



## **CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** May 19, 2020

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**From:** B. Francis, City Manager

**Subject:** Use of low-speed vehicles or mini-trucks on City Streets

**Background:** At the May 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting, Commissioner Carugno asked that this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. These vehicles are different than golf carts, which were previously prohibited by the City Council. The state statute and definitions are provided below for information. If the Council decides to move forward with this then the staff will prepare the appropriate ordinance and process.

### **F.S.316.2122 Operation of a low-speed vehicle or mini truck on certain roadways.—**

The operation of a low-speed vehicle as defined in s. 320.01 or a mini truck as defined in s. 320.01 on any road is authorized with the following restrictions:

- (1) A low-speed vehicle or mini truck may be operated only on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. This does not prohibit a low-speed vehicle or mini truck from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.
- (2) A low-speed vehicle must be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, seat belts, and vehicle identification numbers.
- (3) A low-speed vehicle or mini truck must be registered and insured in accordance with s. 320.02 and titled pursuant to chapter 319.
- (4) Any person operating a low-speed vehicle or mini truck must have in his or her possession a valid driver license.
- (5) A county or municipality may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles or mini trucks on any road under its jurisdiction if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that such prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.
- (6) The Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles or mini trucks on any road under its jurisdiction if it determines that such prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.

### **Definitions:**

“Low-speed vehicle” means any four-wheeled vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 miles per hour but not greater than 25 miles per hour, including, but not limited to, neighborhood

electric vehicles. Low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards in 49 C.F.R. s. 571.500 and s. 316.2122.

“Mini truck” means any four-wheeled, reduced-dimension truck that does not have a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration truck classification, with a top speed of 55 miles per hour, and which is equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, taillamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, and seat belts.

**Staff Recommendation:** Discuss the issue and provide direction to the staff.

**Suggested Motion:** I move that we allow low speed vehicles and mini-trucks on city streets and direct the city staff to prepare the ordinance.

**Alternatives:** Do not allow these vehicles.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Attachments:** None