

ORDINANCE NO. 2299

AN ORDINANCE to amend Article V-A of Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, by adding thereto a new section numbered 22-152.7; which Chapter 22 relates to MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, which Article V-A thereof relates to PAYMENT, CONTEST AND ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING CITATIONS and which new Section 22-152.7 thereof relates to REMOVAL OR IMMOBILIZATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES AGAINST WHICH THERE ARE OUTSTANDING PARKING CITATIONS.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Article V-A, Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended by adding thereto a new section numbered 22-152.7 to read as follows:

Sec. 22-152.7. Removal or immobilization of motor vehicles against which there are outstanding parking citations.

(a) Whenever there is found any motor vehicle parked upon the streets or public grounds of the city which has received three or more parking citations issued for a violation of any provisions of Article IV or Article V of this chapter which are unpaid or otherwise unsettled, such vehicle may, by towing or otherwise, be removed for safekeeping by or under the direction of a police officer to the city vehicle impounding lot or such vehicle may be immobilized in such manner as to prevent its removal or operation except by such persons as shall be authorized to do so by the chief of police.

(b) It shall be the duty of any police officer removing or immobilizing a motor vehicle or under whose direction such vehicle is removed or immobilized, to inform as soon as practicable the owner of the removed or immobilized vehicle of the nature and circumstances of the prior unsettled parking violation notices for which or on account of which such vehicle was removed or immobilized. In any case involving immobilization of a vehicle pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on such vehicle, in a conspicuous manner, a notice warning that such vehicle has been immobilized and that any attempt to move such vehicle might result in damage thereto.

(c) The owner of an immobilized vehicle, or other duly authorized person, shall be allowed not less than twenty-four (24) hours from the time of immobilization to repossess or secure the release of the vehicle, following which such vehicle may be removed to a storage area for safekeeping under the direction of a police officer.

(d) The owner of such removed or immobilized motor vehicle, or other duly authorized person, may repossess or secure the release of the vehicle by payment of outstanding parking violation notices for which the vehicle was removed or immobilized and by payment of all reasonable costs incidental to the immobilization, removal and storage of the vehicle, and the efforts to locate the owner of the vehicle. Should such owner fail or refuse to pay such fines and costs, or should the identity or whereabouts of such owner be unknown and unascertainable, such vehicle may be sold as provided by section 22-121.6 of this Code.

Section 2. That the title of and an informal memorandum explaining this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The city clerk shall have the full text of this ordinance printed in sufficient numbers to supply copies to meet request. The city clerk shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

FRANK E. MANN  
Mayor

FINAL PASSAGE: NOVEMBER 14, 1978