

To: Mayor J.B. Lawrence and Blowing Rock Town Council
From: Kevin Rothrock, Planning Director
Subject: Ord. 2017-08 – Golf Cart Ordinance Amendment
Date: August 1, 2017

In March 2012, Council adopted an ordinance allowing the use of golf carts on all Town streets but prohibited on Valley Blvd, except for crossing at Sunset Drive and Green Hill Road/Rock Road. The town has received some requests to allow golf cart crossing at Possum Hollow Road to Shoppes on the Parkway. The only other remaining intersection not allowing cart crossing is South Main Street and Skyland View Drive, which will soon be signalized. As such, both intersections have been included in the draft ordinance to allow golf cart crossings. No golf carts will be allowed to travel Valley Blvd.

In the attached draft ordinance, proposed text is underlined and highlighted.

**AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING NEW GOLF CART CROSSINGS
ON VALLEY BLVD (HWY 321) WITHIN
THE TOWN OF BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, there is public interest in having a means of local travel that is cost effective and energy efficient as an alternative to the use of motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 160A-300.6 authorizes a city, by ordinance, to regulate the operation of golf carts on any public street, road or highway where the speed limit is 35 mph or less within its municipal limits or on property owned or leased by the City; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance allowing the use of golf carts on all Town streets; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that the safe, proper operation of golf carts on streets, roads and highways within the Town is in the public interest and, if properly regulated, will promote the public health, safety and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, that:

Section 1. Section 6-32.01 of the Town Code of the Town of Blowing Rock is hereby amended to read as set forth herein.

“Section 6-32.01 Golf Carts on Public Streets and Roads.

Standards of Operation.

It is unlawful to operate a golf cart on a public street or road within the Town unless the following requirements are met:

(A) The golf cart must display a valid registration sticker as provided in Section 6-32.02.

(B) Except as set forth in this subparagraph, the golf cart may only be operated on Town streets and roads with a posted speed limited of 35 MPH or less. In no instance is it permissible to cross or travel upon any road, or right-of-way thereof, with a speed limit greater than 35 MPH. Golf carts may not be operated on US 321 Bypass (Valley Blvd.) except to cross at the Sunset Drive intersection, ~~and~~ the Green Hill Road/Rock Road intersection, the South Main Street/Skyland View Drive intersection, and the Possum Hollow Road/Shoppes on the Parkway intersection.”

Section 2. Severability; Conflict of Laws. If this ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given separate effect and to that end, the

provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective upon adoption.

Adopted this the _____ day of _____, 2017.

TOWN OF BLOWING ROCK

J.B. Lawrence, Mayor

ATTEST:

Hilari H. Hubner, Town Clerk