

Private Golf Carts at Buffalo Run

June 23, 2025



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Purpose:

- Follow up to the 2/24/2025 council study session to explore the use of private golf carts at Buffalo Run Golf Course; 5/21/2024 PRGAC vote to not allow private golf carts at Buffalo Run

Objectives of Presentation:

- Current City codes
- Private cart movement on streets
- Private cart survey
- Personal Motorized Vehicles (PMV)
- Action items
- Council discussion items



City Code

Sec. 11-2100. - Motorized devices on public property.

(a) Definitions.

For purposes of this section, the following words shall have the meaning ascribed to them herein:

All-terrain vehicle or ATV means a motorized flotation-tired vehicle riding on no less than three (3) but no more than six (6) low-pressure tires having an engine displacement of at least one hundred (100) but less than one thousand two hundred (1,200) cubic centimeters, and total dry weight of less than one thousand two hundred (1,200) pounds.

Motorized device means any mechanism intended for the transport of one (1) or more persons that is operated by means other than human or animal power, such mechanism not meeting the lighting, engine capacity, and/or safety feature requirements for licensing as a motor vehicle in the State of Colorado.

Public property means all lands, sidewalks, trails, parking lots or other properties owned, leased or otherwise operated by the city, excluding streets and highways.

(b) Prohibition.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorized device upon any public property unless the public property has been specifically designated for such use

(c) Exemptions. Exempt from the prohibition of this section are the following:

(1)Motorized devices that are designed, intended, and being used for the conveyance of a disabled person.

(2) Golf carts operated within the confines, or on public property within one (1) mile, of the Buffalo Run Golf Course.

(3) Any motorized device authorized by the city manager.

(4) ATVs operated on a public sidewalk for the limited purpose of snow removal.

City Code

Sec. 11-1202. - Amendments. Modified

(a)Section 109.5 of the Model Traffic Code is amended to read as follows:

109.5. Golf carts and low-speed electric vehicles.

(1) No person shall operate a golf cart on any roadway unless the following equipment has been properly installed:

- a. A windshield
- b. Head lamps that comply with C.R.S. § 42-4-205;
- c. Tail lamps and reflectors that comply with C.R.S. § 42-4-206;
- d. Stop lamps and turn signals that comply with C.R.S. § 42-4-208;
- e. A horn or warning device that complies with C.R.S. § 42-4-224; and
- f. Mirrors that comply with C.R.S. § 42-4-226.

(2) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed electric vehicle on a roadway that has a speed limit in excess of thirty-five (35) miles per hour; except that such vehicles may be operated to directly cross a roadway that has a speed limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour at an at-grade crossing to continue traveling along a roadway with a speed limit equal to or less than thirty-five miles per hour.

(3) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed electric vehicle on a limited-access highway.

(4) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on any roadway in excess of twenty-five (25) mph.

(5) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on any roadway unless such person holds a valid driver's license.

(6) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed vehicle on any roadway if the golf cart or low-speed vehicle is carrying a greater number of passengers or greater load than that specified by the manufacturer.

(7) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed vehicle upon any sidewalk or trail unless such sidewalk or trail is specifically posted for such use.

(8) Golf carts and low-speed vehicles shall be driven in the right-hand lane. When being overtaken by another vehicle, golf carts, and low-speed vehicles shall be driven as close to the right-hand as practicable. Where a bicycle lane or paved shoulder suitable for bicycle riding is present, persons operating golf carts or low-speed vehicles shall drive in the bicycle lane or paved shoulder. These provisions apply except under any of the following situations:

- a. When overtaking and passing a bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
- b. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;
- c. When reasonably necessary to avoid hazardous conditions, including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, pedestrians, animals, or surface hazards.

Golf Cart Movement



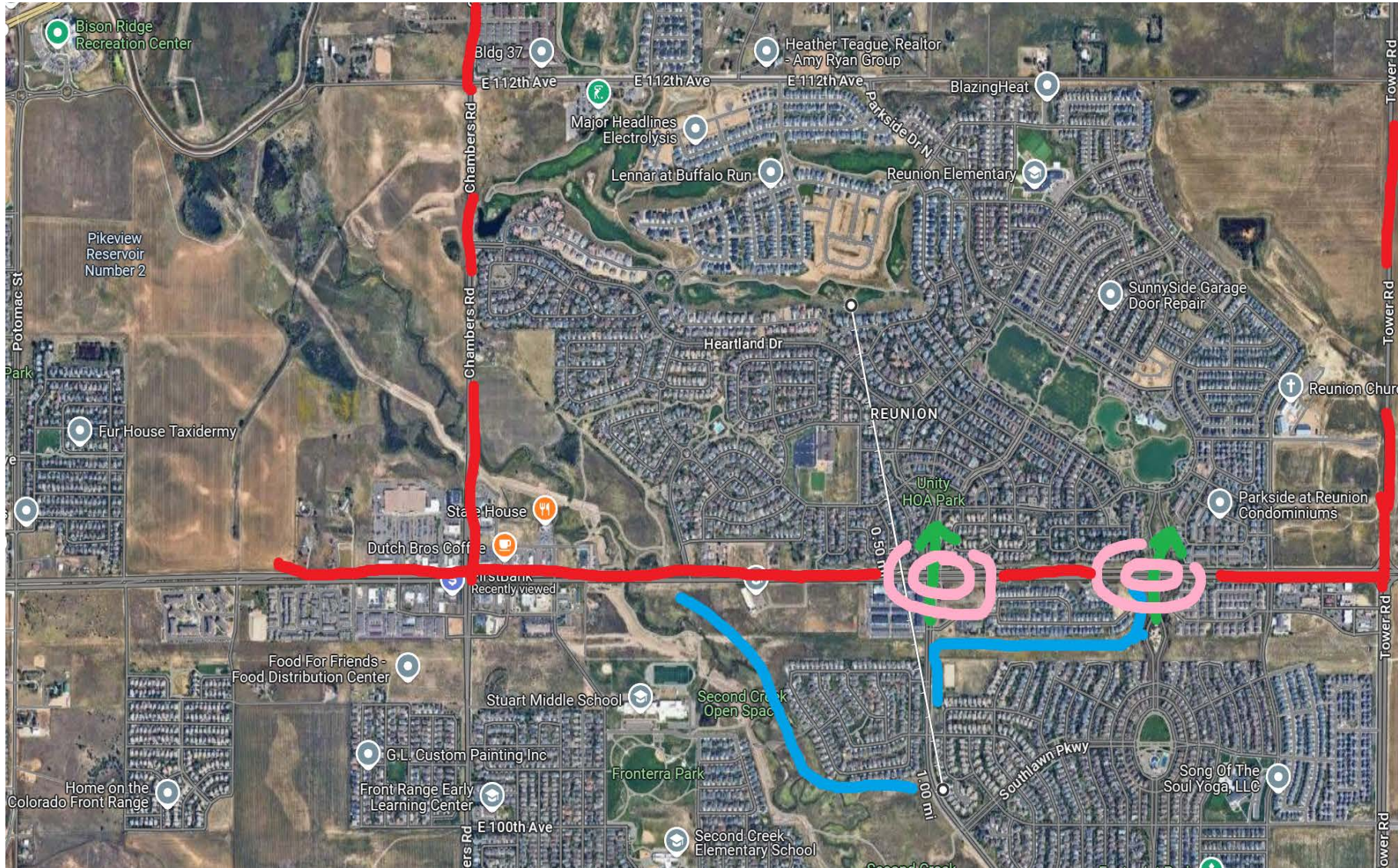
- **Red lines:**
120th and Chambers roads
- **Green lines:**
Probable Movement
- **Orange line:**
Counter direction on golf course
- **Yellow line:**
New access point onto golf course

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Golf Cart Movement



- **Red lines:** Chambers, 104th, and Tower Roads
- **Green lines:** Probable movement
- **Pink circles:** Traffic lights
- **White line:** One mile from golf course

Golf Cart Survey (274 Responses)

1. Do you own a private golf cart?	23% Yes	77% No
2. If the city were to allow private golf carts, and you live within a mile of the golf course, would you be interested in driving a private cart to the golf course?	79% Yes	21% No
3. Do you live in a neighborhood adjacent?	82% Yes	18% No
4. If yes, which neighborhood?	Varies	
5. Would you be interested in trailering your private cart?	20% Yes	80% No
6. Do you believe private golf carts should be permitted?	82% Yes	18% No
7. If private golf carts were permitted, would you personally use your own private golf cart on the Buffalo Run golf course if you had to sign a waiver and/or carry insurance on your golf cart and/or pay a daily cart fee?	71% Yes	29% No
8. Please share any additional comments or concerns you would like city staff to consider.		

Personal Motorized Vehicles

- *Personal motorized vehicles (PMVs) allowed on the golf course with carts*
- *PMVs would follow the same rules as the rental fleet and private golf carts as it relates to the golf course*



Cart Access Action Items

- **Golf Cart & PMV Requirements**
 - o Two person maximum
 - o Electric only
 - o “Turf” tires
 - o Allowed for golf play only.
 - o Travel direction is tee to green except where designated on course
 - o Valid Driver’s license
 - o Insurance on vehicle
- **Golf Course Requirements**
 - o Daily cart fee: \$13 (Regular rate \$17)
 - o Annual cart inspection fee: \$20
 - o Waiver liability
 - o Speed limit of 15 mph for all carts

Council Discussion

- **Parks, Recreation & Advisory Concerns**

- o Carts using bike path on 112th avenue
- o Safety on neighborhood streets with private carts and children playing
- o Carts using sidewalks for transportation
- o Carts using streets that are not permitted for use

- **Additional Items**

- o 112th avenue (40mph speed limit)
 - o 109.5 Golf carts and low-speed electric vehicles
 - o (2) No person shall operate a golf cart or low-speed electric vehicle on a roadway that has a speed limit in excess of thirty-five (35) miles per hour
 - ❖ If no change this would eliminate access for neighborhoods (Buffalo Run Estates & The Greens)
 - ❖ Reunion neighborhood would need to access course via Mobile Street (Between holes 11&12), 111 avenue (Between holes 12 & 13), and Fairway Drive (Between holes 15 & 16 gated)
- o West of Chambers, North of 120, south of 104
 - o Does council want these areas to access the golf course by crossing major streets
 - o Recommendation by staff is no private carts allowed south side of 104
- o City would need to create a MOU with Villages of Buffalo Run HOA for trail access
 - o These new trails would be on HOA property
- o Expenses
 - o Initial expense of \$30,000 – Street crossing signal 120, additional gates, etc.
 - ❖ Eliminate access north of 120, initial expense becomes \$4,000

Discussion



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