



Low Speed Vehicles (LSV)/Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEV): An LSV/NEV is a motor vehicle that may look like a golf cart to the casual observer, but is actually a motor vehicle requiring registration and insurance, and operation by a licensed driver.

LSV/NEVs may be powered by electric battery or gasoline. Vehicle standards are specified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 500. (49 Code of Federal Regulations §571.500).

An LSV/NEV has 4 wheels, a top attainable speed in 1 mile of more than 20 mph and not more than 25 mph on a paved level surface, a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 3,000 pounds, and a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). Only LSV/NEVs registered and licensed under South Carolina law, or registered and licensed in another state shall qualify as an LSV/NEV. Golf carts or modified ("street legal") golf carts do not qualify as LSV/NEVs, and shall not be operated within the SID.

LSV/NEVs are permitted on SIPOA roads and approved for street-use only:

- Each LSV/NEV must be registered and insured pursuant to applicable state motor vehicle laws pertaining to such vehicles, have a 17-digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), and display appropriate LSV license plates
- Each LSV/NEV must display a valid SIPOA entry device or pass
- Only drivers having a valid driver's license may operate LSV/NEVs on SIPOA roads
- LSV/NEVs may not be operated on any bicycle path, walking path or boardwalk, or on the beach
- LSV/NEVs shall be subject to the motor vehicle parking restrictions contained in the SIPOA Rules and Regulations
- Off-road tires may not be used on LSV/NEVs

Are you considering purchasing an LSV/NEV? Before you buy, please contact the SIPOA Administration if you have any questions about the requirements for your new vehicle.