



Staff Report

Report Title: Golf Cart Pilot (3)

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: Clerks

Date: May. 3, 2021

**Report Number: CLK-2021-05-47
Ministry of Transportation Golf Cart Pilot**

File Number: T08 GOL 21 –

Attachments: Pilot Comments MTO response

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report No. CLK-2021-05-47 prepared by Emily Dance, Clerk AND approves the Township of Huron-Kinloss participate in the MTO Golf Cart Pilot AND Low Speed Vehicle Pilot AND FURTHER authorizes the appropriate By-Laws coming forward.

Background:

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) announced in March, 2021 that they are exploring the feasibility of implementing a pilot program that would permit the on-road use of golf carts on Pelee Island and in Huron-Kinloss.

The MTO solicited comment on the proposal based on the framework for the pilot which was discussed at the April 7, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Discussion:

The comments were sent to the MTO for review. Following on April 28, 2021 staff met with the Ministry to review the comments and to provide their response. Attached is the chart indicting the Townships Comments with an additional column to indicate the associated response.

The basic framework remains as presented by the Ministry with a few minor changes including: no required registration at this time, golf cart definition as per ANSI, golf carts will be permitted to cross roads of up to 80 km/hr where traffic is controlled in each direction.

It was discussed that the Township will have to pass a By-Law to participate in the pilot, with the Ministry's scheduled target date of June 2021; following approval by the Cabinet, staff are recommending that a by-law come forward to the May Council meeting in order to be prepared for implementation.

Low Speed Vehicles – Pilot Project 2017

Back in 2017, the Ministry introduced a pilot project ([Ontario Regulation 215/17](#)) to allow [Low Speed Vehicles](#) on highways. This pilot will also run for 10 years (2027) and has many of the same requirements as the Golf Cart Pilot however the main difference is the requirement for registration with the Ministry and insurance.

Key elements of the pilot

- Low speed vehicles drive at a maximum speed of between 32 km/h and 40 km/h and may not be modified to drive faster than 40 km/h
- Low speed vehicles are only allowed on roads with a speed limit of up to 50 km/h if permitted by municipal by-law, and are allowed to be driven through an intersection where the speed limit of the cross street is not greater than 60km/h
- Only LSVs that meet the federal motor vehicle standards for the low-speed vehicle class and have the compliance label affixed are eligible to participate in the pilot
- The pilot will run for 10 years
- Slow moving vehicle sign must be attached to the rear of the vehicle
- LSV owners and operators must have a policy of automobile insurance that meets the requirements of the Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act and that provides coverage for liability in the minimum amount of \$5M and medical, rehabilitation and attendant care benefits in the minimum amount of \$1M for non-catastrophic injuries and \$2M for catastrophic injuries
- Current Highway Traffic Act (HTA) rules apply to the driver/vehicle owner
- Drivers are required to have a full G class driver's licence or higher
- Low speed vehicles are subject to Ontario's mandatory seat belt requirements
- The vehicle must not be driven while carrying a child passenger younger than eight years old
- Low speed vehicles are prohibited from being used for an Ontario driver's licence road test
- No sidecars or trailers are permitted for use on a low speed vehicle

As noted to participate in the Low Speed Vehicle pilot the Township would have to pass a By-Law to allow these vehicles on Township Roads. By participating in both pilots it would allow our residents choice on the type of vehicle they prefer.

Financial Impacts:

There are no funds provided by the province to cover costs to implement pilots. There will be costs incurred for staff time, signage, registration, and reporting tools.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone by being accessible for those with disabilities.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer