

CITY OF BELLE SLE, FLORIDA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: December 17th, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: Travis Grimm - Chief of Police

Subject: Subject: Presentation of Proposed Amendments to Chapter 30, Article VI of the Belle Isle Code of Ordinances: Golf Carts on Public Streets

Background:

To present proposed updates to the Belle Isle Golf Cart Ordinance (Chapter 30, Article VI) for council review and feedback. These updates address child safety concerns, align with recent changes to Florida law, and seek council consensus on certain operational parameters for golf carts on public streets and sidewalks. The current Golf Cart Ordinance was last revised in 2020. Following updates to state law and discussions on improving safety measures, the proposed changes aim to enhance operational guidelines for golf cart use within the city.

Critical Updates Presented for Review:

1. Child Safety Requirements: Inclusion of provisions aligned with F.S. § 316.613 for child restraint devices and seat belts.
2. Operational Safety Enhancements: Prohibition of towing devices (e.g., scooters, bicycles, wagons). Occupancy limits tied to the number of seats in a golf cart.
3. Sidewalk Operations: The current draft includes a requirement for sidewalks to meet minimum width standards for golf cart operation. However, the exact width is not finalized in this version. Council consensus is requested to determine the appropriate minimum width for sidewalks to ensure safe operations.
4. Nighttime Operation Standards: Updated equipment requirements for safe operation during nighttime hours.
5. Permitted Street Operations: Enhanced language for crossing and using streets with various speed limits for clarity and safety.

Staff Recommendation and Council discussion points:

- Council to review the proposed changes and provide input or suggestions for additional amendments.
- Consensus on the minimum sidewalk width for golf cart operation to be included in the final draft.
- Staff will incorporate council feedback and prepare the ordinance for formal presentation and approval at a future meeting.

- Are there additional safety concerns or operational considerations to address in this ordinance?
- What should the minimum sidewalk width requirement be to allow for safe golf cart operations?

Suggested Motion: N/A

Alternatives: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Attachments:

Draft of the updated ordinance: Chapter 30, Article VI.