OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

NUMBER:	648
SUBJECT:	VEHICLES ON CAMPUS SIDEWALKS AND LAWNS
AUTHORIZING BODY:	PRESIDENT'S CABINET
RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE
DATE ISSUED:	JULY 1987
LAST UPDATE:	NOVEMBER 2026

RATIONALE: In order to enhance safety of pedestrians and to avoid unnecessary damage to campus Pedestrian Areas and grounds, the following policy is hereby established.

POLICY: The practice of driving Vehicles on Oakland University (University) Pedestrian Areas or Lawns/Landscaped Areas is generally prohibited unless prior authorization is obtained or the practice meets one of the exceptions as stated in this policy. This prohibition is regulated by University ordinance as well as the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY: This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff and visitors operating Vehicles on the University campus.

DEFINITIONS:

***Emergency Vehicle*:** A law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, or other Vehicle being operated in response to an emergency or in the performance of authorized emergency duties.

***Lawns/Landscaped Areas*:** Areas containing grass, vegetation, landscaping, trees, planting beds, or other grounds not designated or constructed for routine vehicular traffic.

***Pedestrian Area*:** A sidewalk, walkway, plaza, pathway, or other area primarily designed or designated for pedestrian travel or use.

University Vehicle: A Vehicle owned, leased, rented, or otherwise controlled by the University.

Vehicle: Any motorized conveyance capable of transporting a person, equipment, materials, or property, including automobiles, trucks, vans, motorcycles, utility vehicles, golf carts, and similar equipment.

PROCEDURES:

Generally, approval of Pedestrian Areas or Lawns/Landscaped Areas access involving Vehicles must be secured from the Oakland University Police Department (OUPD) and will be granted only to persons utilizing a Vehicle on official University business or service. To obtain approval, operators should contact the OUPD Dispatch Center (ext. 3331). Approved Vehicles must not be operated in excess of 5 m.p.h.

Approval will generally be given for the following:

1. The hauling of heavy construction site equipment or materials.
2. Construction Vehicles (earth moving, concrete/asphalt paving, re-roofing, etc.).
3. Furniture/equipment moving for special events to buildings without loading docks, service entrances, and freight elevators.
4. Transport of hazardous or fragile materials (large panes of window glass, etc.).
5. Self-contained Vehicles (carpet cleaning, etc.) beyond reach of roadways.
6. Transport of people in golf carts related to University business.

Vehicles which have not received approval to drive on Pedestrian Areas or Lawns/Landscaped Areas, or meet one of the exceptions stated in this policy, are subject to ticketing and towing by the OUPD. Employees violating this policy may also be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Approval to operate Vehicles on Pedestrian Areas or Lawns/Landscaped Areas will generally NOT be given for the following:

1. Contractor Vehicles (both company and personal) not directly involved in hauling heavy equipment, heavy materials, and/or actual construction site work.
2. Furniture/equipment moving to building with loading dock and/or service entrances.
3. Deliveries to buildings with loading docks and/or service entrances.
4. Ready access to Vehicle for either work force or contractor convenience.

Generally, Emergency Vehicles, Facilities Management, and Mail Services Vehicles may be operated on Pedestrian Areas or Lawns/Landscaped Areas without special approval. The

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that Pedestrian Spaces be accessible, which means there must be a minimum clear width to get around any obstruction. Vehicle operators are reminded that parking Vehicles in Pedestrian Areas may disrupt critical routes for members of the OU community with mobility and vision challenges. Vehicles must park in such a manner as to provide a minimum clear width to allow OU community members to utilize all Pedestrian Areas. Vehicle operators are expected to remove their Vehicles from critical pathways within a reasonable time frame after their work is completed.

The Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and the Chief of Police may establish internal procedures (in addition to those outlined in this policy) governing the off-road operation of Vehicles belonging to their respective departments.

RELATED POLICIES AND FORMS: None.

APPENDIX: None.