

PROPOSED INITIATIVE UNDER CONSIDERATION
FOR CHANGE TO NPCC BY-LAWS

**INITIATIVE #1-2017: Change to Resolution 94.1.040 (1) and
Designation of NPCC as a "Golf Cart Zone"**

Proposal to allow residents of NPCC to operate "approved" golf carts within our community, as a mode of transportation from a residence in the "Pines" to other locations such as the pool, river park, children's playground, another dwelling within the community, or any other reason that a licensed vehicle is used on our roadways. The current Washington State regulating code regarding the creation of golf cart zones is provided below for your information.

RCW 46.08.175

Golf cart zones.

- (1) The legislative authority of a city or county may by ordinance or resolution create a golf cart zone, for the purposes of permitting the incidental operation of golf carts, as defined in RCW 46.04.1945, upon a street or highway of this state having a speed limit of twenty-five miles per hour or less.
- (2) Every person operating a golf cart as authorized under this section is granted all rights and is subject to all duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle under chapter 46.61 RCW.
- (3) Every person operating a golf cart as authorized under this section must be at least sixteen years of age and must have completed a driver education course or have previous experience driving as a licensed driver.
- (4) A person who has a revoked license under RCW 46.20.285 may not operate a golf cart as authorized under this section.
- (5) The legislative authority of a city or county may prohibit any person from operating a golf cart as authorized under this section at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise.
- (6) The legislative authority of a city or county may require a decal or other identifying device to be displayed on golf carts authorized on the streets and highways of this state under this section. The city or county may charge a fee for the decal or other identifying device.
- (7) The legislative authority of a city or county may prohibit the operation of golf carts in designated bicycle lanes that are within a golf cart zone.
- (8) Golf carts must be equipped with reflectors, seat belts, and rearview mirrors when operated upon streets and highways as authorized under this section.
- (9) A city or county that creates a golf cart zone under this section must clearly identify the zone by placing signage at the beginning and end of the golf cart zone on a street or road that is part of the golf cart zone. The signage must be in compliance with the department of transportation's manual on uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways.
- (10) Accidents that involve golf carts operated upon streets and highways as authorized under this section must be recorded and tracked in compliance with chapter 46.52 RCW. The accident report must indicate that a golf cart operating within a golf cart zone is involved in the accident.

[2010 c 217 § 4.]

In addition to the mandatory Washington State rules enumerated in RCW 46.08.175 above, the following suggestion may also be necessary given the fact that "The Pines" is, in large part, a community of working people.

Golf carts are not allowed on any roadways during the hours of 6:30-7:30 am, and from 4:30-5:30 pm Monday through Friday. These are peak hours of heavy traffic in and out of the community and a golf cart may hinder flow.

A resident of the Pines (including those in a rental capacity) who desires to operate a golf cart would be required to complete an application. This form would contain the necessary information pertaining to both the "approved golf cart" and the owner. The golf cart would require inspection by a Sheriff Deputy on patrol in The Pines to ensure all safety requirements have been met.

A "Pines" decal, similar to what is required to park a vehicle in the river park, would be affixed to the rear bumper. This should be a numbered decal so that any misuse of the golf cart could be reported to or identified by our security patrol.

There are several benefits to allowing golf carts on our roads:

1. Since the speed limit on all of our roads is 20 mph and the maximum speed of a golf cart is also 20 mph, the occasional use would actually help to control speeding by briefly slowing down the faster driver.
2. A golf cart, because of its openness, would provide the driver or passenger(s) with a better view of someone who might be attempting to burglarize a home in our community.
3. Provides the opportunity to be more neighborly, as folks will usually exchange a wave and say hello as golf carts pass by in communities where they are used.
4. Little or no noise is created by the operation of a golf cart and therefore it would not be a nuisance to our community.
5. Use of the golf cart will further promote the "Purpose" of NPCC as written in the Bylaws (revised 2014) ARTICLE I (3) which states:

"The purpose of this association is to promote the community welfare of the members and their families to make The Pines a better place in which to live and enjoy life, for the benefit of members and their families".

In conclusion, this Initiative requires the signatures "of members in good standing representing ten percent of the total votes of the association" per ARTICLE II 4. e. of the NPCC Bylaws in order to be placed on a ballot and voted on by the entire membership.

If you are a property owner in favor of this Initiative please sign and complete the petition roster of signatures.

STATEMENT AGAINST INITIATIVE #1-2017

This initiative is a bad idea for several reasons. The biggest is that it would cost a great deal of money to enforce. Please read the full initiative on the Pines website at www.nisquallypines.com or get a copy at the Pines office to understand the reason for the costs. Approval would require an increase of your dues to enforce the guidelines to make sure the golf carts (1) are inspected per the initiative, (2) that they carry a "Pines" approved sticker, (3) that they are insured to cover damage to the Pines or anyone (drivers, walkers, etc.) in the Pines should an accident occur by an impaired or unauthorized driver, (4) that the drivers are licensed to drive, (5) that the carts are not parked on rights-of-way, and (6) that they do not violate other Pines resolutions pertaining to motor vehicles.

The Sheriff and State Patrol will not enforce any of the rules set by the initiative because we are not a city or county. Our roads are private property. For the Pines to enforce the rules, it must hire and train another employee or hire private security at a cost of \$25-35 an hour. **This cost would be added to everyone's dues, not just those who have golf carts.**

When deciding how to vote, please keep in mind the cost to all owners versus the few who would use golf carts.

Please take the time to vote!!! Thank you.