

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

District Impacted
☐ 1 = Haberstroh
! □ 2 = Woolard
☐ 3 = Boyd
! □ 4 = Cisneros
☐ 5 = Bergmann
! X All
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# DESCRIPTION STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION (be specific)

#### **GOLF CARTS**

Deny requests to allow Golf Carts on City Streets

## CONTACT PERSON

#### Chief Kohler

### **SUMMARY**

I have been approached many times in regards to allowing Golf carts on city streets. In September 2014 I sent an email to the following; City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Assistant City Manager, and the City Attorney. The feedback I received was that no one was in favor of allowing the Golf carts on city streets. Some of the issues are as follows: inspection of golf carts, safety concern, speed limits that are on our current streets, age of drivers, accidents that may occur. It seems that several citizens have moved from a community where Golf carts were allowed and now want the City of Boerne to enact an ordinance allowing a Golf Cart to be driven on our streets.

I have also been approached by the General Manager of UPS/ San Antonio division who lives in Menger Springs. UPS has been hiring people during the Holiday Season to deliver packages via Golf Carts in residential neighborhoods. Essentially they drop of a lot of packages at a given house within a neighborhood and then the person delivers those packages. The driver of the Golf Cart goes through training conducted by UPS, only drive them during daylight hours, and remain within their respected subdivision. The City of Kerrville has allowed this. I called former Police Chief Young and he stated that the City Manager allowed this to occur without his input; however, they had no accidents with their usage. From a safety standpoint this does not concern me. With that being said we have no accidents with any of the large trucks from UPS. UPS does this to expedite delivery during their busiest months.

As mentioned below the law does allow Golf Carts under the Texas Traffic Code, Section 551.403 (a)(1). They can also be used on private streets which is the case is in Menger Springs. As you know Assistant Chief Page lives there and has commented several times how unsafe this is to have young children/ teenagers driving within this subdivision and I would tend to agree. Finally, do we really want someone leaving City Hall and drive to their local HEB via Blanco Street, Main Street and then onto Highway 46...probably not.

Sec. 551.403. LIMITED OPERATION. (a) An operator may operate a golf cart:

(1) in a master planned community: (A) that has in place a uniform set of restrictive covenants; and (B) for which a county or municipality has

	approved a plat;
	(2) on a public or private beach; or
	(3) on a public highway for which the posted speed limit is not more than 35
	miles per hour, if the golf cart is operated:
	(A) during the daytime; and
	(B) not more than two miles from the location where the golf cart is usually
	parked and for transportation to or from a golf course.
	(b) The Texas Department of Transportation or a county or municipality
	may prohibit the operation of a golf cart on a public highway if the
	department or the governing body of the county or municipality determines
	that the prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.
	Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 1136, Sec. 10, eff. September 1,
	2009.
	Sec. 551.404. OPERATION IN MUNICIPALITIES AND CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a)
	In addition to the operation authorized by Section 551.403, the governing
	body of a municipality may allow an operator to operate a golf cart on all or
	part of a public highway that:
	(1) is in the corporate boundaries of the municipality; and
	(2) has a posted speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour. (a-1) In addition to the operation authorized by Section 551.403, the
	commissioners court of a county that borders or contains a portion of the
	Guadalupe River and contains a part of a barrier island that borders the Gulf
	of Mexico may allow an operator to operate a golf cart or utility vehicle on
	all or part of a public highway that:(1) is located in the unincorporated area
	of the county; and(2) has a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour.
	(b) A golf cart or utility vehicle operated under this section must have the
	following equipment:
	(1) headlamps;
	(2) taillamps;
	(3) reflectors;
	(4) parking brake; and
	(5) mirrors.
	I have also included portions of the Texas Transportation Code Sections that
	apply: 502.001(18), 521.021, 551.403 & 551.404 along with other portions
	of the law but these are the specific sections to review.
COST	
SOURCE OF FUNDS	
ADDITIONAL	See attached laws
INFORMATION	
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This summary is not meant to be all inclusive. Supporting documentation is attached.

## Form Revised 10/13/15