

Attn: West Galveston Island Property Owners Asso

I have received a number of inquiries on the City Council meeting last Thursday about a new golf cart ordinance. Sea Isle Property Owners Association posted the following on their website and allowed us to broadcast this information to all west end Property Owners Association. We thank the Sea Isle Property Owners Association for the information.

City Council will again review an ordinance at the October 6 City Council meeting so if you are concerned, please let your City Council Member know (Karenmahoney@cityofgalveston.org) and voice your opinion at the meeting.

Jerry

Subject: Galveston City ordinance to ban golf carts

Sea Isle Property Owners Assc.

www.seaislegalveston.com

Sept. 17, 2009

The Galveston City Council just finished the meeting on golf carts. The police chief spoke out against golf carts and recommended they be removed from all streets and master planned communities of Galveston. He was given an action to write a city ordinance to prohibit golf carts from Galveston Island streets with no exceptions. He is to bring it to the October 8th, 09 council meeting for approval. All slow moving vehicles, other than specifically golf carts, will be permitted. Any under age driver found driving any vehicle will result in immediate confiscation of the vehicle.

Effective September 1, 2009, golf carts no longer can be titled or registered. If golf cart owners come in after September 1st, even if they have August renewals, they cannot register their golf carts. Note: Golf carts may continue to be registered in Grayson County but only with golf cart license plates. Golf cart license plates may not be issued in other counties, however. Since registration renewal notices are created far in advance of the actual expiration date, customers will receive September and October registration renewal notices for golf carts. Registration should not be renewed on and after September 1, 2009, even if you have customers who present a registration renewal notice. Renewal notices for golf carts with November 2009 or later expiration will not be mailed. We are sending letters to all golf cart owners we can identify to let them know of the change effective September 1st. Registration for golf carts can be renewed before September 1, 2009.

We appreciate your assistance with informing golf cart customers of the following:

- Registrations issued to golf carts prior to September 1, 2009, will remain valid until expiration but will not be renewed at expiration.
- DPS will fully recognize and honor all existing golf cart registrations through their expiration date.
- Tax, title and registration fees paid prior to September 1, 2009, are non-refundable.
- Titles issued prior to September 1, 2009, will not be required to be returned to the department.

If municipalities allow, unregistered golf carts may continue to be operated on public roads within a municipality*s boundaries if:

- the road has a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less; and
- the golf cart is equipped with headlamps, tail lamps, reflectors, a parking brake, and mirrors.

Additionally, state law allows unregistered golf carts to be operated on public roads or lands:

- to cross intersections, including a road or street that has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.
- in a master planned community with a uniform set of restrictive covenants and a county or municipality-approved plat.
- on a public or private beach.
- on a road with a posted speed limit not more than 35mph if driven to or from a golf course during the daytime and the golf cart is driven not more than two miles from the location where it is usually parked and the golf course.

Golf carts should display a slow-moving vehicle emblem if operated on public roads.

Thank you.

--Rebecca Davio

Texas Department of Transportation