and other cultural or recreational facilities, or sections thereof, where necessary for public safety. (Added by Ord. No. 1756CCS § 3, adopted 7/26/94)

3.12.630: CLINGING TO MOVING VEHICLES.

No person traveling upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, motorcycle or any toy vehicle shall cling to or attach himself or his vehicle to any other moving vehicle or street car. (Prior code § 3354)

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California Skateboarding Laws

www.LearnToRideASkateboard.com

DISCLAIMER:

Laws in this pamphlet were effective as of January 2009 and may not be all-inclusive of every law pertaining to skateboarding within the jurisdictions listed. Additionally, laws are often changed over time, and those which are listed here may not currently remain in effect. Be sure to know your legal rights and take the time to research the current laws for the city, county, or state where you will be skateboarding.