



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: Planning and Zoning Commission **MEETING DATE:** March 28, 2023
FROM: Michael Daniels, AICP, Development Services Director
SUBJECT: Operation of Golf Carts on Multiuse Trails

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to previous discussions at City Council, there have been concerns and questions from the public regarding the operation of golf carts on trails and sidewalks. This is particularly an issue with the construction of the multiuse trails on Palmetto and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. As set forth in the statute, golf carts are typically required to be operated on a public road that are designated for golf cart use. Municipalities, however can enact an ordinance allowing the operation of golf carts on multiuse paths and sidewalks subject to the following conditions:

1. The local governmental entity determines, after considering the condition and current use of the sidewalks, the character of the surrounding community, and the locations of authorized golf cart crossings, that golf carts, bicycles, and pedestrians may safely share the sidewalk;
2. The local governmental entity consults with the Department of Transportation before adopting the ordinance;
3. The ordinance restricts golf carts to a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour and permits such use on sidewalks adjacent to state highways only if the sidewalks are at least 8 feet wide;
4. The ordinance requires the golf carts to meet the equipment requirements in subsection (6). However, the ordinance may require additional equipment, including horns or other warning devices required by s. [316.271](#); and
5. The local governmental entity posts appropriate signs or otherwise informs residents that the ordinance exists and applies to such sidewalks.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

No Action Necessary, staff is requesting direction from Planning and Zoning Commission to determine if they want staff to move forward with the creation of a golf cart ordinance to permit golf carts to operate on the multiuse paths on Palmetto and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

