

**CITY OF COATESVILLE
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 1608-2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COATESVILLE, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 193 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COATESVILLE BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE IVB, ENTITLED "OBSTRUCTION OF ON-STREET PARKING," CONSISTING OF §§ 193-24.2 THROUGH 193-24.6; PROHIBITING THE UNAUTHORIZED OBSTRUCTION, BLOCKING, OR RESERVATION OF PARKING SPACES ON PUBLIC STREETS AND ALLEYS; DECLARING SUCH OBSTRUCTIONS A PUBLIC NUISANCE; AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF OBSTRUCTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE RECOVERY OF REMOVAL AND ABATEMENT COSTS; ESTABLISHING VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES; AUTHORIZING CIVIL AND EQUITABLE ENFORCEMENT; ADDRESSING THE EFFECT OF OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Coatesville is empowered by the Pennsylvania Constitution, the Third Class City Code, and other applicable laws to enact ordinances protecting the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, public streets and alleys are maintained for the benefit of the general public, and on-street parking spaces located thereon are intended for lawful public use unless otherwise restricted by law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the unauthorized obstruction, reservation, or blocking of public on-street parking spaces interferes with the public's lawful use of public rights-of-way, may impede emergency vehicle access, creates hazardous conditions for motorists and pedestrians, and constitutes a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary and appropriate to prohibit such conduct, authorize the prompt removal of unauthorized obstructions, provide for the recovery of the City's costs, and establish appropriate penalties and enforcement remedies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted and ordained as follows:

Section 1. Amendment.

Chapter 193, *Streets and Sidewalks*, of the Code of the City of Coatesville is hereby amended by adding a new Article IVB, entitled "Obstruction of On-Street Parking," to read as follows:

ARTICLE IVB

Obstruction of On-Street Parking

§ 193-24.2. Obstructions Unlawful; Public Safety.

Except to such extent as may be permitted under lawful authority of the City, it shall be unlawful for any person or entity to obstruct, block, reserve, or otherwise interfere with the use of any parking space located on any public street or alley within the City for the purpose of preventing or restricting parking in such space or for any other unauthorized purpose.

For the avoidance of doubt, the placement of any cone, garbage can, chair, equipment, barricade, sign, or any other object (collectively, an "**Obstruction**") in any parking space located on a public street or alley, without lawful authorization, constitutes an unlawful obstruction.

The City Council hereby finds and declares that such Obstructions may inhibit emergency vehicle access, impede public access to public rights-of-way, interfere with the orderly use of public streets, and create hazardous conditions for pedestrians and motorists. Such Obstructions are therefore declared to constitute a public nuisance and an imminent threat to the public health, safety, and welfare and may be summarily abated by the City without prior notice. The costs of such abatement shall be recoverable from the responsible person(s) or entity(ies), when identified.

§ 193-24.3. Removal by City and Collection of Costs.

The Police Department, Department of Public Works, or any other authorized department, employee, agent, or contractor of the City may remove or cause to be removed any Obstruction from any parking space located on a public street or alley.

The City shall have no obligation to store, safeguard, or return any Obstruction so removed and may dispose of, recycle, or discard such Obstruction in any manner deemed appropriate by the City.

§ 193-24.4. Recovery of Costs.

All costs, charges, expenses, and administrative fees incurred by the City in removing and disposing of any Obstruction pursuant to § 193-24.3 shall be recoverable from the owner of the Obstruction and/or the person or entity responsible for placing or causing the placement of the Obstruction.

Such costs may be collected by any lawful means available to the City.

§ 193-24.5. Violations; Penalties; Civil Enforcement.

Any person or entity found liable or convicted of violating any provision of this Article before a Magisterial District Judge shall:

- A. Be responsible for reimbursing the City for all costs and expenses recoverable under § 193-24.4;
- B. Upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), together with the costs of prosecution.

Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

In addition to the foregoing penalties, the City may, through the City Solicitor, institute any appropriate civil action or proceeding at law or in equity, including actions for injunctive relief, mandamus, or other appropriate legal or equitable remedies, to enforce the provisions of this Article. A court of competent jurisdiction may

award such relief as permitted by law, including reasonable attorney's fees (at the hourly rate approved by City Council where authorized by law), court costs, and other recoverable fees and expenses.

§ 193-24.6. Effect on Other Laws.

Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to repeal, supersede, abrogate, or impair the enforcement of any applicable federal, state, or local law, including but not limited to Titles 18 and 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, the Charter and Code of the City of Coatesville, or any other applicable ordinance or regulation. Where multiple provisions apply, the more restrictive provision shall govern to the extent permitted by law.

Section 2. Severability.

If any sentence, clause, section, or provision of this Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after enactment, or as otherwise provided by law.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Coatesville this 14th day of September, 2026.



Linda Lavender Norris, President City Council

ATTEST:



James Logan, City Manager

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced on the 24th day of August, 2026, was duly enacted by the Council of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the 14th day of September, 2026, and that the vote upon the said Ordinance has been recorded in the Minutes of the City Council and that the Ordinance has been fully recorded.