



EMERALD KEEPERS

For an Emerald Green, Ocean Blue Coronado

CAN CORONADO BECOME A GOLF CART COMMUNITY?

Any trip along Coronado's streets shows electric golf carts are an increasingly popular ride around town. And the city plans to significantly increase the number of golf carts on our roads in the near future.

WHAT AND WHERE

In California, street-legal electric golf carts, officially called neighborhood electric vehicles (NEV), must have lights, seatbelts, turn signals, a rear view mirror, and a horn. NEVs must also be registered, insured, and driven by a licensed driver. Powered by

lead acid or lithium rechargeable batteries, they can travel at speeds up to 25 miles per hour on the majority of roads within the Village or the Cays. Only the Coronado Bridge and Silver Strand Highway are not accessible to golf carts. The most popular models seat between 2 and 6 people making them a practical option for seniors and families alike. While NEVs need to be charged regularly at a standard 110 volt electric outlet, they are otherwise low-maintenance vehicles that offers a fun, convenient ride with the added benefits of easier parking and cleaning.

BY THE NUMBERS

While the California Department of Motor Vehicles doesn't provide data on the number of NEVs registered in Coronado, in 2021 the city estimated 4% of Coronado households — 300 — had an NEV. Coronado's plan to reduce transportation emissions calls for an increase in NEVs to 25% of households by 2030 and 50% of households by 2045, which would mean over 3,800 electric golf carts on our local roads.

BENEFITS

Increasing local golf cart use would bring lower emissions, improved

air quality, reduced traffic, and less noise — meaningful benefits for residents and visitors. Vibrant beach communities in California, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina have already embraced becoming golf cart communities, so how can Coronado make this shift? A City of Coronado report suggests dedicated parking, public charging facilities, and NEV/bicycle-shared lanes could help fuel growth in NEVs.

What ideas do you have for Coronado to become a golf cart community?



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