

DRAFT

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2026 -

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3
4 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
5 COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
6 AMENDING CHARLOTTE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2-4:
7 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, BY REVISING ARTICLE I: IN
8 GENERAL, SECTION 2-4-10: OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON
9 PUBLIC ROADS TO REVISE THE SECTION TITLE TO
10 "OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON DESIGNATED ROADWAYS";
11 TO UPDATE SUBSECTIONS (B) THROUGH (H) TO BE
12 CONSISTENT WITH FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 316.212:
13 OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON CERTAIN ROADWAYS; AND
14 TO ADD AN ALTERNATIVE PROCESS TO DESIGNATE A
15 ROADWAY FOR GOLF CART USE BY PLAT OR REPLAT OF A
16 SUBDIVISION; APPLICANT: BOARD OF COUNTY
17 COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA;
18 PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT WITH OTHER ORDINANCES;
19 PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN
20 EFFECTIVE DATE.
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RECITAL

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24 WHEREAS, Section 316.212, Operation of Golf Carts on Public Roads,
25 Florida Statutes, governs the operation of golf carts on public roads throughout
26 the State of Florida; and

27 WHEREAS, on July 25, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners of
28 Charlotte County, Florida ("Board") adopted Ordinance Number 2017-035,
29 creating new Section 2-4-10: Operation of Golf Carts on Public Roads, of the
30 Code of Laws and Ordinances of Charlotte County ("Code"), to establish
31 regulations governing the operation of golf carts on public roads throughout
32 Charlotte County to be consistent with Section 316.212, Florida Statutes; and

33 WHEREAS, Section 316.212, Florida Statutes, was amended on May 11,
34 2023; and

35 WHEREAS, at this time, County Staff is proposing amendments to Section
36 2-4-10 of the Code intended to ensure consistency with current State law and to
37 add an alternative process for designating a roadway for golf cart use through the
38 platting or replatting of a subdivision, all as provided in Exhibit "A" attached
39 hereto; and

40 WHEREAS, after due consideration, based on the findings and analysis
41 provided by County Staff and the evidence presented to it, the Board finds that
42 approval of these proposed amendments is in the best interests of the County
43 and its citizens.

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County
45 Commissioners of Charlotte County, Florida:

46 Section 1. Adoption. Section 2-4-10: Operation of Golf Carts on
47 Public Roads, of the Code of Laws and Ordinances of Charlotte County, Florida,
48 is hereby amended by adding the underlined language and by deleting the
49 stricken language as shown in Exhibit "A" which is attached hereto.

50 Section 2. Conflict with Other Ordinances. The provisions of this
51 Ordinance shall supersede any provision of existing ordinances in conflict
52 herewith to the extent of said conflict.

53 Section 3. Severability. If any subsection, sentence, clause,
54 phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or
55 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be
56 deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall
57 not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.

58 Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon
59 filing in the Office of the Secretary of State, State of Florida.

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61 PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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By: _____
Joseph M. Tiseo, Chairman

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ATTEST:
Roger D. Eaton, Clerk of the Circuit Court
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Board of County Commissioners

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By: _____
Deputy Clerk

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APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

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By: _____
Thomas M. David, County Attorney
LR2026-0108

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Sec. 2-4-10. Operation of Golf Carts on ~~Public Roads~~ Designated Roadways

- (a) —A "golf cart," for purposes of this section, means a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and is not capable of exceeding speeds of twenty (20) miles per hour.
- (b) —A golf cart may be operated only upon those public roads or streets in unincorporated Charlotte County designated for golf cart use by resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter referred to as "designated public roads or streets") or by plat or replat of a subdivision. Prior to making such designation, ~~the board of county commissioners~~ the County Engineer must first determine that golf carts may safely travel on or cross the public road or street, considering factors including the speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using the road or street. The County or an appropriate entity shall post signs on the road to indicate that such operation is allowed.
- (c) —~~Any golf cart that is operated on designated public roads or streets in unincorporated Charlotte County between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with functioning headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and a windshield.~~
- (d) —~~All golf carts operating on designated public roads or streets must be equipped with efficient brakes, a reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, a rearview mirror, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear. Persons driving golf carts on designated public roads or streets in unincorporated Charlotte County shall comply with all applicable provisions of F.S. ch. 316, including, but not limited to, compliance with all traffic control devices.~~
- (e) —~~All golf carts operating on designated public roads or streets must be equipped with efficient brakes, a reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, a rearview mirror, and red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear. Persons driving golf carts on designated public roads or streets in unincorporated Charlotte County shall comply with all applicable provisions of F.S. ch. 316, including, but not limited to, compliance with all traffic control devices.~~
- (f) —~~No person under fourteen (14) years of age may operate a golf cart. Operation of a golf cart is subject to F.S. section 316.212, as may be amended. on any designated public roads or streets in unincorporated Charlotte County.~~
- (g) —County maintained roads designated for golf cart use have the following speed limits:
 - (1) —Paved roads with a width of fifteen (15) feet or more: Twenty-five (25) miles per hour.
 - (2) —Paved roads with a width of less than fifteen (15) feet: Twenty (20) miles per hour.
 - (3) —Unpaved roads, regardless of width: Twenty (20) miles per hour.
- (h) —A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to F.S. ch. 318. Violations of subsections (b), (c), and ~~(d)~~ are moving violations and violations of subsections ~~(e)~~ and (f) are nonmoving violations.

