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## Sources of Personal Transportation Vehicle Regulation

#### Chapter 2-15 of Glynn County Code of Ordinances, Article III (effective October 18, 2019)



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## Purpose & Intent

- To enhance and protect public safety
  - PTVs may share the roads with other vehicular traffic on public streets in unincorporated areas of Glynn County with a posted speed limit of 25 mph or less without adversely impacting traffic safety or the travel needs of other users if operated as required by this Ordinance.
- To protect Glynn County from civil liability for losses resulting from the use of PTVs on public roadways
  - Persons operating PTVs on the public roadways of Glynn County do so at their own risk



### Definitions

### •Golf Cart means:

Any motorized vehicle designed primarily for the purpose of conveying one or more persons and equipment to play the game of golf and exclusively used for such purpose in an area designated as a golf course





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### Definitions

### •Low Speed Vehicle means:

Any four-wheeled electric vehicle whose top speed attainable in one mile is greater than 20 mph but not greater than 25 mph on a paved level surface and which is manufactured in compliance with those federal motor vehicle safety standards for low-speed vehicles set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 571.500 and in effect on January 1, 2001.

- This definition is the same as that set forth in O.C.G.A. § 40-1-1(25.1).
- Amendments to the statutory definition of LSVs are automatically incorporated into the County Ordinance.



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## Definitions

#### • A motor vehicle is defined as:

- Every vehicle which is self-propelled other than an electric personal assistive mobility device.
- This definition is the same as set forth in O.C.G.A. Sec. 40-1-1(33). Future amendments, if any are incorporated automatically.



### Definitions

#### • Personal Transportation Vehicle (PTV) means:

- Any motor vehicle with a minimum of four wheels, capable of a maximum level ground speed of less than 20 mph with a maximum gross vehicle unladen or empty weight of 1,375 lbs. and capable of transporting not more than eight persons.
- The term does *NOT* include All Terrain Vehicles, multi-purpose off-highway vehicles, or power wheelchairs, scooters, and mobility aids used for the express purpose of enabling mobility for a person with disabilities.
- Same as O.C.G.A. § 40-1-1(43.1) all future amendments are incorporated.



## Definitions

#### •Seat belt means:

- A seat safety belt approved under Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 208 (Occupant Crash Protection).
  - Type 1 seat belt (lap belt) assembly or a Type 2 seat belt (lap and shoulder belt) assembly at each designated seating position with a seat belt warning system at each front outboard seating position.





## Applicability

- The provisions of the Glynn County ordinance apply only to Personal Transportation Vehicles operated on public streets in the unincorporated areas of Glynn County.
- The ordinance does *NOT* apply to Low Speed Vehicles (LSVs) which are required to be registered with the state Division of Motor Vehicles.
- The ordinance does NOT apply to PTVs owned by dealers, distributors or other commercial establishments when the PTV is intended exclusively for sale or resale.



## **Registration of PTVs**

- PTVs must be registered at the County Department of Community Development prior to operating on public streets in Glynn County.
- Glynn County will issue a registration decal to be permanently affixed to the driver's side of the vehicle as proof of registration.
  - The cost for registration is \$15.00, and is valid for five (5) years.
- A PTV registration certificate is non-transferable.
  - If a PTV is sold, the new owner must renew the registration.



## **Registration of PTVs**

- Commercial businesses that rent PTVs are required to equip and register each such PTV in the manner indicated in the ordinance.
- Rental companies are required to maintain a written record of each person to whom a PTV is rented.
- Failure to register a PTV, or failure to properly display a registration decal while operating a PTV on a public street subjects the owner of the PTV to the penalties set forth in Section 2-15-69 of the Ordinance.



## **Registration of PTVs**

- There is no requirement that PTVs be inspected for compliance with state statute and county ordinance equipment standards prior to their registration.
  - Local authorities are not liable for losses resulting from their exercise or failure to exercise their inspection powers or functions, or for conducting a negligent inspection of a PTV.





## **Insurance Requirement**

- Owners of PTVs are prohibited from operating their PTV or authorizing someone else to operate their PTV - on public streets unless they have liability insurance as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 33-7-11.
  - This is the same insurance requirement applicable to state registered motor vehicles.
- The owner or operator of a PTV shall keep proof of the required insurance coverage in the PTV at all times.



## **Equipment Requirements for PTVs**

- Braking system, including a parking brake
- Reverse warning device functional when in reverse gear
- Main power switch if key, removable only in "off" position
- Functional head lights
- Functional tail lights
- Functional front and rear turn signals
- Functional stop lamps (brake lights)
- Reflex reflectors
- Rear view mirror





## **Equipment Requirements for PTVs**

- Seat belt for each designated seat
- Horn and hand holds
- Warning emblem mounted consistent with ASAE § 276.1 on center rear of vehicle 3-5 feet from the ground.
  - Flashing amber strobe lights are not required for PTVs by law, but are a good safety feature and should be installed voluntarily.





## **Equipment Requirements for PTVs**

- If gasoline powered, an exhaust/muffler system in good working order
- Safe, roadworthy tires (off-road tires prohibited)
- If it has a windshield, a functional wiper system
  - Windshields are *NOT* required for registration as a PTV.











- PTVs operated on public streets are subject to all traffic laws applicable to vehicular traffic using public streets.
- PTVs may be operated on public streets in the unincorporated area of Glynn County which have a posted speed limit of 25 mph or less.
- LSVs may be operated on public streets in the unincorporated area of Glynn County which have a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less.
- PTVs and LSVs may not be operated on sidewalks or bicycle paths at any time.



 Operators of PTVs must possess a valid driver's license and be at least 16 years of age.





- Each person occupying a PTV shall be restrained by a seat belt while the vehicle is being operated on a public street.
  - Pets are "occupants," not "persons."
- Child passengers under 40 pounds or less than four feet, nine inches must be secured in an installed child passenger restraining system in PTVs operated on public streets.





 PTVs may only be operated on highways where the posted speed limit does not exceed 25 miles per hour. The operator of a personal transportation vehicle shall not operate such vehicle on any highway where the posted speed limit exceeds 25 miles per hour.





- PTVs may not be operated upon, nor cross streets and highways which are part of the state highway system.
- PTVs may cross public streets with a posted speed limit greater than 25 mph so long as they are traveling from one street to another, both of which are posted with a speed limit of 25 mph or less.





- Maximum occupancy of a PTV is one occupant per designated seat.
- Pets are included in the tally of occupants!





 PTVs shall not be driven with any sign, poster, or other nontransparent material upon the front windshield, side windows, or rear windows of such vehicle which obstructs the driver's clear view of the highway or any intersecting highway.





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- PTVs must use headlights and tail lights when:
  - Operated on public streets during nondaylight hours
  - It is raining
  - There is not sufficient visibility to render clearly discernible persons and/or vehicles at a distance of 500 feet ahead.









- Operators of PTVs may not overtake or pass in the same lane as occupied by the vehicle being overtaken or passed.
- Operators of PTVs may not operate between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.
- PTVs may not operate two or more abreast in a single lane.



 Operators of PTVs shall pull off the road at the first opportunity to safely do so if there are three or more motor vehicles immediately following the PTV.





## **Penalties for Failure to Comply**

- Violations of the provisions of the Ordinance, are misdemeanors.
- Violators shall be cited to appear in the Glynn County Magistrate's Court.
- Excepting only violations under § 1-25-67 (unlawful operation), PTV violations shall be charged, and all fines and penalties shall be levied therefor, against both the registered owner and the operator.



## **Penalties for Failure to Comply**

- The maximum permissible fine is \$1,000.00.
- 1<sup>st</sup> offense a fine not to exceed \$200.00.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense committed within one year of a previous violation a fine not to exceed \$500.00.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense committed within one year of a previous conviction for a second offense – a fine not to exceed 750.00.



## **Penalties for Failure to Comply**

#### • 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense (continued)

- If the offense involves a PTV, the owner's registration shall be revoked by the county.
- The owner shall not be permitted to register a PTV for one year.
- The owner shall be prohibited from operating a PTV on public streets for one year.





# Questions?

