

ORDINANCE NO. 26-113

OFFERED BY: MAYOR ANZEVINO

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 478 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that low-speed vehicles, under-speed vehicles, utility vehicles, and mini-trucks pose a safety hazard to the motoring public and pedestrian traffic within the City; and

WHEREAS, such vehicles fail to operate at appropriate speeds to keep traffic flowing; and

WHEREAS, such vehicles create traffic hazards to traditional motor vehicles and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, public misconceptions around such vehicles result in them being improperly parked, creating obstructions in public spaces; and

WHEREAS, relegating such vehicles on certain streets based upon their capabilities and minimizing the operation of such vehicles from Designated Outdoor Refreshment Areas will result in less traffic congestion and safer streets; and

WHEREAS, including provisions requiring appropriate licensure for operators and child restraints for children will minimize the risk of serious injury resulting from such vehicles and improve safety in the City of Hudson.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Hudson, Summit County, Ohio, as follows:

Section 1. That Codified Ordinance Chapter 478 shall be amended as provided in Exhibit "A," which is incorporated herein, with deletions being struck through and underlined (i.e., ~~example~~) and additions in bold and underlined (i.e. example).

Section 2. That the aforesaid recitals are rendered to be the findings of this Council and are hereby incorporated into this Ordinance.

Section 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare and for the further reason that prompt implementation is required to address existing risks to public and traffic safety within the City; wherefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) members of Council elected thereto, or six (6) affirmative votes if all members of Council are present at the meeting at which it is passed; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

Jeffrey L. Anzevino, Mayor

ATTEST:

Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 26-113 was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality
on _____, 2026.

Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council

Exhibit A

478.01 OPERATION OF A LOW-SPEED VEHICLE, UNDER-SPEED VEHICLE, UTILITY VEHICLE, OR MINI-TRUCK.

(a) As used in this section, "low-speed vehicle," "under-speed vehicle," "utility vehicle", and "mini-truck" shall have the same meanings as R.C. § 4501.01.

~~(b) The use of low-speed vehicles, under-speed vehicles, utility vehicles, and mini-trucks shall be permitted on all streets having an established speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less, provided that the vehicle:~~

~~—(1) Has been inspected by the local law enforcement agency, in accordance with R.C. § 4513.02;~~

~~—(2) Has been registered, in accordance with R.C. Chapter 4503; and,~~

~~—(3) Has been titled, in accordance with R.C. Chapter 4505.~~

(b) The following restrictions shall apply to each category of vehicles as follows:

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(1) The operation of under-speed vehicles shall be prohibited on all public roadways.

(2) The operation of low-speed vehicles shall be prohibited on all public roadways with a speed limit in excess of 25 miles per hour.

(3) The operation of utility vehicles and mini-trucks shall be prohibited on all public roadways with a speed limit in excess of 35 miles per hour.

(c) The following regulations shall govern the operation of all low-speed vehicles, utility vehicles, and mini-trucks within the City:

(1) No such vehicle shall be operated on any public road after 9:00pm.

(2) All such vehicles shall vacate any Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area by 6:00pm.

(3) All occupants shall have and actively utilize seatbelts or other proper safety device as recommended by State Law and the National Highways Traffic Safety Administration.

(4) No passengers requiring child restraints under State Law including, but not limited to Ohio Rev. C. § 4511.81 as amended, shall be permitted on such vehicles.

(5) All such vehicles shall be inspected by the City of Hudson Police Department in accordance with R.C. § 4513.02 and this Chapter and shall clearly display the City of Hudson Police Department inspection in the designated location at the vehicle's rear as determined by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

(6) All such vehicles shall continue to be operated and maintained in a condition that would pass inspection as described in this Chapter.

(7) All such vehicles shall be properly registered, in accordance with R.C. Chapter 4503

(8) All such vehicles shall be properly titled, in accordance with R.C. Chapter 4505.

(9) No such vehicles may be operated upon sidewalks, bike paths, multi-use trails, parks, green spaces, or other public rights of way other than streets designated for regular motor vehicle traffic.

(10) All operators shall possess a valid driver's license and maintain state minimum insurance coverage.

(d) all low-speed vehicles, utility vehicles, and mini-trucks must be inspected and approved by the City of Hudson Police Department to ensure:

(1) Said vehicle is equipped with seatbelts for all installed seats;

(2) Said vehicle is equipped with a functioning license-plate light is required;

(3) Said vehicle is not equipped with off-road tires not rated for pavement and/or tires marked "Not DOT Certified" are prohibited;

(4) Said vehicle must be capable of maintaining a minimum safe operating speed appropriate for the roadway, not less than twenty (20) miles per hour;

(5) Said vehicle is equipped with a manufacturer-assigned Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), and is not a personally manufactured vehicle.

(e) This Section shall not apply to the operation of vehicles governed by this Section upon privately owned property with the property owner's express permission.

478.99 PENALTY

(a) Whoever violates this Chapter shall be penalized in accordance with Codified Ordinance Section 408.02.

(b) In addition to the foregoing penalties, law enforcement may impound a vehicle at the owner's expense if:

(1) The operator has been previously convicted of a violation of this Chapter within the last two (2) years.

(2) Law enforcement has issued a warning (written or verbal) and/or citation to the operator at least three (3) times in the last 90-days for violations of this Chapter.

(3) Law enforcement has issued a warning (written or verbal) and/or citation to anyone operating the vehicle covered by this Chapter at least three (3) times in the last 90-days for violations of this Chapter.

(4) The vehicle must be removed to remove an obstruction from the public right of way.

(5) The vehicle's operator is being arrested and no other person is legally able to operate the vehicle to remove it from the public right of way.

(6) For any other purpose ordinarily relied upon by law enforcement within the State of Ohio to impound a motor vehicle.