

## Chapter 9

# LOW SPEED VEHICLES

### 7-9-1: DEFINITIONS:

As used in this chapter, "low speed vehicle" means such nonhighway vehicles as defined by section 1-140.7 of the Illinois vehicle code<sup>1</sup>. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)

### 7-9-2: SPEED LIMITS:

It shall be unlawful to operate a low speed vehicle upon any street with a speed limit over thirty (30) miles per hour. This section does not prohibit a low speed vehicle from crossing a street in the city at an intersection where the street being crossed has a posted speed limit of not more than forty five (45) miles per hour. A low speed vehicle shall not cross a street in the city with a speed limit in excess of forty five (45) miles per hour unless it is crossing at an intersection controlled by a traffic light or four-way stop sign. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)

### 7-9-3: REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:

A low speed vehicle may only be operated on a roadway if, at a minimum, it has the following: brakes, a steering apparatus, tires, a rearview mirror, red reflectorized warning devices in the front and rear, a headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of five hundred feet (500') to the front, a taillamp that emits a red light visible from at least one hundred feet (100') from the rear, brake lights, and turn signals. When operated on a roadway, the low speed vehicle shall have its headlight and taillamps lighted as required by section 12-201 of the Illinois vehicle code, 625 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/12-201, as amended. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)

### 7-9-4: SECRETARY OF STATE:

If the Illinois secretary of state issues registration plates for low speed vehicles, it shall be unlawful to operate or park on any public way a low speed vehicle that is not fitted with front and rear registration plates. Until such time as the Illinois secretary of state issues registration plates for such vehicles, the city is authorized to enforce any law applicable to low speed vehicles by using a vehicle identification number in lieu of a registration plate number. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)

### 7-9-5: RULES OF THE ROAD:

Except as otherwise provided in this section, a low speed vehicle shall be subject to all of the requirements of this code and of the Illinois vehicle code. The low speed vehicle shall be operated in accordance with the state and local rules of the road applicable to other motor vehicles. No person shall operate a low speed vehicle on a sidewalk, on footpaths or on any other surface where motor vehicle operation is otherwise prohibited.

It shall be unlawful to operate or to cause to be operated a low speed vehicle on the public ways of the city unless such vehicle is covered by a liability insurance policy as required by section 7-601 of the Illinois vehicle code, codified at 625 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/7-601, as amended. The owner of a low speed vehicle shall be required to carry the required liability insurance policy on a low speed vehicle. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)

### **7-9-6: COMPLIANCE WITH ILLINOIS VEHICLE CODE:**

All persons operating a low speed vehicle shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Illinois vehicle code, 625 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/1-100 et seq., as amended, including, but not limited to, section 11-1426.2 of the Illinois vehicle code, 625 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/11-1426.2, as amended. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)

### **7-9-7: LICENSE REQUIRED; FEES:**

#### **A. License Required:**

1. Every owner, operator, or lessee (whether a natural person, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, association, or other artificial person), of any low speed vehicle shall, prior to operating said low speed vehicle on the streets designated in this chapter, shall pay a license fee as specified herein for each license period to permit the use of such low speed vehicle on any designated street.
2. It shall be unlawful for any person, whether a natural person, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, association, or other artificial person, to fail to obtain a license for any low speed vehicle, or to use or cause or permit to be used any such low speed vehicle upon any designated street in the city.

**B. Application:** Application shall be made and a city license shall be purchased and displayed upon each low speed vehicle as required herein within fourteen (14) days of the acquisition of every such vehicle and not later than July 1 of each succeeding year. Each license issued hereunder shall expire on June 30 next succeeding. Application shall be made in the same manner as for other vehicles in accordance with section [7-2-1](#) of this title.

C. Fee: The license fee for a low speed vehicle, and the additional late fee for failure to obtain the required license within the time periods set forth by this section shall be as provided in section [3-2A-1](#) of this code.

D. Plates And Stickers:

1. Upon completion of the application and payment of the license fee, the city collector shall deliver to the licensee a plate, emblem or sticker as designated by the city council, and it shall be the duty of the licensee to permanently affix such plate, emblem or sticker in accordance with the instructions received therewith in a conspicuous place on a low speed vehicle where it can be readily seen.
2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, no low speed vehicle registered to the city and bearing a "municipal" plate issued by the state of Illinois shall be required to display a sticker or to obtain a city license as set forth herein. (Ord. 2011-O-34, 11-1-2011)