



Golf Carts & Low Speed Vehicles

A closer look at managing state statute and city ordinances



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PURPOSE

Review state statute and approach
for enacting city ordinances





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HISTORY

Population (approximate)

167,000

201,000

258,000



2011



2019



2025

Informative Presentations

Golf cart committee formed

Review approach for City Ordinances

Municipal governments may adopt designated areas as golf cart friendly, either via council initiative or petition by others

Important: City ordinances must be more restrictive than State Statute



DRIVING FORCES



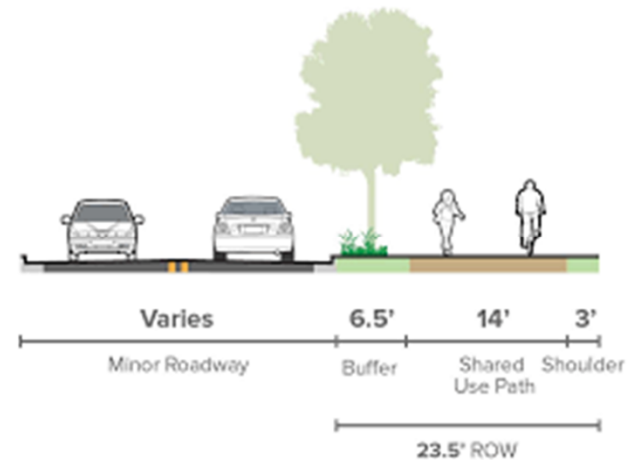
Safety

Complaints about unsafe conditions via illegal use of golf carts on sidewalks.



Demand

New resident and/or community demand for golf cart use.



Planning

Infrastructure to maintain safety, reduce liability and comply with regulations (currently Fla. Sta. §316.212 & 320.01)



GOLF CARTS VS. LOW SPEED VEHICLES



Golf Cart



- Travels up to 18 mph
- No Mirrors
- Folding Windshield & No Wipers
- No VIN Number
- No Brake & Brake Lights
- No License Plate
- No Headlights
- No Turn Signals
- No Seat Belts
- Not Insured

Image 2025: <https://www.rickcaseezgo.com/blog/golf-carts-vs-low-speed-vehicles-whats-the-difference--49194>

Low Speed Vehicle (LSV)



- Travels from 20-25 mph
- Side Mirrors
- Full Windshield & Wipers
- Vin Number
- Parking Brake & Brake lights
- Reflective Triangle
- License Plate with Sticker
- Headlights
- Turn Signals
- Seat Belts
- Insured

GUIDE TO OWNING LOW-SPEED VEHICLES

A low-speed vehicle (LSV) is a vehicle with a top speed greater than 20 mph, but not greater than 25 mph. LSVs must be registered, titled and insured with personal injury protection (PIP) and property damage liability (PDL) insurance. Any person operating an LSV must have a valid driver's license. LSVs may only be operated on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less.

LSVs must be equipped with the following safety equipment:



To title and register an LSV, bring the following documents to a tax collector's office, flhsmv.gov/locations:

- Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin
 - Form HSMV 82040 (Application for Title) flhsmv.gov/forms
 - Proof of Florida insurance, minimum \$10,000 PDL and \$10,000 PIP;
 - Identification: driver's license, ID card or passport;
 - Payment for applicable fees, flhsmv.gov/fees
- Title fee, initial registration fee (if applicable), plate fee, registration fee (varies by vehicle weight)

For more information, visit flhsmv.gov/low-speedvehicles.



Golf Carts

Golf carts are defined in section 330.01(2), Florida Statutes, as "a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 mph." Golf carts may be operated on roadways that are designated for golf carts with a posted speed limit of 30 mph or less.

Golf carts are not titled or registered and are not required to be insured with PIP and PDL coverage. Florida's new golf cart law prohibits people under the age of 18 from operating golf carts on public roads or streets unless they possess a valid learner's driver's license or valid driver's license.

Converted Golf Carts

Prior to titling and registering a converted golf cart, the applicant must present photographs of the front, back and both sides (4 total) of the converted vehicle to a Motor Services Regional Office (flhsmv.gov/locations) along with the following documents and fees for an inspection, VIN assignment, title and registration. (Note: The converted golf cart must be street-legal before applying for title and registration.)

- Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin or a bill of sale for the golf cart form HSMV 8490 (Statement of Builder) completed by customer and compliance examiner/inspector;
- Form HSMV 86064 (Affidavit for Golf Cart Modified to a Low-Speed Vehicle);
- Original bills of sale or receipts for all parts used to convert the golf cart;
- Certified weight slip for the converted golf cart;
- Form HSMV 82040 (Application for Title);
- Proof of Florida insurance (minimum \$10,000 PDL and \$10,000 PIP);
- Sales tax or sales tax exemption information for all parts;
- Identification - driver's license, ID card or passport; and
- Applicable fees, flhsmv.gov/fees

- Inspection fee - Initial registration fee, if applicable

- Title fee - Registration fees (varies by weight of vehicle)

- Plate fee

All-Terrain Vehicles

Florida law states that all-terrain vehicles (ATV) may only be operated on unimproved roadways where the posted speed limit is less than 35 mph and only during daylight hours. Anyone under the age of 16 operating an ATV on public land must be under the supervision of an adult and must have proof of completion of a Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) approved safety course. ATV operation and riders under the age of 16 must wear a USDOT approved safety helmet and eye protection. ATVs are titled, but not registered, and are not required to be insured with PIP and PDL coverage. (Sections 261.20, 316.2014 and 316.2123, Florida Statutes)



GOLF CARTS vs. LOW-SPEED VEHICLES

Golf Cart – Approved by State Law

(FS.320.01 (22))

- Top speed is less than 20mph
- ~~Can be driven by anyone over the age of 14.~~
- Prohibited to only those over age 18 unless possess drivers license or learner's driver's license.
- Can only be driven between sunrise and sunset
(Unless equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals)
- Can be driven on Sidewalks at least 8 feet wide, designated for use





GOLF CARTS vs. LOW-SPEED VEHICLES

Low Speed Vehicle - Approved by State Law

(FS.320.01(41))

- Top speed of more than 20mph and less than 25mph
- Fully Equipped with Brakes, Mirrors, Lights, etc.
- Operators License Required
- Registration with DMV Required (with tag)
- Must be insured comparable to a Motor Vehicle
- Can be driven on any road where the speed limit is less than 35mph
- **Not allowed on sidewalks**





MICROMOBILITY DEVICE

Micromobility Device - Approved by State Law

- Top speed of less than 20mph
- Electric Scooters and Bicycles
- Must be able to be human powered
- Motor less than 750 watts
- No Operators License Required
- No Registration with DMV Required
- No Insurance Required
- Operator has Rights and Duties of Bicycle
- Must be **courteous and give way to pedestrians**
- Can be further restricted by Local Ordinance





IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

STATUS QUO CITY WIDE

STAKEHOLDER LED
APPLICATIONS

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER LED
APPLICATIONS

IMPLEMENTATION – STATUS QUO

- No sidewalk use for LSVs or golf carts
- LSVs remain restricted to roads with 35 mph or lower
- Enforcement as needed and education via flyers and orientations

Pros:

- No additional infrastructure costs;
- Maintains current safety measures
- Allowed within private communities

Cons:

- Limited accessibility,
- Some missed opportunities for connectivity



IMPLEMENTATION – STAKEHOLDER LED

- Stakeholders may apply to designate roadways and/or sidewalks for golf cart or LSV use within their developments
- Requires adherence to safety regulations and approval from local government
- Ordinances to be adopted on a case-by-case basis

Pros:

- Provides flexibility to stakeholders;
- localized interconnectivity
- No anticipated investment by City
- Option for enforcement agreements

Cons:

- Potential inconsistency across developments; (can be addressed)
- May require enforcement resources
- Golf cart use spills out of the community



IMPLEMENTATION – MULTI-STAKEHOLDER

- Multiple stakeholders can coordinate to create a network
- City involvement to include public property in the network to bridge gaps
- Can create a more widespread consistency for users
- Ordinances to be adopted on a case-by-case basis

Pros:

- Increased interconnectivity and accessibility;
- promotes sustainable transportation
- Option of enforcement agreement

Cons:

- Requires coordination
- May require city resources & investment
- May require enforcement resources



CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

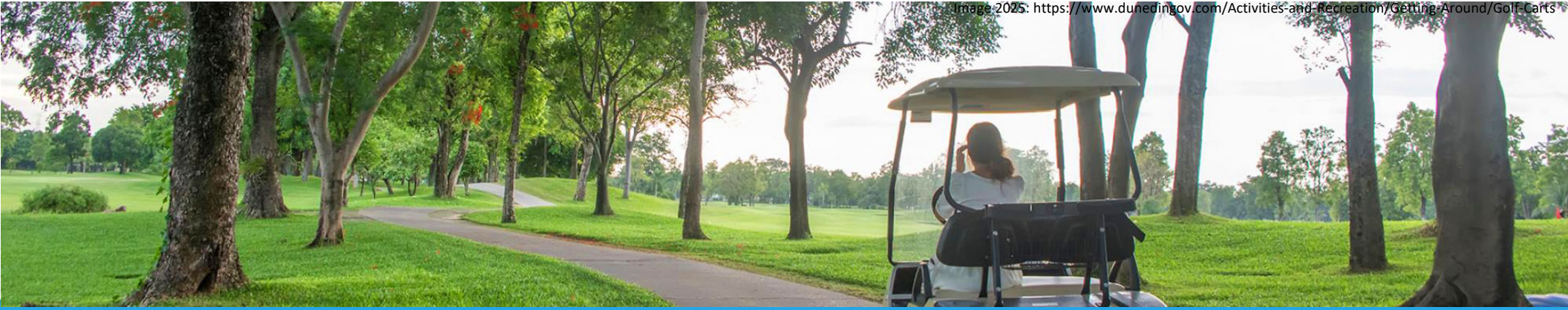
Challenges:

- Speeding
- High traffic volumes
- Distracted / impaired driving
- Golf cart use outside of private communities

Opportunities:

- Education and awareness
- Follow-on enforcement
- Enforcement agreements





DISCUSSION

THANK YOU

