

**CITY OF BASTROP, TX
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-07**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING A SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGISTRATION PROCESS; AMENDING THE BASTROP CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 4, BY ENACTING ARTICLE 4.13, SECTIONS 4.13.001 – 4.13.012 TITLED “SHORT TERM RENTALS”; AS ATTACHED IN EXHIBIT A; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, PROPER NOTICE AND MEETINGS CLAUSE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Council directed staff to develop short-term rental regulations in response to a significant increase in short-term rentals citywide; and

WHEREAS, the upward trend in the number short-term rentals in residential neighborhoods is expected to continue due to destination events like the Mardi Gras Festival and the Lighted Christmas Parade, along with regional growth pressures from commercial entities forecasting higher demand for transient visitors; and

WHEREAS, based on lessons learned from other cities where short-term rentals are more numerous, the introduction of regulations is an important step in preparing the Bastrop community for future growth in the short-term rental industry; and

WHEREAS, the Council supports the use of property for rental use in the short-term and acknowledges the business goals of short-term rental owners and the economic value of the short-term rental industry; and

WHEREAS, Council seeks to minimize potential adverse impacts to Bastrop residents from short-term rentals, namely public safety risks, illegal parking, traffic, trash; and

WHEREAS, short-term occupants and operators must be aware of local rules to enhance compliance and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a short-term rental registration requirement will help protect the health and safety of the City’s residents as well as occupants of a short-term rental; and

WHEREAS, requiring the registration of all short-term rental properties will help ensure the appropriate hotel occupancy taxes are paid.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. Findings of Fact. The above and foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein as findings of fact.

Section 2. Adoption of Short-term Rental Registration. The City Council hereby approves and adopts the Short-term Rental Registration consistent with this ordinance, as attached in Exhibit A.

Section 3. Amendment. Chapter 4 of the City of Bastrop Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by adding Article 4.13, Sections 4.13.001 – 4.13.012 entitled “Short Term Rentals” to read as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes.

Section 4. Repealer. All ordinances or resolutions that are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are, and the same are hereby, repealed and all other ordinances or resolutions of the City not in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance, or application thereof, to any person or circumstance, shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions, or application thereof, of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 6. Codification. The City Secretary is hereby directed to record and publish the attached rules, regulations, and policies in the City's Code of Ordinances as authorized by Section 52.001 of the Texas Local Government Code.

Section 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect 60-days after the date of final passage noted below, or when all applicable publication requirements, if any, are satisfied in accordance with the City's Charter, Code of Ordinances, and the laws of the State of Texas.

Section 8. Proper Notice and Meeting. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public, and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551. Notice was also provided as required by Chapter 52 of the Texas Local Government Code.

PASSED & APPROVED on *First Reading* by the City Council of the City of Bastrop, on this, the 11th day of **February, 2025**.

PASSED & APPROVED on *Second Reading* by the City Council of the City of Bastrop, on this, the 25th day of **February, 2025**.

Signature Page to follow

CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney