

Ordinance # 2022-1

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF JEFFERSON CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ALLOW AND SPECIFY USES OF OFF ROAD VEHICLES ON CITY STREETS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; REQUIRING INSURANCE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; ALLOWING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SERVERABILITY.

WHEREAS the City of Jefferson wishes to promote tourism and convenience for the City's inhabitants, and;

WHEREAS there is a need and use for off-road vehicles to travel the streets of Jefferson, Texas, and;

WHEREAS the use of off-road vehicles during approved events is beneficial and often necessary.

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JEFFERSON, TEXAS:

Section I. The use of off-road vehicles, defined in this ordinance as an ATV (All Terrain Vehicle), side by side (multi purpose off highway utility vehicle), 3-wheeler, 4-wheeler or any other similar vehicle, shall be allowed by the following:

- a. As a farm vehicle for legitimate farming purposes. The definition of "legitimate farming purposes" in this ordinance shall mean the active engagement of animal husbandry, feeding, maintaining fences and property and agricultural activities related to the production of various crops.
- b. Transporting goods, materials and services for established businesses and approved vendors registered with the City of Jefferson Police Department.
- c. Participation in parades, events or other promotions with prior City Council approval during the specified event, parade or promotion.
- d. Law enforcement and First Responders.
- e. Municipal employees in the course of their duties.

Section II. Penalties. Anyone found to be guilty of the provisions of this ordinance may be fined up to \$500.00 (Five hundred) dollars through the City of Jefferson Municipal Court.

Section III. All vehicles driven on city streets, including such off-road vehicles described in Section I, must:

- a. Carry evidence of \$100,000.00 bodily injury and property damage liability insurance *which does not specifically exclude coverage for use on city streets and/or does not exclude coverage while vehicle is being used in the operation of a business.*

- b. Be street legal, registered with a current license tag.
- c. Be operated by a driver with a valid driver's license.
- d. Comply with the State of Texas traffic codes and where this ordinance may be inconsistent with those laws, State law shall prevail.

Section IV. Repealer. All ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section V. Savings Clause. Nothing in this ordinance hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding now pending in any court, or any rights acquired or liability incurred nor any cause or causes of action accrued or exiting, under any act or ordinance repealed hereby. Nor shall any right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

Section VI. Codification. This ordinance shall be codified as herein provided to the City of Jefferson Municipal Code.

Section VII. Severability. If any portion of this ordinance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of said portion shall not affect or prejudice in any way the applicability and validity of any other portion of this ordinance. It is hereby declared that the City Council of the City of Jefferson, Texas, would have adopted the unaffected portions of this ordinance had the affected portion thereof not been included herein.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JEFFERSON, TEXAS, THIS  
15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF February, 2022.



Hon. Rob Baker, Mayor

(Seal)  
ATTEST:



Melissa Boyd, City Secretary

