

BY-LAW NO. 2026-XXX

A by-law of the City of Ottawa regulating the operation and use of large quadricycles in the City of Ottawa.

WHEREAS the Highway Traffic Act authorizes the operation of large quadricycles on highways pursuant to the Pilot Project – Large Quadricycles Regulation (O.Reg 411/22);

AND WHEREAS the Pilot Project – Large Quadricycles Regulation enables municipalities to enact by-laws to permit the operation of large quadricycles on highways and areas under the jurisdiction of the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Ottawa enacts as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. In this by-law:

"Chief of Police" means the Chief of Police of the Ottawa Police Service, or an authorized representative;

"City" means the municipal corporation known as the City of Ottawa or the geographic area of the City of Ottawa, as the context requires;

"City property" means all highways, sidewalks, trails, paths, walkways, parks, exhibition grounds or multi-use pathway trails, or property within the jurisdiction of the City;

"Crosswalk" means the portion of a roadway, typically at an intersection controlled by traffic or pedestrian signals or stop signs, that connects sidewalks to form a continuous path or is indicated for pedestrian crossing by signs, lines or other markings; at crosswalks drivers must yield to pedestrians lawfully within the crosswalk;

"Director of Traffic Services" means the Director of Traffic Services in the Public Works Department, or an authorized representative;

"Director of By-law and Regulatory Services" means the Director of By-law and Regulatory Services in the Emergency and Protective Services Department, or an authorized representative;

"General Manager of Public Works" means the General Manager of the Public Works Department, or an authorized representative;

"Highway" includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct, or trestle, any part of which is intended for, or used by, the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof;

"Highway Traffic Act" means the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, as amended;

"Large quadricycle" means a vehicle, which can be non-electric or electric-assisted, that:

- (a) has four wheels
- (b) has a minimum of 12 seats, at least one of which is not equipped with pedals;
- (c) has a single seat from which the vehicle is steered and controlled.
- (d) does not have any structure that fully encloses the occupant area;
- (e) has a weight not exceeding 1150 kilograms;
- (f) has a width not exceeding 2.3 metres;
- (g) has a length not exceeding 5.7 metres;
- (h) has a height not exceeding 2.9 metres;

"Large quadricycle operator" means a person with a valid Ontario driver's license (Class A, B, C, D, E, F, or G) operating a large quadricycle and who occupies the seat containing:

- (a) a steering wheel or handlebar used for steering;
- (b) controls for service brakes, parking or emergency brakes, and acceleration;
- (c) controls for headlights, taillights, turn signal lights and vehicular hazard warning signal lamps;
- (d) a horn or bell;
- (e) any other features that enable the person to control and steer the vehicle;

“Large quadricycle owner” means a person or organization that legally owns a **large quadricycle**, and who bears responsibility for its registration, insurance, maintenance, and general compliance with applicable road-traffic and safety laws;

“Large quadricycle passenger” means every person that rides a large quadricycle other than the large quadricycle operator;

“Large Quadricycle Route Review Guidelines” means a set of rules or standards developed by the City, which may be updated from time to time, that define where and how Large Quadricycles are permitted to operate on City property . These guidelines are intended to balance road user safety and maintain proper functionality of the City's transportation network;

“Municipal By-law Enforcement Officer” means a person appointed by City Council to enforce the provisions of this by-law;

“Official sign” means a sign on the highway approved by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario;

“Parkland” means a playground, playing field, ball diamond, sports field, beach including but not limited to the area of the water under the control or supervision of the City, the lands surrounding a recreation centre, community building, recreation complex, municipal administration site, including outdoor theatre space, square, plaza, garden, water, pedestrian walkway, parking lot or any other area owned, leased or used by the City and devoted to active or passive recreation and includes any lane or walkway or public parking area leading thereto;

“Pedestrian” means a person on foot, a person in a wheelchair, or a child in a carriage, stroller or play vehicle;

“Pedestrian crossover (PXO)” means a designated crossing area identified by specific pavement markings and signs (and may include beacons) at which drivers and cyclists must stop and yield the entire width of the roadway to pedestrians until they have completely crossed;

“person” means a natural person, an employee, a partnership, a body corporate and any association, and the heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns or other legal representatives thereof to whom the context may apply;

“Police officer”, “Constable” or “Special Constable” means a person so appointed by the Ottawa Police Service and “constable” includes a municipal by-law enforcement officer appointed pursuant to subsection 15(1) of the Police Services Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 15 as amended;

"Reserved bicycle lane" means those parts of the highway set aside by the City for the use of cyclists and designated by official sign or pavement markings;

"Reserved bus lane" means those parts of the highway set aside by the City for the use of buses and designated by official sign or pavement markings;

"Roadway" means that part of the highway that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, but does not include the shoulder, and where a highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term "roadway" refers to any one roadway separately and not to all of the roadways collectively;

"Shoulder" means that part of the highway immediately adjacent to the roadway and having a surface which has been improved for the use of vehicles with asphalt, concrete or gravel;

"Sidewalk" means those parts of a highway set aside by the City for the use of pedestrians;

"Slow-Moving Vehicle sign" means a sign as described in the Slow Moving Vehicle Sign Regulation R.R.O 1990, Reg under the Highway Traffic Act;

"Vehicle" includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road building machine, bicycle and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle or a street-car;

APPLICATION OF BY-LAW

2. This by-law applies to all City highways, sidewalks, trails, paths, walkways, parks, exhibition grounds or multi-use pathway trails under the jurisdiction of the city and regulates the use and operation of large quadricycles therein.

BY-LAW SUBJECT TO LAWS

3. The provisions of this by-law are subject to the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and Ontario Regulation 411/22, as amended.
4. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, or use or ride a large quadricycle on a highway, unless:

- (1) Permitted by and in accordance with the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and Ontario Regulation 411/22, as amended;
- (2) Permitted by and in accordance with the provisions of the City of Ottawa Traffic and Parking 2017-301, as amended, pertaining to vehicles; and
- (3) Permitted by and in accordance with applicable laws and the provisions of this by-law;

GENERAL REGULATIONS

5. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, a large quadricycle on City property, unless the large quadricycle complies with the specifications set out in Ontario Regulation 411/22.
6. No person shall operate a large quadricycle on City property without a valid Class A, B, C, D, E, F or G driver's licence.
7. A large quadricycle owner and operator shall obtain and maintain a valid business license issued by the City pursuant to the City of Ottawa Business Licensing By-law No. 2002-189, as amended.
8. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, a large quadricycle on a highway with a legal speed limit greater than 50 kilometers per hour.
9. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, a large quadricycle within parkland, including on internal park roads, access roads, service roads, or within municipal parking lots located at parks or City recreational facilities.
10. No large quadricycle owner or operator shall permit a person under the age of 18 years old to ride a large quadricycle without wearing a helmet that complies with the Highway Traffic Act.
11. No large quadricycle owner or operator shall permit the number of passengers to exceed the number of passenger seats available.
12. No owner or operator shall allow a passenger to ride a large quadricycle unless their feet reach the pedals or the footrest and their hands reach the shelf or table area.

13. No large quadricycle owner or operator shall permit the large quadricycle to tow a vehicle or device while being driven, unless authorized by a Municipal By-law Enforcement Officer or police officer.
14. No person shall allow a large quadricycle to be left unattended in any area not previously authorized by the General Manager of Public Works.
15. No person shall stop or park a large quadricycle to load or unload passengers in any designated “No Stopping” area, on-street accessible parking zone, or bus stop as defined by the Traffic and Parking by-law or park in any designated “No Parking” area.
16. No large quadricycle owner or operator shall use, or permit the use of, any sound reproduction or amplification device on a large quadricycle, unless such use is in compliance with the City of Ottawa Noise By-law No. 2017-255, as amended, and shall ensure that any such sound is produced in a reasonable manner that is not liable to disturb the peace, enjoyment, comfort, or convenience of individuals or the public.

SAFE OPERATION

17. A large quadricycle operator shall drive in the right-hand lane, when available for traffic, or as close as possible to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, unless preparing for a left turn at an intersection or onto a private road or driveway.
18. No owner or operator shall allow a large quadricycle to operate without being equipped with adequate nighttime lighting from thirty (30) minutes before sunset to thirty (30) minutes after sunrise, and during periods of unfavorable weather.
19. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, a large quadricycle without a slow-moving vehicle sign mounted to the rear of the large quadricycle.
20. A large quadricycle operator shall always keep a safe distance from pedestrians and other road users and shall yield to pedestrians, including within crosswalks and pedestrian crossovers, by slowing or stopping, as necessary, where there is insufficient space to pass safely.

21. No person shall operate or use a large quadricycle in such a manner that it may harm, injure or damage, either directly or indirectly, any person or property.
22. No person shall operate a large quadricycle at a speed of 17 kilometers per hour or greater on a level surface.
23. No person shall transport or permit the transportation of combustible fuel on or in a large quadricycle;
24. Any large quadricycle owner and operator shall ensure that all alcohol containers and recyclable materials generated on a large quadricycle by passengers or as a result of the operation of the large quadricycle are collected, separated from other waste and diverted either through an applicable deposit-return program or recycling program in accordance with applicable provincial requirements.
25. Any large quadricycle owner and operator shall ensure that any refuse or residual waste generated on a large quadricycle by passengers or as a result of the operation of the large quadricycle is collected and disposed using either the City of Ottawa's Yellow Bag Program for Small Businesses pursuant to the City of Ottawa Solid Waste Services By-law No. 2024-453, as amended, or through a separate agreement with partnering businesses/properties to leverage their waste receptacles.
26. No large quadricycle owner or operator, or passenger shall deposit refuse or waste generated on a large quadricycle into street-side waste receptacles, park waste receptacles, or any City-owned waste container.
27. Any large quadricycle owner or operator shall provide or sell glass containers to passengers of a large quadricycle at any time during its operation.

ROUTE APPROVAL AND PROHIBITED ROADWAYS

28. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated a quadricycle on City property, except on a route authorized by the Large Quadricycle Route Review Guidelines and on a route approved by the General Manager of Public Works or designate.

29. Notwithstanding section 28, the General Manager of Public Works may approve a proposed route, which includes the access streets located within Lansdowne Park, subject to the proposed route meeting all other requirements set out in the Large Quadricycle Route Review Guidelines.
30. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, or use a large quadricycle on a sidewalk, transitway, reserved bus lane, reserved bicycle lane, trail or multi-use pathway.
31. No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, a large quadricycle on private property without the prior consent of the property owner.
32. The General Manager of Public Works, or designate, may establish and publish a list of prohibited roadways for large quadricycle operation, and may approve or revoke the approval of route maps, in accordance with the Large Quadricycle Route Review Guidelines, the having regard to traffic management, repeated convictions of offences and/or safety.
33. Approved routes shall not include:
- (1) roadways with a posted speed limit exceeding 50 km/h;
 - (2) left-hand turns at uncontrolled intersections where at least one intersecting roadway is classified as an arterial or major collector; or
 - (3) straight-through movements at uncontrolled intersections where the crossed roadway is classified as a major collector or an arterial.
34. The City shall complete the review and approval of proposed route maps within fifteen (15) business days of receipt, subject to safety and operational considerations. Except where immediate action is required for safety, the City may amend, suspend, or revoke approval upon a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours' notice to the Owner or Operator.
35. The General Manager of Public Works or their designate may immediately revoke or suspend the authorization of an approved route map if:
- (1) It does not comply or no longer complies with the list of prohibited roadways established pursuant to the Large Quadricycle Route Review Guidelines;

- (2) In the opinion of the General Manager of Public Works or their designate, the operation of large quadricycles in accordance with the route map could cause adverse impacts to public safety and/or to mobility of road users on city streets;
- (3) The owner or operator of the large quadricycle has been repeatedly convicted of offences under applicable municipal By-Laws in relation to the operation of large quadricycles.

TIME OF OPERATION

36. No person shall operate a large quadricycle on a highway between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, and during periods when no-stopping or no-parking restrictions are in effect, unless otherwise approved by the General Manager of Public Works.

SIGNS BY CHIEF OF POLICE

37. The Chief of Police or designate may erect, place and maintain such official and authorized signs as are required to give effect to the provisions of this by-law.

REMOVAL AND IMPOUNDING OF LARGE QUADRICYCLE

38. The City may remove or cause to be removed any large quadricycle placed, left, deposited or stopped on City property in contravention of the provisions of this by-law and may impound such large quadricycle in a facility.

39. Upon the impoundment of any large quadricycle pursuant to subsection (1), the City shall provide written notice to the Owner, if identified, by means of electronic transmission, regular mail or notice delivered to the owner to indicate that the large quadricycle has been impounded and setting out a reasonable period of time for the owner to retrieve the large quadricycle from the facility.

40. A storage fee as set out in Schedule "A" shall apply to every large quadricycle impounded and stored pursuant to this by-law, and such fee shall become due and payable by the owner on the date the electric kick scooter is impounded.

41. The City shall release or cause to be released a large quadricycle to its owner or the owner's agent upon presentation by the owner or the owner's agent of

satisfactory identification and full payment of the storage fee set out in Schedule "A".

42. If a large quadricycle has been impounded for at least 60 days and its owner cannot be identified by the City, the City may dispose of the large quadricycle.

43. If notice has been provided to an owner under section 30 and the large quadricycle remains unclaimed by the owner for at least 60 days, the City may dispose of the large quadricycle pursuant to the Repair and Storage Liens Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.R.25, as amended.

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

44. Every person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence.

45. Every person convicted of an offence under this by-law is liable to:

(1) a minimum fine not exceeding \$500 and a maximum fine not exceeding \$100,000 as provided for in subsection 429(3), paragraph 1 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended.

(2) a special fine that may exceed \$100,000 as provided for in subsection 429(3), paragraph 1 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

46. When a person has been convicted of an offence under this by-law, the Ontario Court of Justice or any court of competent jurisdiction may, in addition to any penalty, issue an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted and requiring the person convicted to correct the contravention in the manner and within the period that the court considers appropriate.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

47. This by-law shall be enforced by the Chief of Police and the Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers of the City of Ottawa. The General Manager of Public Works, the Director of Traffic Services, and the Director of By-law and Regulatory Services, or their designates, are authorized to administer this by-law.

EFFECTIVE DATE

48. This by-law shall come into force and take effect on the day it is enacted by Council and shall be repealed on April 21, 2032, coinciding with the expiry of the provincial Pilot Project — Large Quadricycles Regulation, unless otherwise extended or amended by Council.

SHORT TITLE

49. This by-law may be cited as the “Large Quadricycle By-law”.

ENACTED AND PASSED this XX day of XXXXX, 2026.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK

MAYOR

SCHEDULE A – STORAGE FEE (Impounded Large Quadricycle)

Includes removal from City property; impoundment and storage; administration and management of notices, retrievals; enforcement.

\$150 per large quadricycle (flat impoundment and storage fee).