

ORDINANCE NO. 24-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 8.06 OF TITLE 8 (TRAFFIC CONTROL) OF THE LAGUNA WOODS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO VEHICLE, GOLF CART, LOW-SPEED VEHICLE, AND MOTORCYCLE RACING AND NOISE, AND DETERMINING AND CERTIFYING THAT THE ORDINANCE IS EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

WHEREAS, staff has recommended amending Chapter 8.06 of Title 8 of the Laguna Woods Municipal Code (“Code Amendments”) in order to codify new regulations that the Orange County Sheriff’s Department has indicated would help address street racing and excessive vehicle noise on public streets; and

WHEREAS, the City contracts with the Orange County Sheriff’s Department to provide law enforcement services within Laguna Woods, including traffic enforcement; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2024, the City Council held a duly noticed public hearing on this Ordinance at which it considered all of the information, evidence, and testimony presented, both written and oral.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that (i) each of the recitals to this Ordinance are true and correct, and are adopted herein as findings; (ii) the Code Amendments comply with all applicable requirements of State law; (iii) the Code Amendments will not adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of the residents within the community; (iv) the Code Amendments are in the public interest of the City of Laguna Woods; and, (v) the Code Amendments are consistent with the Laguna Woods General Plan and its various elements.

SECTION 2. After reviewing the entire project record, the City Council hereby determines and certifies that this action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, Public Resources Code Section 21000, et. seq., as amended and implementing State CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations (collectively “CEQA”) pursuant to sections 15060(c)(2) (the activities will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable

indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activities are not a project as defined in section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3. CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2) excludes “[c]ontinuing administrative. . . activities, such as . . . general policy and procedure making” and Section 15378(b)(5) excludes “[o]rganizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment” from its definition of “project.”

After reviewing the entire project record, the City Council also hereby determines and certifies that that, even if this action were subject to CEQA, it would be exempt based on CEQA Guideline section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

SECTION 3. Chapter 8.06 of the Laguna Woods Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as set forth in Exhibit A, attached to this Ordinance and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and operation thirty (30) calendar days after adoption.

SECTION 5. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase added by this Ordinance, or any part thereof, is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs sentences, clauses, or phrases are declared unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective.

SECTION 6. The Mayor shall sign this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance to be published or posted as required by law.


SECTION 8. All of the above-referenced documents and information have been and are on file with the City Clerk of the City.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 31st day of January 2024.



NOEL HATCH, Mayor

ATTEST:



YOLIE TRIPPY, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



ALISHA PATTERSON, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) ss.
CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS)

I, YOLIE TRIPPY, City Clerk of the City of Laguna Woods, do HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing **Ordinance No. 24-03** was duly introduced and placed upon its first reading at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 17th day of January 2024, and that thereafter, said Ordinance was duly adopted and passed at an adjourned regular meeting of the City Council on the 31st day of January 2024 by the following vote to wit:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Hatch, Horne, Conners, McCary, Moore
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: -
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: -
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:



YOLIE TRIPPY, CMC, City Clerk

**EXHIBIT A
CODE AMENDMENTS**

Section 8.06.020 (“Racing”) is hereby added to Chapter 8.06 (“Vehicle Operation”) of Title 8 (“Traffic Control”) of the Laguna Woods Municipal Code to read as follows:

Sec. 8.06.020 - Racing.

No person while operating any vehicle, golf cart, low-speed vehicle, or motorcycle, as those terms are defined in California Vehicle Code, shall engage in any speed contest, or game of “follow the leader,” “hare and hound,” or any other similar game or contest on any public street. For the purpose of this section, “speed contest” shall have the same meaning as the term “motor vehicle speed contest” is defined in California Vehicle Code, as amended from time to time or replaced with a successor statute. As of the date this chapter was adopted, the definition of “motor vehicle speed contest” was set forth in California Vehicle Code § 23109(a).

Section 8.06.030 (“Noises”) is hereby added to Chapter 8.06 (“Vehicle Operation”) of Title 8 (“Traffic Control”) of the Laguna Woods Municipal Code to read as follows:

Sec. 8.06.030 - Noises.

No person shall make, continue, or cause to be made or continued any loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise which annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of any neighborhood or person as a result of operating any vehicle, golf cart, low-speed vehicle, or motorcycle, as those terms are defined in California Vehicle Code; nor shall any person race the motor of any vehicle, golf cart, low-speed vehicle, or motorcycle or needlessly bring to a sudden start or stop any vehicle, golf cart, low-speed vehicle, or motorcycle so as to annoy, disturb, injure, or endanger the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of any neighborhood or person by noise made, continued, or caused by such vehicle, golf cart, low-speed vehicle, or motorcycle.