

Interim City Manager
Shirley Holm

City Secretary
D'Ann Lane

City Attorney
Epi Ysassi

City of George West



Mayor
Andrew J. Garza

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jearl Rannefeld

Council
Nathan Stroleny
Patricia Clifton
John Walker

406 Nueces Street • George West, Texas 78022
Phone 361-449-1556 • Fax 361-449-3030

ORDINANCE NO. 926

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GEORGE WEST DEVELOPING POLICIES FOR GOLF CARTS IN THE CITY LIMITS AND ON OUR PUBLIC ROADWAYS

Section 1.

Sec. 50-173 Use and Operation of golf carts and off-highway vehicles on public streets

- a. Definitions: The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in the article shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Golf Cart means a motor vehicle designed by the manufacturer primarily for transporting persons on a golf course;

Motor Vehicle means a vehicle that is self-propelled;

Off-Highway Vehicle means an all-terrain vehicle, a recreational off-highway vehicle, a sand rail or a utility vehicle.

Recreational off-highway Vehicle means a motor vehicle, as described and defined under Texas Transportation Code section 551A.001(5) as amended, which is an off-highway vehicle equipped with a seat or seats for the use of the rider and a passenger or passengers, if the vehicle is designed by the manufacturer to transport a passenger or passengers, and is not designed by the manufacturer primarily for farming or lawn care.

- b. Permits and exemptions from permits:

1. A person may not operate a golf cart or off-roadway vehicle without a permit issued by the city of George West;
2. Permits shall not be transferrable from one person to another;
3. A valid permit must be prominently displayed and attached to the rear of each permitted vehicle that is in plain view with no obstruction;
4. Veterans with disabilities and individuals 65 years of age or older may apply for an exemption from the requirement for filing for a permit;

- c. Application for permit and exceptions:

1. Any person desiring to operate a golf cart or off-highway vehicle must make written application for a permit as follows:

- i. The application must contain the name, telephone number, address, and current email address (if applicable) of the applicant to whom the permit will be issued;
 - ii. A permit fee in the amount specified in the city fee schedule must be paid upon submission of the application for a permit;
 - iii. Current financial responsibility as required for motor vehicles in VTCA., Transportation Code Section 601.051 listing the golf cart or off-highway vehicle must be provided to the city;
- d. An incomplete application for permit will not be accepted.
 - e. Failure to provide all information or falsifying requested information shall result in a denial or revocation of a permit;
 - f. Permits are valid for one year from date of issuance;
 - g. Renewals of permits are required on an annual basis and the same information required for the initial permit must be provided for the renewal of the permit;
2. State governmental agencies, municipal and governmental subdivisions, and school districts shall be required to file an application for permit, but the fee shall be waived;
 3. Golf cart or recreational off-highway vehicle equipment required: A person who applies for a permit must verify that the golf cart or off-highway vehicle has operational:
 - a. Headlamps
 - b. Taillights
 - c. Reflectors
 - d. Parking brake
 - e. Mirrors
 - f. A slow-moving vehicle emblem
 - g. In compliance with Texas Transportation Code, sections 551.402 and 551A.052 as amended, a golf cart, recreational off-highway vehicle or utility vehicle operated under this section must display a golf cart license plate or off-highway vehicle license plate issued by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles on the rear of the vehicle. These license plates can be obtained from the Live Oak County Tax Assessor's Office.
 4. Golf cart and off-highway vehicle permitted and restrictions: A person may operate a golf cart or off-highway vehicle on a public street within the corporate boundaries of the city if:
 - a. The maximum speed limit on the public street is 35 miles per hour or less;
 - b. The operator of the listed vehicles has a valid City of George West Permit;
 - c. The operator of the listed vehicles complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances;
 - d. While the listed vehicles are in motion, the operator and every passenger in the vehicle is seated in a seat designed to hold passengers;
 - e. No person may stand or ride in the lap of the operator and/or other passengers while the listed vehicles are in motion;
 - f. The operator has a valid driver's license;
 - g. If operating a listed vehicle on a public street, the operator may cross U.S. Highway 281 or U.S. Highway 59, but may not drive on U.S. Highway 281 or U.S. Highway 59.

- h. While operating listed vehicle, operators will comply with all portions of the Texas Transportation Code pertaining to the rules of the road
- 5. Vehicles listed in this section that are operating on the streets within the jurisdiction of the City of George West shall be inspected by the George West Police Department before the issuance of a permit to ensure the vehicle has the required equipment as defined in this section and the Texas Transportation Code Chapter 551.
- 6. Administrative Fee for Permit: An administrative fee of \$50.00 set forth by the City of George West shall be assessed when issuing a permit on an annual basis as well as an administrative fee of \$50.00 set forth by the City of George West for replacement permits.
- 7. Nothing in this ordinance shall supersede the Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.304, 551.403, or 551A, 055 as amended.

SECTION 2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Any previously enacted Ordinances found to be in conflict herewith are expressly repealed only to the extent that such conflict exists.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective from and after the date of its final passage as provided by law.

FIRST READING PASSED and APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST: _____ D'Ann Lane, City Secretary	SIGNED: _____ Andrew Garza, Mayor
--	---

SECOND READING PASSED and APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST: _____ D'Ann Lane, City Secretary	SIGNED: _____ Andrew Garza, Mayor
--	---