

ORDINANCE 571

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LOS FRESNOS CODE OF ORDINANCE CHAPTER 44-UTILITIES, ARTICLE I. GENERAL, SEC. 44-13. SERVICES RATES AND OTHER CHARGES; BILLING AND COLLECTION; PROVIDING REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance was introduced and submitted to the City Council for passage and adoption after the second reading of the Ordinance. After presentation and discussion of the Ordinance, a motion was made by _____ that the Ordinance be finally passed and adopted in accordance with the City's Home Rule Charter. The motion was seconded by _____ and carried by the following voted:

Mayor Alejandro Flores	___ For ___ Against ___ Abstained
Councilmember Albert Escobedo	___ For ___ Against ___ Abstained
Councilmember Juan Munoz	___ For ___ Against ___ Abstained
Mayor Pro-Tem Gabriela Fernandez	___ For ___ Against ___ Abstained
Councilmember Luis Gonzalez	___ For ___ Against ___ Abstained
Councilmember Terry Vinson	___ For ___ Against ___ Abstained

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 44-Utilities, Article I. General, Sec. 44-13. Service rates and other charges; billing and collection, in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Los Fresnos, Texas is hereby amended to reflect as follows:

ADD in red

Sec. 44-13. Service rates and other charges; billing and collection.

- a) *Generally; exceptions.* The rates for furnishing water and sewer service inside and outside the city limits shall be calculated, charged, billed and collected as provided in the city fee schedule.
- b) *Free service prohibited.* No free service shall be allowed, and to the extent that the city or any of its agencies or instrumentalities shall avail themselves of the services and facilities afforded by the systems, they shall pay therefor the same rates and charges prescribed in the city fee schedule.
- c) *Service outside city limits.* Water and sewer service may be furnished outside the corporate limits of the city only in the event the city is able to do so without detriment to consumers within the city limits, upon terms and conditions as may be determined by the city council in the best interests of the city.
 - i. *Wastewater connections outside city limits. Additional wastewater connections by individuals outside the city limits of Los Fresnos shall no longer be allowed. However, individuals may appeal to the Planning and Zoning Commission and subsequently to the City Council in writing if they can provide sufficient evidence demonstrating that the proposed connection will not negatively impact the existing wastewater system or service to current users within the city limits. The final decision shall rest with the City Council, based on the merits of the information presented and in consideration of the best interests of the City.*

SECTION 2. REPEALER All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict, hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. In the event any clause, phrase, provision, sentence, or part of this Ordinance or the application of the same to any person or circumstance shall for any reason be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction. It shall not effect, impair, or invalidate this Ordinance as a whole or any part or provision hereof other than the part declared to be invalid or unconstitutional; and the City Council of the City of Los Fresnos, Texas, declares that it would have passed.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect after the final reading and when caption of Ordinance has been published in the official newspaper of the City.

INTRODUCED AND APPROVED on the first reading this ____ day of _____, 2025.

APPROVED AND PASSED on the second reading this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Mayor, Alejandro Flores

ATTEST:

City Secretary, Jacqueline Moya