

**SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION  
ORDINANCE NO. 19-002**

**Ordinance Regarding the Permitting and Operation of Golf Carts  
in the City of Smiths Grove**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Smiths Grove believes it to be in their best interest to authorize permit and authorization of golf carts on the city streets of Smiths Grove.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF SMITHS GROVE, KENTUCKY:**

**74.01 Policy**

The Kentucky General Assembly enacted *KRS 189.286* which authorizes the use of golf carts on certain city streets; furthermore, *KRS 189.286* authorizes the City of Smiths Grove to regulate the operation of golf carts on the city streets under its jurisdiction. The City of Smiths Grove has deemed it appropriate and necessary to enact an ordinance based upon the enabling provisions of *KRS 189.286*.

**74.02 Definitions**

For the purpose of this ordinance the following definitions shall apply as follows:

**“Golf cart”** means any self-propelled vehicle that:

1. Is designed for the transportation of players or maintaining equipment on a golf course, while engaged in the playing of golf, supervising the play of golf, or maintaining the condition of the grounds on a golf course;
2. Has a minimum of four (4) wheels;
3. Is designed to operate at a speed of not more than thirty-five (35) miles per hour;
4. Is designed to carry not more than six (6) persons, including the driver;
5. Has a maximum gross vehicle weight of two thousand five hundred (2,500) pounds;
6. Has a maximum rated payload capacity of one thousand two hundred (1,200) pounds; and
7. Is equipped with the following:
  - a. Headlamps;
  - b. Tail lamps;
  - c. Stop lamps;
  - d. A rear view mirror;
  - e. A parking brake

**74.03 Designated Public Streets**

Golf carts shall only be allowed to operate on city streets where the speed limit is 25 mph or less. The only exception to this speed limit is that an operator of a golf cart will be permitted to cross Main Street (Hwy 101/Smiths Grove Scottsville Road) without making a left or right turn.

#### **74.04 Operating Requirements**

Any golf cart operating on the streets under the jurisdiction of the City of Smiths Grove shall be inspected by a certified inspector designated by the Warren County Sheriff and be subject to an inspection fee of \$5.00 with an additional fee of \$10.00 per trip charged when it is necessary for the certified inspector to travel to a site other than the designated site in Smiths Grove or the Sheriff's office in Bowling Green. The Warren County Sheriff's office will designate one day per month to conduct inspections in Smiths Grove in order to accommodate owners of golf carts from transporting vehicles to the Sheriff's office in Bowling Green.

In addition to the inspection fee, the City of Smiths Grove will charge a \$10.00 registration fee for each golf cart that will be allowed to operate on the designated public streets. This registration fee is currently \$10.00 but will be no more than \$20.00 per registration sticker.

In order to be operated on such designated city streets, a golf cart shall comply with the following:

1. Golf carts shall display a sticker on the rear bumper issued by the City of Smiths Grove indicating a permit to operate on certain streets within the city.
2. Golf carts shall be operated by persons that have a valid operator's license in his or her possession.
3. The golf cart is being operated between sunrise and sunset.
4. The golf cart must be operated on posted speed limit designated public roadways at 25 mph or less.
5. The golf cart displays a slow-moving vehicle emblem in compliance with *KRS 189.820*.
6. The operator of the golf cart does not cross a roadway at an intersection where the roadway being crossed has a posted speed limit of 35 mph or greater.
7. A golf cart operating on the city streets of Smiths Grove shall be insured in compliance with *KRS 304.39-080* by the owner or operator of the golf cart and written proof of insurance shall be inside of the golf cart at all times of operation on a public roadway.
8. Any person operating a golf cart on a city street under the provisions of this section shall be subject to the traffic regulations of *KRS 189*.
9. A golf cart operating on the city streets designated by Smiths Grove is not considered to be a motor vehicle and is exempt from:
  1. Title requirements of *KRS 186.020*;
  2. Vehicle registration requirements of *KRS 186.050*; and
  3. Emissions compliance certificates pursuant to *KRS 224.20-720*.
10. This ordinance does not permit ATVs, side-by-side utility vehicles, dirt bikes, scooters, or go-carts not already specified in KRS under this ordinance. Furthermore, this ordinance does not concern any vehicles specifically used for agricultural purposes.

**74.05 Penalties**

1. Operators of golf carts on Smiths Grove city streets shall follow all traffic rules and regulations and are subject to being issued a Kentucky Uniform Citation and/or a City of Smiths Grove code and ordinance violation for observed offenses.
2. Anyone violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of no less than \$25.00 and no more than \$150.00 for each violation, plus any court costs which may be imposed. Any person receiving three violations in a three-month period shall be subject to having their permit revoked for a period of not less than six months.

**74.06 Exempted Golf Carts**

The provisions of this section shall not apply to a golf cart that is not used on a public roadway except to cross a roadway while following a golf cart path on a golf course.

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to *KRS 83A.060* in that it was introduced on July 22, 2019 and given a final hearing on August 26, 2019 and shall be in full force and effect upon signature, recordation, and publication in summary pursuant to *KRS Chapter 424*.

ADOPTED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2019.

APPROVED: David L. Stiffey  
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST: Nancy A. Howard  
NANCY A. HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE: 8-27-19