

**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS
ORDINANCE 2026-XXX**

AN AMENDMENT TO THE OCEAN SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES, ZONING, AND SUBDIVISIONS; TO ADD CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE III, SECTION 14-50 – DESIGNATED PARKING FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AND GOLF CARTS AND LOW-SPEED VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the Ocean Springs Code of Ordinances, Zoning, and Subdivisions for the City of Ocean Springs provides laws to govern development within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ocean Springs currently has a Code of Ordinances Chapter 14, Article III, Section 14-50 [Reserved]; and

WHEREAS, it is the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen’s intent to add Section 14-50 to designate specific parking spaces on Government Street, between Cash Alley and Russell Avenue for motor vehicles and golf carts/low-speed vehicles;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this ordinance is to improve traffic safety, promote the efficient use of limited downtown parking, and accommodate the safe integration of motor vehicles, golf carts, and low-speed vehicles within designated areas; and

WHEREAS, all proper notices are being published as required by law; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Ocean Springs to add Chapter 14, Article III, Section 14-50 of the City’s Code of Ordinances, Zoning, and Subdivisions.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the foregoing preamble are hereby adopted, ratified, and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2: The proposed addition to Chapter 14, Article III, Section 14-50 of the Code of Ordinances was introduced by Alderman _____ duly seconded by Alderman _____, in the same form as follows:

Section 14-50:

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(a) Definitions

Motor vehicle means any vehicle that is self-propelled and designed primarily for the transportation of persons or property on public streets as defined by the laws of the State of Mississippi, including Miss. Code Ann. § 63-3-103, and the ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs.

Golf cart means a motor vehicle that is designated and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes, is not capable of exceeding speeds of twenty (20) miles per hour, and is equipped with safety equipment as required under 49 CFR 571.500, and that is registered in compliance with the ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs, Chapter 14, Article V, Golf Carts and Low-Speed Vehicles

Low-speed vehicle means any four-wheeled electric or gasoline-powered vehicle that has a top speed greater than twenty (20) miles per hour but less than twenty-five (25) miles per hour and is equipped with safety equipment as required under 49 CFR 571.500 and that is registered in compliance with the ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs, Chapter 14, Article V, Golf Carts and Low-Speed Vehicles

Motorcycle means every motor vehicle having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground but excluding a tractor as defined by the laws of the State of Mississippi, including Miss. Code Ann. § 63-3-103, and the ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs. The term *Motorcycle* includes motor scooters as defined by the laws of the State of Mississippi.

Designated parking space means any parking space clearly marked or signed by the city as restricted exclusively for golf carts/low-speed vehicle and motorcycles, or restricted exclusively for motor vehicles. The designated parking spaces are located on Government Street between the cross streets of Russell Avenue to the South and Cash Alley to the North, as shown in the map attached and incorporated herein as Figure 1.

(b) Parking in Designated Parking Spaces

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to park a motor vehicle in any *designated parking space* identified only for golf carts/low-speed vehicles. Motorcycles may park in any designated parking space for golf carts/low-speed vehicles.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to park a golf cart or low-speed vehicle in any *designated parking space* identified only for motor vehicles. Motorcycles may park in any designated parking space for motor vehicles.

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- (3) All other parking rules, regulations and restrictions as set forth in the ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs, including Chapter 14, Article III. – Stopping, Standing or Parking continue to apply to all vehicles

(c) Penalties.

Any person convicted of violating this section shall be punished by a fine as established in the City of Ocean Springs Fee Schedule under “Parking Violation – Other,” or under any more specific parking violation category subsequently adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for violations of this section. In addition, any vehicle parked in violation may be towed at the owner’s expense in compliance with the ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs.

SECTION 3: Any and all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to such extent as they are so in conflict or inconsistent.

SECTION 4: It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board of Aldermen that the actions, paragraphs, clauses, and phrases of this ordinance, when adopted, are severable, and if any sections, paragraphs, clauses, sentences, or provisions of this ordinance as adopted shall be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, same shall not affect any of the remaining sections, paragraphs, clauses, and phrases of this ordinance.

SECTION 5: A summary of this ordinance addition shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Ocean Springs.

SECTION 6: During such time as said ordinance addition is being published in the local newspaper, the full copy of the text amendment shall be posted pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 21-17-19(3), and the full copy shall be available for public inspection upon request.

SECTION 7: This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon unanimous approval of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 21-13-11, upon a finding that

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the above-outlined revisions are necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety. Should unanimous approval not be obtained, this ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

SECTION 8: That, upon adoption, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be recorded in the Book of Ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

SECTION 9: The provisions of this Ordinance may be included and incorporated in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, as an addition or amendment thereto, and appropriately renumbered to conform with the unified numbering system of the Code.

The above Ordinance, having been first reduced to writing, the vote was as follows:

Alderman Tillis	_____
Alderman Stennis	_____
Alderman Wade	_____
Alderman Pfeiffer	_____
Alderman Blackman	_____
Alderman Messenger	_____
Alderman Hinton	_____

BY THE ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, on this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

MAYOR COX

CITY CLERK C. MILLARD