



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: March 19, 2025

AGENDA OF: March 25, 2025

DEPARTMENT: POLICE

SUBJECT: Discuss and take appropriate action regarding City Golf Cart, UTV, & Electric Vehicle Ordinance.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: **Discussion Only.** Staff will seek additional input on the proposed Ordinance.

BACKGROUND:

In April 2024, the City Council was briefed on the existing regulations and state laws governing the operation of golf carts and similar vehicles on public streets. Following that discussion, the City Council directed the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to regulate the use of these vehicles within the city limits. While the initial conversation raised several important questions, fewer definitive answers were provided at that time.

Since then, I have worked closely with the newly appointed City Attorney, who has drafted a sample ordinance for consideration. It is important to note that different types of vehicles—such as Utility Task/Terrain Vehicles (UTVs), golf carts, and Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEVs)—are classified and regulated differently under the Texas Transportation Code.

The City Attorney does not recommend the issuance of license plates for these vehicles due to potential confusion, as golf carts can already obtain license plates from the State of Texas. After reviewing ordinances from several other cities, it appears that the common practice is to issue permit stickers rather than license plates, with these stickers being distributed by the Police Department following vehicle inspections.

At this point, staff is seeking input from the City Council on several key issues:

1. Whether the city should issue a license plate or opt for an alternative identification method (such as a permit sticker).
2. Clarification on the process for issuing registrations, including which department should oversee the registration process and the specific actions that both the registrant and staff should take prior to issuance.

FISCAL IMPACT: TBD

☐ Budgeted ☒ Requires Budget Amendment

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund

ATTACHMENTS: None

Urgency (0-5 = Low Urgency to High Urgency): 1

Impact (0-5 = Low Impact to High Impact): 1

Submitted by: **Chief James Kohler**