

Chapter 10.28

MOTORIZED CARTS

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10.28.010 Definitions.

"Motorized cart" means every motor vehicle having not less than three wheels and an unladen weight of one thousand three hundred (1,300) pounds or less and which cannot operate at more than twenty (20) miles per hour, and designed to carry no more than the recommended manufacturing seating capacity, and shall be consistent with the definition as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 40-1-1(32). This includes golf carts and similar types of self-propelled vehicles. (Ord. 13-01, § 1, 9-9-13; Ord. 99-13 § 1)

10.28.020 License and registration required.

Motorized carts may be operated within the city only by persons sixteen (16) years of age or older and who possess a valid Georgia driver's license and only after the owner has completed the registration process pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 40-6-331(b). Registration fees are charged by the city to cover the costs of implementing and maintaining this Article. It shall be the duty of every owner of a motorized cart that is operated on public roads, recreation paths, rights-of-way or other public property in the jurisdiction of the city to register the motorized cart with the city within ten (10) days of the date of purchase/acquisition. There shall be a registration and user fee as set by the mayor and council for such registration. (Ord. 13-01, § 2, 9-9-13; Ord. 99-13 § 2)

10.28.030 Registration application and fee.

A. Registration with the city shall include a record of the model, make, and vehicle identification number or serial number on such motorized cart, the name and address of the owner, a contact phone number, and any other such information as the city shall require, all of which shall be maintained at city hall. A person desiring to register a motorized cart shall bring documentation setting forth a description of such cart to city hall and complete an application of registration of such cart.

B. Upon registration, the clerk shall issue a numerical decal to be applied to the rear of such cart so as to be plainly visible.

C. Before any motorized cart may be operated within the city, the cart must have affixed thereto an emblem as required by O.C.G.A. § 40-8-4. This decal issued shall be nontransferable from the cart for which it is issued. (Ord. 13-01, § 3, 9-9-13; Ord. 99-13 § 3)

10.28.040 Emblem required.

Before any motorized cart may be operated within the city, the cart must have affixed thereto an emblem as required by O.C.G.A. Sec. 40-8-4. (Ord. 99-13 § 4)

10.28.050 Designated crossing.

Motorized carts which are in compliance with Sections 10.28.030 and 10.28.040 may be operated on any city street within the city which are not within the jurisdiction of the Georgia Department of Transportation and may only cross streets or roads within the State Highway System at intersections or crossings designated for that purpose by the Department of Transportation. The designated crossings will be at the following locations:

- A. State Route 46 at Williams Street;
- B. State Route 121/23 at Lee Street;
- C. State Route 129 at Pine Street;
- D. State Route 121 at Lee Street;

E. State Route 23 at Lee Street. (Ord. 13-01, § 4, 9-9-13; Ord. 01-04; Ord. 99-13 § 5)

10.28.060 General regulations.

A. Motorized carts may only be operated on public roads, recreational paths, rights-of-way or other public property which are part of the city's street system during daylight hours unless the motorized cart is equipped with functional headlights and taillights. Additionally, motorized carts must also be equipped with a flashing or rotating yellow or amber light mounted on the top. Motorized carts shall not be operated on public roads, paths, or rights-of-way of the city between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

B. All occupants of a motorized cart must wear seatbelts at all times, if available.

C. Motorized carts shall not be operated on the sidewalks.

D. Motorized carts will only be operated by individuals who are at least sixteen (16) years of age and possess a valid driver's license. Restrictions placed upon licensed motorists shall apply in the same manner as if operating a motor vehicle.

E. The maximum occupancy of a motorized cart traveling on public roads, recreational paths, rights-of-way or other public property shall be one person per designated seat.

F. All operators of motorized carts shall abide by all traffic regulations applicable to vehicular traffic when using the designated public roads, recreational paths, rights-of-way, or other public property of the city.

G. Temporary suspension of all or part of this section may be granted by the city council for special events.

H. A city employee on city business, in a city vehicle, and in the exercise of his/her duties, may operate gasoline, diesel fuel, or battery-operated powered vehicles or motorized carts upon the city's streets, parks, parking lots, and other public properties within the city limits. (Ord. 13-01, § 5, 9-9-13; Ord. 99-13 §§ 6—9)

10.28.070 Liability.

The owner or operator of a motorized cart is liable for his or her own actions. Any person who operates or owns a motorized cart is responsible for procuring liability insurance in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) per person for bodily injury, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) per accident for bodily injury to two or more people, and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) per accident for property damage. Proof of insurance coverage must be provided at the time of registration and maintained on the motorized cart at all times. (Ord. 13-01, § 6, 9-9-13; Ord. 99-13 § 10)

10.28.080 Violation—Penalty.

It shall be unlawful for a motorized cart to be operated on the streets of the city except as expressly authorized in this Section and every person convicted of a violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisonment for not more than twelve (12) months or both. (Ord. 13-01, § 7, 9-9-13; Ord. 99-13 § 11)

10.28.090 Effective date.

The ordinance codified in this chapter shall become effective immediately upon receiving supplies for registration of carts, but no later than thirty (30) days after passage. (Ord. 99-13 § 12)

10.28.100 Signs.

The city shall post signs giving notice of the existence of operating standards along appropriate public streets. (Ord. 13-01, § 8, 9-9-13)