

**OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED VOTING MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.
OXFORD CITY HALL
110 W. CLARK STREET – OXFORD, GA 30054
A G E N D A**

1. **Call to Order, Mayor David S. Eady**
2. **Motion to accept the Agenda for the March 16, 2026 Mayor and Council Special Called Meeting.**
3. ***Second and Final Read of the Personal Transportation Vehicle Ordinance:**
4. Other Business
5. Adjourn

*Attachment

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OXFORD, GEORGIA AUTHORIZING PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE (PTV) OPERATION AND ESTABLISHING A DESIGNATED PTV CROSSING OF STATE ROUTE 81; PROVIDING FOR SIGNAGE, ENFORCEMENT, AND RELATED MATTERS.

First Read – 3/2/2026

Final Read –

Section 1. Authority and Purpose

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 40-6-331 to designate streets and paths for PTV use within the City of Oxford and to authorize one or more specific crossings of State Route 81 constructed and controlled in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 40-6-331 and related provisions summarized by the Georgia Department of Public Safety regarding low-speed vehicles and alternative transportation.

Section 2. Definitions

- (a) **Low Speed Motor Vehicle (LSMV):** A four-wheeled electric vehicle with a top speed of 20–25 mph, manufactured in compliance with federal safety standards – FMVSS compliance (49 C.F.R. § 571.500).
- (b) **Golf Cart:** <15 mph, designed for golf course use only.
- (c) **PTV:** ≤20 mph, ≤1,375 lbs., up to 8 passengers.
- (d) **EPAMD:** Self-balancing, ≤20 mph, sidewalk/bike lane rules.
- (e) **Recreation Path:** A paved corridor that sits around six feet or more in width, designed for multi-use (pedestrian, bicyclists, and carts).
- (f) **Sidewalk:** A paved area generally five feet or less in width intended strictly for pedestrian traffic only.
- (g) **Passive Grade Crossing** (According to MUTCD): A highway rail grade crossing that uses only signs and pavement markings, with no active electronic warning devices. Passive systems identify and direct attention to the location of the grade crossing and warn users to slow, yield, or stop. Some examples include crossbuck signs, advance warning signs, and pavement marking.
- (h) **Active Grade Crossings** (According to MUTCD): A highway rail grade crossing equipped with electrically operated, train activated warning devices. Active systems warn road users of the approach or presence of rail traffic through devices such as flashing light signals, automatic gates (including four quadrant gates), traffic control signals, and actuated blank out or variable message signs. These systems provide active notification that a train is approaching or occupying the crossing.

Section 3. Designated Streets/Paths and Operating Conditions

- a) The city designates local streets and PTV paths for combined use by PTVs and regular vehicular traffic where posted speed limits are 35 mph or less.
- b) Operators must hold a valid driver's license unless exempt under § 40-6-331(a).
- c) Motorized carts and LSMVs are strictly prohibited from operating on sidewalks at any time.
- d) Operators must stay to the right, pass on the left, and provide an audible warning (verbal or horn/bell) when approaching pedestrians from behind.
- e) All passengers and the driver must remain seated while the vehicle is moving. No person may sit on the operator's lap.
- f) Seat belts must be worn by all occupants in an LSMV at all times.
- g) Night operation requires functioning headlights, tail/brake lights, and reflectors.
- h) All vehicles authorized under this Ordinance shall comply with applicable provisions of Georgia law and the Georgia Department of Public Safety guidelines for low-speed vehicles and alternative transportation.

Section 4. Registration/Permits

Operators must:

- (a) Possess a valid driver's license
- (b) Be 18 years of age or older may register a motorized cart. Ages 16 or older may drive unless their driver's license is currently suspended or revoked. A 15 Years old may drive only if they have a valid instructional permit and are accompanied in the front seat by a licensed driver at least 18 years old (or a parent/guardian). Drivers under 15 years old are prohibited from operating a cart under any circumstances.
- (c) Equip PTVs with lights, amber flashers, horns, brakes, mirrors, and seatbelts.
- (d) Register carts within ten business days of purchase.
- (e) Issue and affix two numerical decals One on the front and one on the rear of the cart in a visible manner.
- (f) Ensure all occupants wear seat belts during operation.
- (g) Maintain liability insurance meeting Georgia minimums per O.C.G.A. §33-7-11.

- i) (\$25,000 bodily injury per person, etc.).
- (h) Register PTVs locally for a three-year block for a fee of \$15.00.
- (i) In the case of a transfer of ownership, when a cart is sold, the new owner must transfer the registration within ten business days for a fee of \$15.00.
- (j) Not exceed 20 mph on designated segments.

Section 5. City-Limit Warning Signs on State Highways

The City shall erect and maintain, at each point where a state highway intersects the city limits, 24×30-inch¹ signs warning motorists that PTVs are authorized for use on public streets; no ordinance provisions are effective until such signs are posted (Cost borne by the City). Reference O.C.G.A. §§40-6-330 through 331 explicitly in your ordinance to show alignment with state law.

Section 6. Authorized PTV Crossings of SR 81

- (a) Locations:
 - i. SR 81 at East Soule Street
- (b) Design and Control:
 - i. Each crossing shall be constructed as an active grade crossing in accordance with MUTCD Part 8, including required active warning devices (alternating flashing lights, audible signals, and gates if warranted).
 - ii. Install W11-11 (Golf Cart) warning signs with supplemental plaques "AHEAD" on SR 81 approaches, visible in both directions.
 - iii. Mark crossings with high-visibility pavement markings and provide refuge islands where feasible.
- (c) Stopping Requirements
 - a. Before crossing any public roadway, the driver must stop and yield the right-of-way to all automobile traffic as if a stop sign were present.
- (d) Restrictions:
 - a. PTVs may only cross SR 81 at the designated crossings listed above. Operation on SR 81 is prohibited.

Section 7. Enforcement & Penalties

1) Enforcement Authority:

- a) The City of Oxford Police Department (“OPD”) is hereby designated as the authority responsible for enforcing all provisions of this Ordinance. OPD shall have the power to stop, inspect, and verify compliance of any Personal Transportation Vehicle (PTV), Low Speed Motor Vehicle (LSMV), or motorized cart operating within the City. This includes confirming operator licensing, age eligibility, equipment requirements, and adherence to designated streets and crossing locations.

2) Registration Administration:

- a) OPD shall issue all local PTV registrations, decals, and registration renewals required under this Ordinance. The Department shall
 - i) maintain a current registry of all PTVs authorized for operation within the City and shall ensure that numerical decals are affixed in a visible manner as required in Section 4.

3) Insurance Verification:

- a) OPD shall verify that all PTV owners maintain liability insurance meeting or exceeding the State of Georgia minimum requirements under O.C.G.A. § 33-7-11. Such verification may occur at the time of initial registration, during renewal, or during any lawful stop or inspection. Failure to provide proof of insurance shall constitute an enforceable violation of this Ordinance.

4) Violations and Penalties.

- i) Violations of any provision of this Ordinance shall constitute a municipal offense. Penalties shall be imposed as follows:
 - b) **First offense:** Fine of not less than \$250.00.
 - c) **Second offense:** Fine of not less than \$500.00.
 - d) **Third offense:** Fine of not less than \$1,000.00 and revocation of City PTV registration for a period of two (2) years.

5) Suspension or Revocation of Operating Privileges.

- i) In addition to the penalties above, OPD may suspend or revoke the PTV
 - ii) registration of any operator who commits repeated violations or who operates in a manner endangering public safety. No person whose registration has been revoked may operate a PTV in the City during the revocation period.

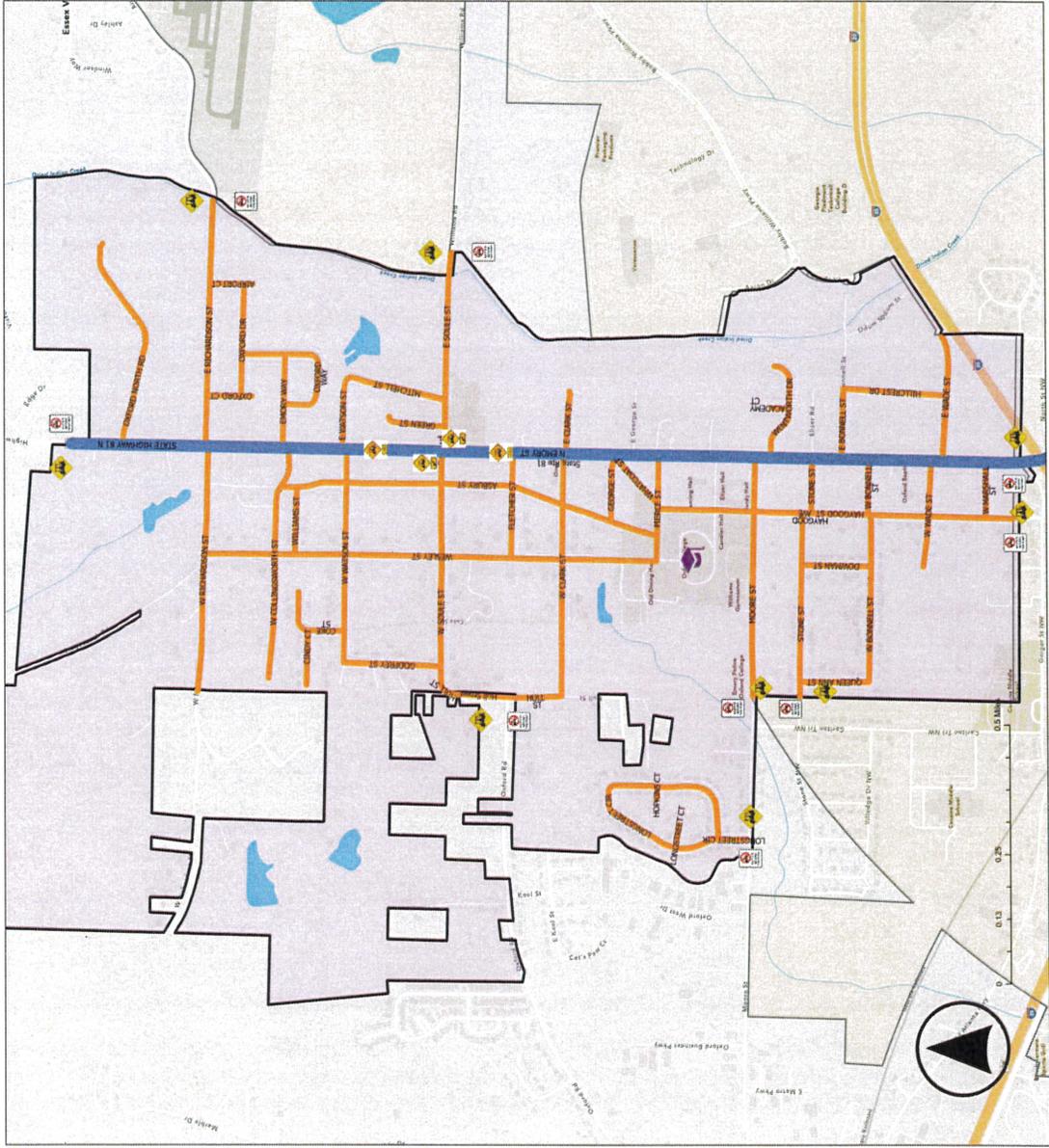
6) Maps and Public Information.

- i) The City shall maintain maps showing designated streets, prohibited streets, and authorized PTV crossings, which shall be made available to the public. OPD shall

- ii) assist in public education and compliance related to PTV operational requirements.

Section 8. Effective Date

This ordinance becomes effective upon (i) posting of city-limit PTV warning signs on state highways and (ii) GDOT issuance of all applicable permits for the SR 81 crossing work.

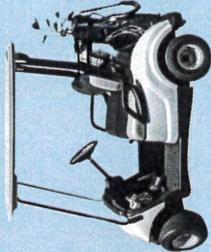


Legend

City	Points
City of Covington	City of Covington
City of Oxford	No PTV's Beyond This Point
PTV's Allowed	Oxford College of Emory University
SR 81	PTV Crossing
	PTV Warning Sign
	PTV Warning with Arrow
	Sidewalks
	Sidewalk Status
	Existing Sidewalk
	-- Sidewalk



Key Differences Between Vehicles (MPOHVs, ATVs, Golf Carts, LSVs, and PTVs)

Feature	Multi-Purpose Off-Highway (MPOHV)	All-Terrain (ATV)	Golf Cart	Low Speed (LSV)	Personal Transportation (PTV)
Definition	 Four-wheeled motorized vehicle with features specifically intended for utility. Can be driven on and off-road.	 Four-wheeled, motorized vehicles specifically utilized for off-road or on private dirt roads, not on public dirt roads, paved roads, or highways.	 A small vehicle designed primarily to carry golfers and their equipment around a golf course.	 A motor vehicle that is more equipped than a golf cart, designed for low-speed travel on some public roads.	 A PTV is a golf cart or similar style low-speed vehicle (LSV). Requirements for these vehicles may be subject to change by local ordinance.
Age	Must be 16 years old, with a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.	Must be 16 years old to operate alone. Those under 16 must have adult supervision.	Must be at least 12 years old and follow all rules of the road. Drivers under 16 need adult supervision, unless they're 15 with a permit—they can drive alone.	Must be at least 16 years old, with a valid driver's license, provide proof of insurance, and abide by all applicable traffic laws.	Must be 16 or older with a valid driver's license, unless a local ordinance permits driving without one if licensed before January 1, 2012.
Speed	Operates between 25 miles per hour and 65 miles per hour.	Can operate at a variety of speeds.	Typically limited to 15-20 mph.	Must be able to obtain at least 20 mph on a flat surface within one mile. Top speed of 25 mph.	Maximum speed of 20 mph.

Legal for Street Use	Street-legal if registered, insured, and equipped properly. Not allowed on municipal streets (inside city limits) or State Routes/US Highways.	Not street legal under any circumstances. This includes dirt roads that are not private property. Recommended not to travel on any paved roads.	Generally, not street-legal; primarily used on golf courses and private paths.	Street-legal on roads with posted speed limits of 35 mph or less in many jurisdictions, following specific regulations.	Authorized only on roadways where the speed limit is 25 mph or less.
Safety Features	Uses a steering wheel for steering control. Contains a non-straddle seat. Must be equipped with headlights, brake lights, taillights, a rearview mirror, and safety belts.	Wear a DOT-certified helmet. Also recommended equipment includes gloves, long pants, goggles, and long sleeves.	Minimal; may include basic lights, turn signals, and a horn.	Equipped with additional safety features such as seat belts, headlights, turn signals, mirrors, and a VIN.	Lighting requirements are the same as other motor vehicles.
Regulations	Must have a driver's license. Registration and insurance are required for highway use, but not for off-road use.	No license or registration is required since it cannot be used on public roads.	No license or registration is required in most cases.	Driver's license required; must register the vehicle; provide proof of insurance; and abide by all applicable traffic laws.	Driver's license required unless exempt by local ordinance. Insurance and registration are not required if electric but are required if gas.
Usage	Can transport persons or cargo or both.	Specifically utilized for off-road or on private dirt roads and designated trails.	Mainly for recreational use on golf courses or within closed communities.	Can be used for short commutes, running errands, and transportation within and around gated communities, resorts, or urban areas that have adopted a local ordinance.	Can be used for short commutes, running errands, and transportation within and around gated communities, resorts, or urban areas that have adopted a local ordinance.