

City Solicitor Frank Schultz, on behalf of the Administration, requests the following amendments to:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 73.60 OF THE COVINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, TITLED "LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS AND UTILITY VEHICLES ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS", TO PERMIT THE USE OF GOLF CARTS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ENTIRE CITY OF COVINGTON.

I. Amend the Heading as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 73[.60] OF THE COVINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, TITLED "LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS AND UTILITY VEHICLES ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS", TO PERMIT THE USE OF GOLF CARTS **AND OTHER LOW-SPEED VEHICLES** WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE [ENTIRE] CITY OF COVINGTON.

II. Amend 73.01 DEFINITIONS as follows:

(a) Insert the following language as additional language in the definition of "Golf Cart":

(7) Has a seatbelt assembly that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in 49 C.F.R. sec. 571.209 for each designated seating position; and

(b) The amended § 73.01 of the Ordinance will read, in relevant part, as follows:

GOLF CART. Any self-propelled vehicle that:

(1) Is designed for the transportation of players or maintaining equipment on a golf course, while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the play of golf or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a golf-course;

(2) Has a minimum of four wheels;

(3) Is designed to operate at a speed of not more than 35 mph;

(4) Is designed to carry not more than six persons, including the driver;

(5) Has a maximum gross vehicle weight of 2,500 pounds;

(6) Has a maximum rated payload capacity of 1,200 pounds;

(7) Has a seatbelt assembly that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard provided in 49 C.F.R. sec. 571.209 for each designated seating position; and

(8) Meets the federal motor vehicle safety standards for low-speed vehicles set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 571.500.

III. Amend 73.01 DEFINITIONS as follows:

(a) Add the following term:

STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE. An all-terrain vehicle, utility terrain vehicle, minitruck, pneumatic-tired military vehicle, or full-size special purpose-built vehicle, including a vehicle that is self-constructed or built by the original equipment manufacturer and a vehicle that has been modified, as defined in KRS 186.

IV. Amend Chapter 73 as follows:

(a) Add the following section:

§ 73.21 PERMITTED AREAS OF USE FOR MOTORIZED SCOOTERS

Motorized Scooters, as defined in § 73.01 of this chapter, may be operated on any city roadway, provided the following conditions are met:

(1) The posted speed limit of the city roadway is 20 mph or less;

(2) The operator of the Motorized Scooter does not cross a roadway at an at-grade intersection where the roadway being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than 35 mph unless the intersection is equipped with an electronic traffic signal; and

(3) The operator and vehicle being operated comply with all other applicable provisions of the city, state and United States' laws.

V. Amend Section 73.60-.64 as follows:

LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS, **STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES** AND UTILITY VEHICLES

§ 73.60 EFFECT OF REGULATIONS.

(A) It is a misdemeanor for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required in this subchapter.

(B) The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this subchapter.

(C) These regulations applicable to Low-speed Vehicles, Golf Carts and Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicles shall apply whenever a Low-speed Vehicle, Golf Cart or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle is operated upon any city street or highway.

§ 73.61[0] OPERATION OF LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS, **STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES** AND UTILITY VEHICLES ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS.

(A) No [l]Low-speed [v]Vehicle, **Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle** [unless operated pursuant to division (B) below], [g]Golf [c]Cart, **unless operated pursuant to division (B) below**, or [u]Utility [v]Vehicle may be operated or driven on any public roadway, street or highway within the city.

(B) Low-speed [v]Vehicles, **Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicles and Golf Carts**, as defined in § 73.01 of this chapter, may be operated on city roadways between the borders of the Ohio River, Licking River, up to and including 12th Street/MLK Boulevard/**West 12th Street/Montague Road** and **Sleepy Hollow Road** [Philadelphia Street], **including all City streets in Devou Park**; provided[,] the following conditions are met:

(1) The posted speed limit of the city roadway is [35] **20** mph or less, **unless the vehicle qualifies as a Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle, in which case it shall be permitted to operate on city roadways where the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less** ;

(2) The operator of the [l]Low-speed [v]Vehicle, **Golf Cart or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle** does not cross a roadway at an at-grade intersection where the roadway being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than 35 mph unless the intersection is equipped with an electronic traffic signal;

(3) The operator has a valid operator's license in his or her **immediate** possession **at all times when driving a Low-Speed Vehicle, Street-Legal Special Purpose Vehicle, or Golf Cart and shall display it upon demand to any officer of the city's Police Department**; [and]

(4) Persons whose motor vehicle operator's license (driver's license) has been suspended or revoked are prohibited from operating a Low-Speed

Vehicle, Street-Legal Special Purpose Vehicle, or Golf Cart on city streets and highways; and

([4]5) The operator and vehicle being operated comply with all other applicable provisions of the city, **state** and United States' laws.

(1984 Code, § 74.30) (Ord. O-25-17, passed 10-24-2017; Ord. O-32-18, passed 8-28-2018) Penalty, see § 73.99

§ 73.62 INSURANCE REQUIRED FOR LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS, STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES.

(A) All owners of Low-speed Vehicles, Golf Carts or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicles that are operated in the city must purchase the required insurance coverage pursuant to KRS 304.39-010 through 304.39-110.

(B) The operator of a Low-speed Vehicle, Golf Cart or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle shall have proof of insurance in his or her immediate possession at all times when driving the vehicle and shall display it upon demand to any officer of the city's Police Department.

Penalty, see § 73.99

Statutory reference:

Insurance required by Kentucky law, see KRS 304.39-010 through 304.39-340

§ 73.63 REGISTRATION OF FOR LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS AND STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES REQUIRED.

(A) Before the owner of a Low-speed Vehicle, Golf Cart or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle may operate it or permit its operation upon city streets and highways, the owner must register the Low-speed Vehicle, Golf Cart or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle in accordance with regulations issued by the state's Transportation Cabinet.

Penalty, see § 73.99

Statutory reference:

Registration of motor vehicles required, see KRS 186.020

§ 73.64 LOW-SPEED VEHICLE, GOLF CART AND STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE OPERATORS TO OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS.

Every person operating a Low-speed Vehicle, Golf Cart or Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicle upon a city street or highway shall be granted all

of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties imposed by the traffic laws of the state or by the traffic ordinances of the city.

April 8, 2025