

Proposed Changes to Codified Ordinance 478 / Quick Reference Guide

Low-Speed Vehicles, Utility Vehicles & Mini-Trucks

WHAT STAYS THE SAME ✓

- Police Department inspection required
 - Vehicle must be registered
 - Vehicle must be titled
 - Utility Vehicles may operate on roads up to **35 MPH**
 - Mini-Trucks may operate on roads up to **35 MPH**
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WHAT CHANGES

Current Ordinance	Proposed Ordinance
All vehicle types may operate on roads up to 35 MPH	Different vehicle types have different roadway limits based on capabilities
Under-Speed Vehicles permitted	Under-Speed Vehicles prohibited
Low-Speed Vehicles permitted on 35 MPH roads	Limited to 25 MPH roads
No operating hours	No operation after 9:00 PM
No DORA restrictions	Must leave DORA by 6:00 PM
No seat belt requirement	Seat belts required for all occupants
No child passenger restrictions	No passengers requiring child safety restraints
No restrictions on sidewalks or trails	Prohibited on sidewalks, bike paths, trails, parks and green spaces
No driver's license requirement listed	Valid driver's license required
No insurance requirement listed	State minimum insurance required

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Current Ordinance

Basic state inspection

General penalties

Proposed Ordinance

Enhanced HPD inspection standards (VIN, DOT tires, seat belts, license plate light, etc.)

Adds vehicle impound authority for repeat violations and other specified circumstances

WHY THE CHANGES?

The proposed ordinance is intended to:

- ✓ Improve traffic safety
- ✓ Better match vehicle capabilities to roadway speeds
- ✓ Reduce conflicts between these vehicles and pedestrians
- ✓ Improve visibility and occupant safety
- ✓ Provide clearer enforcement standards
- ✓ Address issues identified since the ordinance was adopted in 2025

ROADWAY SUMMARY

Vehicle Type	Current	Proposed
Under-Speed Vehicle	≤35 MPH Roads	Not Permitted
Low-Speed Vehicle	≤35 MPH Roads	≤25 MPH Roads
Utility Vehicle	≤35 MPH Roads	≤35 MPH Roads
Mini-Truck	≤35 MPH Roads	≤35 MPH Roads

Key Takeaway

Current Ordinance: Primarily adopts Ohio's minimum legal requirements.

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Proposed Ordinance: Retains the state requirements while adding local safety standards, operational restrictions, and enforcement tools tailored to Hudson.