

Ordinance No. _____

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOE

An Ordinance Regulating the Parking of Tow Trucks and Commercial Vehicles at
Intersections and Near Stop Signs

Section 1: Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to enhance public safety by regulating the parking of tow trucks and commercial vehicles near intersections and stop signs to prevent traffic obstructions, improve visibility, and ensure the smooth flow of traffic.

Section 2: Definitions

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

1. **Tow Truck** – Any motor vehicle designed or used for towing or recovering disabled vehicles.
2. **Commercial Vehicle** – Any vehicle with a gross weight exceeding 10,000 pounds, including but not limited to semi-trucks, delivery trucks, buses, and construction vehicles.
3. **Intersection** – The area where two or more roadways meet or cross.
4. **Stop Sign** – A regulatory sign instructing vehicles to come to a complete stop before proceeding.

Section 3: Parking Restrictions

(A) No tow truck or commercial vehicle shall be parked in a manner that blocks or obstructs any intersection, whether occupied or unoccupied.

(B) No tow truck or commercial vehicle shall be parked within **thirty (30) feet of a stop sign** in any direction.

(C) No tow truck or commercial vehicle shall be parked within **twenty (20) feet of a crosswalk at an intersection** to ensure pedestrian and driver visibility.

(D) No tow truck or commercial vehicle shall be parked in a manner that obstructs access to driveways, fire hydrants, or designated fire lanes.

(E) Temporary parking for active loading or unloading is permitted, provided it does not exceed **fifteen (15) minutes** and does not impede the normal flow of traffic.

Section 4: Enforcement and Penalties

(A) Any violation of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of **\$100 per violation per day**.

(B) Any vehicle found in violation of this ordinance may be **subject to towing at the owner's expense** if it creates a safety hazard or impedes emergency response.

(C) The Town of St. Joe reserves the right to seek injunctive or equitable relief through the **DeKalb Circuit or Superior Courts** to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 5: Exceptions

This ordinance shall not apply to emergency vehicles, public transportation vehicles in designated areas, or utility/service vehicles actively engaged in maintenance or repair work.

Effective Date:

This ordinance is effective upon passage, adoption, approval, and publication according to the laws of the State of Indiana.

This ordinance is duly passed by the Town Board of the Town of St. Joe, Indiana, on the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Randy Drake, President

Misty Spicer, Member

Zebulon Griggs, Member

Attest:

Angela Snyder, Clerk-Treasurer

