

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE READOPTING AND EXTENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 13-2, SUBPART G (ELECTRIC LOW-SPEED VEHICLES), AND AMENDING CITY CODE SECTIONS 13-2-287 THROUGH 13-2-289 REGARDING CERTAIN SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND ISSUANCE OF CITY OPERATING AUTHORITY FOR ELECTRIC LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. City Code Chapter 13-2, (GROUND TRANSPORTATION PASSENGER SERVICES), Article 2, Division 2 (*Ground Transportation Services Generally*), Subpart G (Electric Low-Speed Vehicles), as adopted by Ordinance No. 20111020-053, as amended by this ordinance, is readopted, extended and continued in effect.

PART 2. City Code Section 13-2-287 (*Requirements of Electric Low-Speed Vehicle Service*) is amended to amend Subsections (D) and (E) to read:

§13-2-287 REQUIREMENTS OF ELECTRIC LOW-SPEED VEHICLE SERVICE.

(D) An electric low-speed vehicle driver must:

- (1) comply with Section 13-2-55 (*Rest Periods for Drivers*); and
- (2) display current state vehicle registration and city [~~state~~] safety inspection documentation within the electric low-speed vehicle.

(E) An electric low-speed vehicle driver may not:

- (1) operate at a maximum speed greater than 25 miles per hour;
- (2) load or unload passengers or stop or stand:
 - (a) at the curb or the edge of a roadway, except in legal parking areas;
or
 - (b) in a driveway, unless the driveway is signed and marked as a legal parking area;

- (3) operate in any manner, including loading or unloading passengers or stopping or standing, on a sidewalk or sidewalk area;
- (4) carry more passengers than the number of approved seatbelts installed in the vehicle, not to exceed a maximum of 6 [4] passengers, excluding the driver;
- (5) tow a trailer; or
- (6) operate a vehicle on a roadway other than a roadway authorized by Section 13-2-287 (*Requirements of Electric Low-Speed Vehicle Service*).

PART 3. City Code Section 13-2-288 (*Electric Low-Speed Vehicle Additional Equipment Minimum Standards*) is amended to amend Subsections (D) and (G) to read:

§13-2-288 ELECTRIC LOW-SPEED VEHICLE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT MINIMUM STANDARDS.

- (D) An electric low-speed vehicle is limited to a maximum passenger capacity equal to the number of approved seatbelts installed in the vehicle, not to exceed a maximum of 6 [4], excluding the driver.
- (G) An electric low-speed vehicle must be equipped with the following equipment, or equipment that the department determines is equivalent:
 - (1) hinged doors that are solid molded plastic or metal, with latches;
 - (2) U.S. Department of Transportation approved 3-point shoulder harness seatbelts for the driver and each passenger;
 - (3) rack and pinion steering;
 - (4) four U.S. Department of Transportation approved street tires of 10 inch minimum diameter;
 - (5) a U.S. Department of Transportation-approved windshield, made of scratch-resistant acrylic or AS-1 safety glass;
 - (6) motorized windshield wipers;
 - (7) a horn;
 - (8) driver's side, passenger side, and inside rearview mirrors;

- (9) front disc and rear drum brakes, or four wheel disc brakes, which must be able to stop the electric low-speed vehicle within 10 feet at speeds up to 25 miles per hour;
- (10) a separate emergency brake pedal/handle system capable of keeping the electric low-speed vehicle in a fixed position on both an incline and level terrain;
- (11) a volt or amp meter, turn signal indicator, headlight switch, and horn button, each of which must be fixed to the dash;
- (12) a slow-moving vehicle emblem compliant with Section 547.104 of the Texas Transportation Code, which must be mounted on the rear of the vehicle in a manner approved by the department;
- (13) two-way communication equipment, while providing service; and
- (14) the following equipment:
 - (a) two headlights;
 - (b) two front turn signals;
 - ~~[(c) two side turn signals;]~~
 - (c) ~~[(d)]~~ two reflectorized rear turn signals;
 - (d) ~~[(e)]~~ two reflectorized brake lights;
 - (e) ~~[(f)]~~ two reverse lights; and
 - (f) ~~[(g)]~~ unobstructed four-way hazard lights.

PART 4. City Code Section 13-2-289 (*Operating Authority Limitations*) is amended to repeal Subsection (B) to read:

§ 13-2-289 OPERATING AUTHORITY LIMITATIONS.

~~[(A)]~~ The department may issue an operating authority to a maximum of three electric low-speed vehicle services.

~~[(B)]—The department may cancel the operating authority of an electric low-speed vehicle service if, at any time before September 30, 2012, the use of electric low-speed vehicles for hire is deemed to be unsafe or unworkable.]~~

PART 5. The city council finds that the need to continue in effect the electric low-speed vehicle ordinance constitutes an emergency. Accordingly, this ordinance takes effect immediately upon its passage for the preservation of public peace, health, and safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED

_____, 2012 §
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 § _____
 Lee Leffingwell
 Mayor

APPROVED: _____
 Karen M. Kennard
 City Attorney

ATTEST: _____
 Shirley A. Gentry
 City Clerk