

BARRON COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 4

**Revised Ordinance Designating Additional Portions of County Highways as
ATV/UTV Routes**

The Barron County Board of Supervisors ordains as follows

1
2 **WHEREAS**, by Ordinance 2022-5, the County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to
3 Wis. Stat. §23.33(8)(b), did designate portions of the County Highway System as ATV
4 Routes; and

5
6 **WHEREAS**, Ordinance Numbers 2022-8, 2022-16, 2024-8, and 2024-19
7 designated additional portions of the County Highways as ATV/UTV routes; and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, the Town of Rice Lake met on May 12, 2025, and approved opening
10 the ATV route on Highway 48 between Hiawatha Park and Eagle Ridge to 20 ¼ Street;
11 and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the Barron County Highway and Law Enforcement Committees
14 recommend opening ATV/UTV road access on Highway 48 from 20 ¼ Street/Hammond
15 Avenue to the north junction of 21st Street as set forth in the attached Exhibit; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, the Committees agree that adding this route segment will yield a
18 recreational and economic benefit to the area while maintaining traffic safety; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, the Barron County Board of Supervisors initially approved the first
21 version of Ordinance No. 2025-7 on August 18, 2025; however, the Department of
22 Transportation has requested a revision to the Ordinance language as well as the attachment
23 of an Exhibit showing the proposed location; and

24 **WHEREAS**, this ordinance was approved by the Highway Committee on
25 January 8, 2026, on a vote of 5 – 0 with Jenkins, Mosentine, Olson, Thompson and Bartlett
26 (Alternate for Effertz) voting in favor and no members voting against.

27 **WHEREAS**, this ordinance was approved by the Executive Committee on January
28 7, 2026, on a vote of 9 - 0, with 9 members voting in favor and no members voting against.

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30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Barron County Board of
31 Supervisors Ordinance No. 2025-7 which amended that Ordinance Numbers 2022-5, 2022-
32 8, 2022-16, 2024-8, and 2024-19 Designating Additional Portions of County Highways as
33 ATV routes to add ATV/UTV Road access on Highway 48 from 20 ¼ Street/Hammond
34 Avenue to the north junction of 21st Street be repealed and recreated as follows:

35
36 That Ordinance Numbers 2022-5, 2022-8, 2022-16, 2024-8, and 2024-19
37 Designating Additional Portions of County Highways as ATV routes be amended
38 to add ATV/UTV Road access on Highway 48 from 20 ¼ Street/Hammond Avenue
39 to the north junction of 21st Street.
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41 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the above listed ordinances shall be
42 specifically amended as follows:

43

44 (1) Authorized Operation and Routes.

45 (2) ATV/UTV may operate on State Highway 48 from 20 ¼ Street/Hammond
46 Avenue to the north junction of 21st Street as follows:

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48 • Cross the bridge in the most direct manner practicable and at a safe
49 location.

50 • Stay as far to the right of the roadway or shoulder as practicable.

51 • Stop the vehicle before crossing the bridge.

52 • Yield the right of way to other vehicles, pedestrians and devices.

53 • Exit the highway as quickly and safely as practicable after crossing the
54 bridge (21st Street).

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56 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that this Ordinance shall be passed subject to
57 approval from the State of Wisconsin.

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59 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that this Ordinance shall be effective upon its
60 adoption and publication and that publication of this ordinance may occur through posting
61 in accordance with Section 985.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

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OFFERED THIS 12th day of January, 2026.

<p>Number of readings required: One (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) Two (<input type="checkbox"/>)</p> <p>Vote required for passage: Majority (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) 2/3 Entire Board (20) (<input type="checkbox"/>)</p> <p>Source of funding: Budgeted (<input type="checkbox"/>) General Fund (<input type="checkbox"/>) Grant (<input type="checkbox"/>) Contingency (<input type="checkbox"/>) Other (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) Details _____</p> <p>Fiscal impact: - Current year total amount: \$ - Future years total amount: \$ - Effect on tax levy – current year - \$ - Effect on tax levy – future years - \$</p> <p>Fiscal impact reviewed by County Finance Department _____ Jodi Busch, Finance Director</p> <p>Approved as to form by: _____ Jeffrey French, Administrator</p> <p>_____ John Muench, Corporation Counsel</p>	<p>_____ Marv Thompson, Highway Committee Chair</p> <p>_____ Louie Okey, Executive Committee Chair</p> <p>(The Committee Chair signature verifies the action taken by the Committee.)</p> <p>Board Action: Adopted (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) Failed (<input type="checkbox"/>) Tabled (<input type="checkbox"/>)</p> <p>Motion: (Jenkins/P. Anderson) to approve. Chair Okey clarified the portions of the ordinance that were changed at the DNR's request. Carried with 24 Yes and 5 Absent (Gores, Langman, Mosentine, Rogers & Schradle).</p>
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