



City of North Port

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA, REGARDING GOLF CARTS AND LOW-SPEED VEHICLES; AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA, SECTION 74-150 THROUGH 74-152; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section 74-152(b) of the City Code currently restricts the operation of low-speed vehicles (LSVs) on specific streets within the City; and

WHEREAS, the majority of streets listed in Section 74-152(b) have posted speed limits greater than 35 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Florida Statute 316.2122(1)(a), low-speed vehicles and mini trucks may only be operated on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less; and

WHEREAS, maintaining restrictions on roadways with posted speed limits above 35 miles per hour is unnecessary and duplicative of state law; and

WHEREAS, two streets identified in Section 74-152(b)—Panacea Boulevard and Biscayne Drive—are posted at 35 miles per hour or less, and the North Port Police Department has identified no safety concerns with the operation of LSVs on these streets; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to maintain consistency with the Florida State Statutes, the City Code has been amended to maintain clarity; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that these amendments serve the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of North Port, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1 – FINDINGS

1.01 The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated in this ordinance by reference.

1.02 In accordance with Florida Statutes Section 166.041(4)(a), the City timely posted a business impact estimate on the City's website on or before the date the newspaper published notice of this ordinance's final reading.

SECTION 2 – ADOPTION

2.01 Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of North Port, Florida is hereby amended as follows:

“Chapter 74 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

...

ARTICLE VI. – GOLF CARTS, AND LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, AND MINI TRUCKS

Sec. 74-150. – Definitions.

...

Golf cart. A vehicle meeting the definition of golf cart provided in F.S. § 320.01. All golf carts must comply with the safety standards contained in F.S. § 316.212, as amended from time to time.

Low-speed vehicle or LSV. A vehicle meeting the definition of low-speed vehicle provided in F.S. § 320.01. All low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards contained in F.S. § 316.2122, as amended from time to time. ~~All low-speed vehicles must be registered and insured, and equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, taillamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, seatbelts, vehicle identification numbers, efficient brakes, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear.~~

Mini truck. A vehicle meeting the definition of mini truck provided in F.S. § 320.01. All mini trucks must comply with the safety standards contained in F.S. § 316.2122, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 74-151. – Golf carts.

(a) *Golf cart operation.* The operation of a golf cart is only permitted on private property, designated city roadways, on a golf course, and golf course accessory property, pursuant to F.S. § 316.212.

...

(c) All golf cart vehicles must be equipped with efficient brakes, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear.

Sec. 74-152. – Low-speed vehicles (LSVs) and Mini trucks.

- (a) Low-speed vehicles and mini trucks are prohibited on any road where the posted speed limit is more than 35 miles per hour, except when crossing such a road at an intersection, pursuant to the restrictions in F.S. § 316.2122.
- (b) All low-speed vehicles and mini trucks must be registered and insured, and equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, taillamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, seatbelts, and vehicle identification numbers.

~~In the interest of safety, low speed vehicles are prohibited on the following city roadways regardless of the posted speed limit:~~

- ~~(1) Atwater Drive;~~
- ~~(2) Biscayne Drive;~~
- ~~(3) Chamberlain Boulevard;~~
- ~~(4) Cranberry Boulevard;~~
- ~~(5) Haberland Boulevard;~~
- ~~(6) Pan American Boulevard;~~
- ~~(7) Panacea Boulevard;~~
- ~~(8) Price Boulevard;~~
- ~~(9) Salford Boulevard;~~
- ~~(10) San Mateo Drive;~~
- ~~(11) Sumter Boulevard; and (12) Toledo Blade Boulevard.~~

...”

SECTION 3 – CONFLICTS

3.01 In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this ordinance and any other ordinance, in whole or in part, the provisions of this ordinance will prevail to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4 – SEVERABILITY

4.01 If a court of competent jurisdiction finds that any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance is for any reason invalid or unconstitutional, that provision will be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance.

SECTION 5 – CODIFICATION

5.01 In this ordinance, additions are shown as underlined and deletions as ~~striketrough~~. Any additional codification information and notations appear in *italics*. These editorial notations are not intended to appear in the codified text.

SECTION 6 – EFFECTIVE DATE

6.01 This ordinance takes effect immediately upon adoption.

READ BY TITLE ONLY at first reading by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, in public session on January 20, 2026.

ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, on the second and final reading in public session on February 10, 2026.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

PETE EMRICH
MAYOR

ATTEST

HEATHER FAUST, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS

MICHAEL FUINO, B.C.S.
CITY ATTORNEY