

**CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-16**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE OPERATION OF UNIQUE VEHICLES, INCLUDING OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES (ATVs, ROVs, AND UTVs), GOLF CARTS, AND NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES (NEVs), ON CERTAIN PUBLIC STREETS WITHIN THE CORPORATE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY; ESTABLISHING DEFINITIONS, OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, EQUIPMENT STANDARDS, AND SAFETY CONDITIONS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING SAVINGS, REPEALING, AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE WAS PASSED WAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

WHEREAS, the City of Starbase, Texas (the "City") is a Type C General Law municipality under the laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Code authorizes the City to regulate traffic and the use of public streets within its corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that authorizing the operation of unique vehicles on certain City streets with a posted speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour (or 45 mph for NEVs where permitted by state law), subject to appropriate safety conditions, serves the public interest and is consistent with state law; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds and determines that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public as required by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Premises. The premises set forth above are incorporated herein as if set forth verbatim.

SECTION 2. Definitions. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) "All-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" means a motor vehicle as defined by Section 551A.001 of the Texas Transportation Code.
- (b) "Golf cart" means a motor vehicle as defined by Section 551.401 of the Texas Transportation Code, designed primarily for use on a golf course (excluding modified or high-speed variants).
- (c) "Highway or street" means the width between the boundary lines of a publicly maintained way any part of which is open to the public for vehicular travel, as defined by Section 541.302(5) of the Texas Transportation Code.

(d) "Neighborhood Electric Vehicle" or "NEV" means a vehicle as defined by Section 551.301 of the Texas Transportation Code that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 500.

(e) "Off-highway vehicle" or "OHV" means any ATV, recreational off-highway vehicle (ROV), utility vehicle (UTV), or sand rail as defined by Section 551A.001 of the Texas Transportation Code.

(f) "Unique Vehicle" means collectively any OHV, golf cart, or NEV as defined herein.

(g) "Utility vehicle" or "UTV" and "Recreational off-highway vehicle" or "ROV" have the meanings assigned in Section 551A.001 of the Texas Transportation Code.

SECTION 3. Authorization. Pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code §§ 551.404 and 551A.053, the operation of Unique Vehicles is authorized on all Highways within the corporate boundaries of the City that have a posted speed limit of not more than 35 miles per hour (or 45 mph for NEVs as permitted by state law), subject to the conditions set forth herein.

SECTION 4. General Operational Requirements. All operators of Unique Vehicles operating within the City shall:

- (a) Possess a valid driver's license.
- (b) Be at least 16 years of age (unless permitted to operate the Unique Vehicle and properly supervised in accordance with State law).
- (c) Comply with all posted speed limits and traffic laws.
- (d) Operate only during daylight hours unless the vehicle is equipped with functioning headlamps and taillamps.
- (e) Not operate on sidewalks, pedestrian paths, pedestrian trails, parks, or other non-designated areas.
- (f) Maintain required insurance and display appropriate license plates.
- (g) Comply with all other applicable County, State, and Federal laws.

SECTION 5. Equipment Requirements. Unique vehicles shall be equipped with:

- (a) Functioning headlamps and taillamps;
- (b) Adequate brakes and parking brakes;
- (c) At least one rearview mirror;
- (d) A properly functioning muffler (if internal combustion);
- (e) Reflectors and slow-moving vehicle emblem as required by state law; and
- (f) Required safety equipment for operators and passengers of OHVs (helmets, eye protection, seatbelts where installed).

SECTION 6. Prohibitions. It is unlawful to:

- (a) Operate on interstate or limited-access highways;
- (b) Operate while under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances;
- (c) Operate in a reckless manner;
- (d) Carry more passengers than the manufacturer's design; or
- (e) Operate on streets exceeding the speed limits authorized herein.

SECTION 7. Penalty. Any violation of this Ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$1.00 nor more than \$500.00 per violation. Each day a violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

SECTION 8. Prohibition of Operation in Certain Areas. Pursuant to Texas Transportation Code §§ 551.4031, 551.303, and 551A.054, the City Administrator may propose to the Commission certain areas where the operation of Unique Vehicles is prohibited and, if the Commission finds such prohibitions necessary in the interest of safety, may prohibit operation of Unique Vehicles in those areas by posting signs sufficient to provide notice of the prohibition to Unique Vehicle operators.

SECTION 9. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any part is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Repealer. This Ordinance is cumulative of other City ordinances and repeals only conflicting provisions.

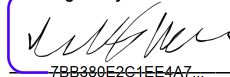
SECTION 11. Engrossment/Enrollment. The City Clerk is directed to enroll and engross this Ordinance and file it in the Ordinance Records of the City.

SECTION 12. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS
on this 3rd day of June, 2026.

CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS

Signed by:



7BB380E2C4EE4A7...

Bobby Peden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Signed by:



DAD49BF2123C4F3...

Gretchen Norton, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:



897CFA64FA52485...

Caleb Rush, City Attorney

DS

