



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024

The Columbia City Council will conduct a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, Second Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. The meeting can be viewed online at www.columbiasc.gov. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (803)545-3045 or cityclerk@columbiasc.gov if you have questions regarding the meeting.

The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor
The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., District II ▪ The Honorable William Brennan, District III
The Honorable Aditi Bussells, At-Large ▪ The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, District I
The Honorable Peter M. Brown, District IV ▪ The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey, At-Large

Prior to entering the meeting please turn all electronic communication devices to the silent, vibrate or off position. All presenters are asked to speak directly into the microphone for recording purposes.

CALL TO ORDER

ORDINANCE - FIRST READING

1. Ordinance No.: 2024-071 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic to add Article V, Golf Carts

ADJOURNMENT



MEETING DATE: August 13, 2024

DEPARTMENT: Legal Department

FROM: *Teresa Knox, City Attorney*

SUBJECT: Ordinance No.: 2024-071 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic to add Article V, Golf Carts

FUNDING SOURCE & ORIGINAL BUDGET:

FOCUS AREAS: Planning Together

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2024-071 - Amend Chapter 12, Article V (PDF)

ORDINANCE NO.: 2024-071

Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic to add Article V, Golf Carts

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council this _____ day of _____, 2024, that the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic is amended to add Article V, Golf Carts to read as follows:

ARTICLE V. – GOLF CARTS

Sec. 12-151. The operation of golf carts regulated.

City council hereby makes the following findings of fact:

- (a) Golf carts are, by their design and nature, slow moving and pose a potential danger for those using the vehicles and the streets; and
- (b) Golf carts, specifically, have become a safety concern, especially when used as a vehicle for hire as they have heretofore been unregulated, unlicensed, and operating illegally under both State and city law; and
- (c) The unregulated operation of golf carts on the streets of the city is and would continue to be detrimental to the safety of the public; and
- (d) It is in the public interest, and for the public safety and welfare, that the streets in the city and the users thereof be protected from unregulated vehicles that hinder travel or pose dangers or distractions that give rise to accidents and inconvenience; and
- (e) City council further finds, for the same reasons, that golf carts used as vehicles for hire or ride shares in the city would not be in the public interest; and
- (f) City council further finds that special legislation, to the extent it is enforceable, does not apply to golf carts that are used as a public conveyance and/or vehicle for hire, which the city has authority to regulate as a matter of public health and safety.

Sec. 12-152. Definition.

Charitable contribution shall be defined as a voluntary gift or donation to an organization or individual, given without the expectation of receiving anything of equal value.

For hire shall mean on a pay-per-ride basis, for charitable donations, or for tips. It is the intention of Council to prevent the use of these vehicles as a form of taxi or ride share service.

Golf carts shall be defined as a four-wheeled motor vehicle, other than an all-terrain vehicle, whose speed attainable in one mile is more than twenty miles an hour and not more than twenty-five miles an hour on a paved level surface, and whose gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) is less than three thousand pounds. This is regardless of the type of fuel or power source, number of seats, or any other complicating factor.

Tips shall be defined as discretionary (optional or extra) payments determined by a customer that employees receive from customers. Tips include cash tips received directly from customers or tips from customers who leave a tip through electronic settlement or payment.

Sec. 12-153. Use as a vehicle for hire prohibited.

The operation of golf carts as vehicles for hire is strictly prohibited. Use of golf carts as a form of taxi or rideshare is against the public interest as it is detrimental to the safety of the public.

Sec. 12-154. Operational requirements specific to golf carts.

(a) Operational requirements.

- (1) During daylight hours only, a permitted golf cart may be operated within four miles of the address on the registration certificate and only on a secondary highway or street for which the posted speed limit is 35 miles an hour or less.
- (2) During daylight hours only, a permitted golf cart may be operated within four miles of a point of ingress and egress to a gated community and only on a secondary highway or street for which the posted speed limit is 35 miles an hour or less.
- (3) During daylight hours only, within four miles of the registration holder's address, and while traveling along a secondary highway or street for which the posted speed limit is 35 miles an hour or less, a permitted golf cart may cross a highway or street at an intersection where the highway has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles an hour.
- (4) A person operating a permitted golf cart must be at least 16 years of age and hold a valid driver's license. The operator of a permitted golf cart being operated on a highway or street must have in his possession:
 - i. the registration certificate issued by the state;
 - ii. proof of liability insurance for the golf cart; an
 - iii. his driver's license.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any operator of a golf cart to travel more than four miles from the address of registration of the owner.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of 16 to operate a golf cart on public roads.
- (d) It shall be unlawful to operate a golf cart without a driver's license in immediate possession.
- (e) It shall be unlawful for golf cart operators to operate with more than one golf cart per lane.
- (f) It shall be unlawful to ride upon a golf cart other than upon a permanent and regular seat.
- (g) It shall be unlawful for a golf cart operator or passenger to travel in a golf cart with any person's body parts outside the interior of the golf cart.

- Attachment: 2024-071 - Amend Chapter 12, Article V (9562 : Ordinance No.: 2024-071 - Amending Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic)

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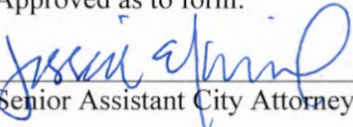
Requested by:

Mayor Rickenmann

Approved by:

City Manager

Approved as to form:


Senior Assistant City Attorney

Introduced:

Final Reading:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Attachment: 2024-071 - Amend Chapter 12, Article V (9562 : Ordinance No.: 2024-071 - Amending Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic)