

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE 28.06 LANDSCAPING AND TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE; ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE PRESERVATION OF TREES, AND LANDSCAPING THAT IS COHESIVE WITH THE HILL COUNTRY ENVIRONMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE FOLLOWING: RULES; STANDARDS; PROCEDURES; CRIMINAL PENALTIES; AND, SEVERABILITY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Dripping Springs (“City Council”) seeks to promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the municipality and the safe, orderly, and healthful development of the municipality, including its extraterritorial jurisdiction where trees and water sources are preserved; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that removing all or most of trees on any lot is not beneficial to the hill country environment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that regulating the type of grass and landscaping and types of irrigation helps preserve the hill country landscape and water resources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that reasonable rules and regulations governing subdivision plats for tree preservation and landscaping are necessary to maintain water quality, protect the region’s livability, preserve property values, and reinforce Dripping Springs’ status as the Gateway to the Hill Country; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 51.001, the City has general authority to adopt an ordinance or police regulation that is for the good government, peace or order of the City and is necessary or proper for carrying out a power granted by law to the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 212 of the Texas Local Government Code, the City has the authority to adopt rules governing plats and subdivisions of land; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that amending its ordinance related to subdivisions is required by state law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is necessary and proper for the good government, peace or order of the City of Dripping Springs to adopt an ordinance regulating the tree preservation and landscaping.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Dripping Springs:

1. FINDINGS OF FACT

The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this Ordinance by reference as findings of fact as

if expressly set forth herein.

2. ENACTMENT

Article 28.06, Landscaping and Tree Preservation Ordinance of the City of Dripping Springs Code of Ordinances is repealed and replaced to read in accordance with Attachment A, which is attached hereto and incorporated into this Ordinance for all intents and purposes.

3. REPEALER

Article 28.06 and all ordinances, or parts thereof, that are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and remain controlling as to the matters regulated, herein.

4. SEVERABILITY

Should any of the clauses, sentences, paragraphs, sections or parts of this Ordinance be deemed invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable by a court of law or administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter, such action shall not be construed to affect any other valid portion of this Ordinance.

5. 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.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be effective as listed below:

- (a) Ninety (90) days after date of publication:
 - (1) Sections 28.06.079 – .081 Tree Preservation
 - (2) Division 5. Standards – Commercial and Subdivision Interior Lot Landscaping
- (b) Thirty (30) days after date of publication:
 - (1) All other sections in the ordinance.

7. 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 this, the _____ day of _____, 2024, by a vote of _____ (ayes) to _____ (nays) to _____ (abstentions) of the City Council of Dripping Springs, Texas.

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS

By: _____
Bill Foulds, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Cunningham, City Secretary