

**GOLF CART/LOW SPEED VEHICLE ORDINANCE  
FOR THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI**

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi does not have a general law approving the use of golf carts or Low Speed Vehicles (LSV) on public streets; and,

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are more that 500 golf carts and Low Speed Vehicles presently operating on the private roads which are under the jurisdiction of the Diamondhead POA; and,

WHEREAS, many residents within the City of Diamondhead, including many who do not play golf, use these vehicles to go to from one location to another for various purposes; and,


WHEREAS, representatives from the City of Diamondhead worked with State Legislators for about three years to pass a law allowing golf carts and Low Speed Vehicles to be operated on selected public streets with specific registration requirements within the City of Diamondhead; and,

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Legislature passed House Bill 1670 in the 2012 regular session; and,

WHEREAS, House Bill 1670 allows golf cats and Low Speed Vehicles to legally operate on selected public streets within the City of Diamondhead as long as specific registration requirements are met; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL that Mississippi House Bill 1670 passed in the regular session will be implemented within the City of Diamondhead. The attached House Bill 1670, procedures, and map are incorporated by reference herein.

	Aye	Nay	Absent
Councilmember Ackerman	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Councilmember Holcomb	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Councilmember Knobloch	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Councilmember Rech	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Councilmember Roberson	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Mayor Ingraham	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>

APPROVED   
MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST:   
CITY CLERK

SEAL

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI, ON THE 19th DAY OF November, 2012.

  
CITY CLERK

**GOLF CART/LSV REGISTRATION FORM**  
**CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MS**

**I UNDERSTAND THAT I MUST COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED BELOW IN ORDER TO LEGALLY DRIVE MY GOLF CART/LSV ON SPECIFIED STEETS WITHIN THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD.**

- 1) The operator of the golf cart/LSV must have a valid or temporary driver's license in his/her possession while driving the vehicle on a public street.
- 2) Proof of financial responsibility for the cart must be presented in the registration process and kept on the cart/LSV at all times.
- 3) All traffic rules/signs/ordinances must be followed while driving the cart/LSV.
- 4) Failure to follow traffic rules/signs/ordinances may result in a ticket issued by the police.
- 5) Carts/LSV's can be driven only on the streets indicated on the map which I received when registering the cart/LSV.
- 6) **If the operator lives on Golf Club Drive, Kapalama Drive or Diamondhead Drive East between Kalani Drive and the beginning of Golf Club Drive near Molokai Village, he/she must travel the shortest possible distance from the residence and turn onto the nearest public street authorized for use by golf carts/LSV's.**
- 7) **If the operator *does not live* on Golf Club Drive, Kapalama Drive or Diamondhead Drive East between Kalani Drive and the beginning of Golf Club Drive near Molokai Village, the cart/LSV cannot be driven on any of these streets. However, the operator can directly cross any of these streets in order to get to a public street where carts can legally be driven.**
- 8) A representative of the City will place the decal on the rear fender of the driver's side of the golf cart/LSV. The decal must remain visible at all times.
- 9) If the golf cart/LSV is sold to another Diamondhead resident, the new owner must register with the City.
- 10) The cost of the decal is \$5 and the decal remains valid as long as it is legible.

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Valid Driver's License    Yes    No

Proof of Financial Responsibility    Yes    No

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Decal Number \_\_\_\_\_    Model of Cart/LSV \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**GOLF CART/LSV INFORMATION SHEET FOR THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MS**

**Definitions:**

- 1) A golf cart must not exceed 20 mph and the operator must observe all traffic regulations. If the golf cart is capable of exceeding 20 mph, the cart must meet the requirements of a Low Speed Vehicle (LSV).
- 2) A Low Speed Vehicle (LSV) is battery driven, has a VIN number, can travel between 20 – 25 mph, must possess all of the safety requirements required under 49 CFE Section 571.500 (windshield, seat belts, turn signals, etc.) and the operator must follow all traffic regulations. If the LSV has an up-to-date Mississippi license plate on it, no registration with the City of Diamondhead is required.
- 3) An All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) does not meet the requirements of the law and cannot be driven on the public streets with the city limits of Diamondhead.
- 4) The decal placed on the cart/LSV represents a registration with the City of Diamondhead, not an inspection sticker. The cost of the decal is \$5 and the decal is valid for as long as the decal is legible.

Golf carts/LSV's may be operated in most of the residential areas of the City, but may not cross over I-10 nor be driven on I-10.

While participating in parades approved by the City of Diamondhead, golf carts/LSV's may be operated on parade routes.







Failure to follow the steps required for a golf cart/LSV to be driven legally on a public street within the city limits may result in the operator receiving a traffic ticket. The cost of a ticket for driving on a public street while not having a driver's license, not having proof of financial responsibility on the cart/LSV, running a stop sign, etc. is the same as if the infraction occurred while driving a car.

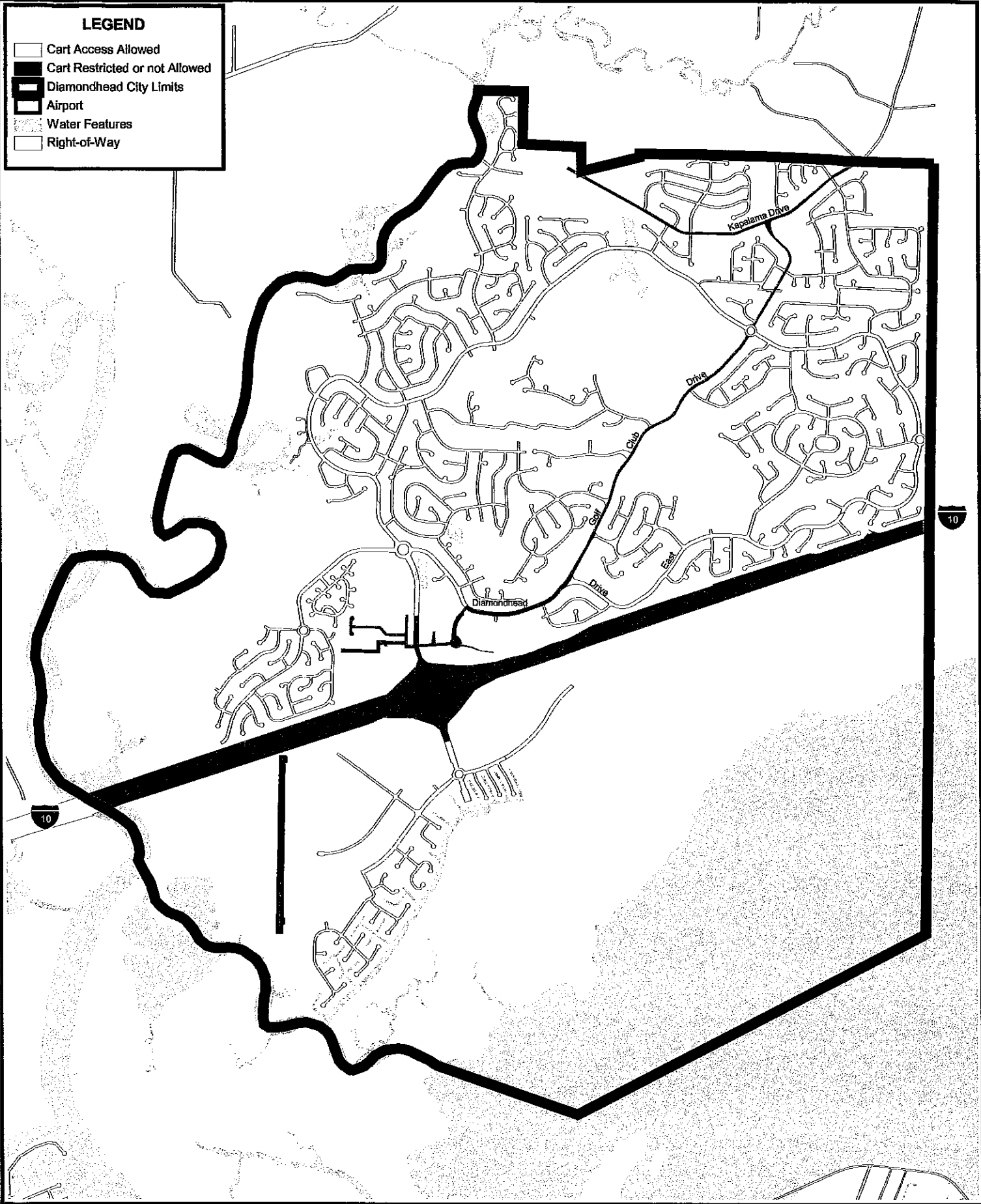
If the owner/operator of the golf cart/LSV lives on Diamondhead Drive East between Kalani Drive and the split where Golf Club Drive starts, on Golf Club Drive, or on Kapalma Drive, the owner/operator may drive on those streets from his/her house but must turn onto the nearest street that is authorized for unrestricted use of golf carts or LSV's.

If the owner/operator of the golf cart/LSV *does not live* on Diamondhead Drive East between Kalani Drive and the split where Golf Club Drive starts, *does not live* on Golf Club Drive, or *does not live* on Kalalama Drive, the owner/operator may cross any of those streets at appropriate locations.

REVIEW THE ATTACHED MAP WHICH HIGHLIGHTS STREETS WHERE GOLF CARTS/LSV'S ARE RESTRICTED OR NOT ALLOWED.

**LEGEND**

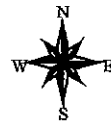
-  Cart Access Allowed
-  Cart Restricted or not Allowed
-  Diamondhead City Limits
-  Airport
-  Water Features
-  Right-of-Way



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**Cart Access Areas  
 Diamondhead, Mississippi**



This map is accurate for  
 planning purposes only.

Data Sources:  
 MARIS (MSTM) data;  
 Hancock County GIS Data;  
 U.S. Census Bureau 2010  
 TIGER Data; House Bill 1670  
 Regular Session 2012

November 14, 2012

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



OONA MCKENZIE  
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JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39215-1018  
TELEPHONE: (601) 359-3310  
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES OFFICE

November 8, 2012

Representative Jessica Upshaw, Chair of Conservation and Water Resources  
747 Kome Drive  
Diamondhead, MS 39525

RE: **Singed Version of HB 1670 (2012 Regular Legislative Session)**

Dear Chairperson Upshaw:

Per your request, please find enclosed the signed version of HB 1670, which authorizes the City of Diamondhead, Mississippi, to utilize low-speed vehicles/golf carts on certain public highways, roads and streets. I have also e-mailed you a copy of the signed version of the bill to your House address.

I hope this information is helpful, and please feel free to contact me if you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Oona McKenzie".

Oona McKenzie

Enclosure

Chapter No. 938  
12/HR07/R1450  
9P 1.8.87

***HOUSE BILL NO. 1670***

Originated in House  Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 1670

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI, TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF LOW-SPEED VEHICLES AND GOLF CARTS ON CERTAIN PUBLIC ROADS AND STREETS WITHIN THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD; TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS OPERATING A LOW-SPEED VEHICLE OR GOLF CART TO HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR TEMPORARY DRIVER'S PERMIT; TO REQUIRE CERTAIN REGISTRATION OF SUCH LOW-SPEED VEHICLE OR GOLF CART; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

**SECTION 1.** As used in this act, unless a different meaning clearly appears in the context, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "City" means the City of Diamondhead, Mississippi.

(b) "Governing authorities" means the Mayor and City Council of the City of Diamondhead, Mississippi.

(c) "Golf cart" means a motor vehicle that is designated and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of twenty (20) miles per hour and is equipped with the safety equipment as required under 49 CFR Section 571.500.

(d) "Low-speed vehicle" means any four-wheeled electric or gasoline powered vehicle that has a top speed greater than twenty (20) miles per hour but less than twenty-five (25) miles per hour and is equipped with safety equipment as required under 49 CFR Section 571.500.

**SECTION 2.** (1) The governing authorities of the City of Diamondhead, Mississippi, may, in their discretion, authorize the operation of low-speed vehicles and golf carts only on public roads and streets that are within the contiguous Diamondhead

Country Club and Property Owners Association, Inc., area, including Kapalama Cove.

(2) Any person operating a low-speed vehicle or golf cart on the public roads and streets under this act must have in his or her possession a valid driver's license or temporary driver's permit and proof of financial responsibility as required under Section 63-15-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972.

(3) Low-speed vehicles and golf carts may only be operated on Golf Club Drive or Kapalama Drive if the operator is traveling the shortest possible travel distance between his or her residence and the nearest other public road or street authorized for use by low-speed vehicles and/or golf carts, cart path or golf course cart path.

(4) Low-speed vehicles and golf carts may not be operated in the nonresidential area of the City of Diamondhead, and they may not cross Interstate Highway 10 at the Exit 16 overpass or operated on Interstate Highway 10.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, when operated by a person participating in a parade permitted by the City of Diamondhead, low-speed vehicles and golf carts may be operated on the permitted route of the parade while participating in the parade and are not restricted to the contiguous Diamondhead Country Club and Property Owners Association, Inc., area.

**SECTION 3.** (1) Every low-speed vehicle and golf cart to be operated, as authorized under this act, on a public road or street shall be required to register the vehicle with the City of Diamondhead. Upon payment of a reasonable fee that may be charged by the city to cover the costs of administration, a map and a sticker and presentation of proof of financial responsibility and presentation of a valid driver's license or temporary driving permit, the owner of the low-speed vehicle or golf cart shall be issued a registration decal by the county or municipal tax



collector that must be displayed on the left rear fender of the vehicle. The registration shall remain valid for as long as the registering owner owns the low-speed vehicle or golf cart. The city shall provide the registrant with a map of the contiguous Diamondhead Country Club and Property Owners Association, Inc., area where low-speed vehicles and golf carts may be operated at the time of registration. The operator shall be required to have proof of financial responsibility and a valid driver's license in his or her possession at all times while operating the low-speed vehicle or golf cart on public roads and streets of the state.

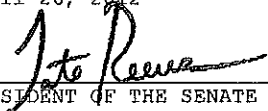
(2) The registration fee imposed under subsection (1) of this section shall be retained by the tax collector and deposited into the county or municipal general fund, as the case may be.

**SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
April 19, 2012

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE  
April 26, 2012

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

  
GOVERNOR  
5/3/12 3:09 pm