

1 CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD, TEXAS  
2  
3 ORDINANCE NO. 2025-XX-XX-XX  
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5

6 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD, TEXAS,  
7 AMENDING CHAPTER 107, ARTICLE I TO ADD SECTION 107-5  
8 (RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING MANUAL) AND ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2,  
9 SECTION 107-81 (EXTERIOR LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS);  
10 PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE, REPEALING CONFLICTING LAWS  
11 AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

12 WHEREAS, the City of Rollingwood is a General Law Type A City under the statutes of  
13 the State of Texas; and

14 WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code authorizes a municipality to adopt zoning  
15 regulations regarding the location and use of buildings, other structures, and land for business,  
16 industrial, residential, or other purposes; and

17 WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and made a  
18 recommendation to City Council on an amendment to the Zoning Code; and  
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20 WHEREAS, hereby finds and determines that the recommendation of the Planning and  
21 Zoning Commission is consistent with and does promote the public health, safety, morals, and  
22 general welfare of the Community; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, the City Council hereby finds and determines that the recommendation of  
25 the Planning and Zoning Commission is consistent with the general plan for the City; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 217 authorizes a general law  
28 municipality to define and declare what constitutes a nuisance; and  
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30 WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 217 authorizes a general law  
31 municipality to abate and remove a nuisance and punish by fine the person responsible for the  
32 nuisance; and  
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34 WHEREAS, the operation of outdoor lighting that violates established lighting standards  
35 or ordinances creates a public nuisance, particularly when the lighting, disturbs the peace and quiet  
36 enjoyment of neighboring properties; constitutes a safety hazard; interferes with the community's  
37 aesthetic or environmental quality; or creates significant light pollution affecting residents,  
38 businesses, or the broader natural environment.  
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40 WHEREAS, the City has complied with all conditions precedent necessary to take this  
41 action, has properly noticed and conducted all public hearings and public meetings pursuant to the  
42 Texas Local Government Code and Texas Government Code, as applicable.  
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44 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**  
45 **ROLLINGWOOD, TEXAS, THAT:**

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47 **SECTION 1.** All the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative  
48 and factual findings of the City Council and are hereby approved and incorporated into the body  
49 of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

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51 **SECTION 2.** The City’s Code of Ordinances Chapter 107, Zoning is amended to add  
52 Article 1, Section 107-5 Residential Lighting Manual and Article II, Division 2, Section 107-81  
53 Exterior Lighting Requirements as follows:

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55 **Sec. 107-5. Residential lighting manual**

56 The Residential Lighting Manual is a supporting document to the applicable  
57 lighting regulations contained in this Chapter and the Code of Ordinances of the  
58 City of Rollingwood and may contain illustrations, graphical representations, and  
59 examples. The Residential Lighting Manual may be adopted and updated from time  
60 to time by resolution approved by the City Council.

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62 **Sec. 107-81. Exterior Lighting requirements.**

63 (a) Definitions: As used herein:

- 64 (1) "Shielded" means "installed in such a manner that all light emitted by the  
65 fixture, either directly from the bulb or a diffusing element, or indirectly by  
66 reflection or refraction from any part of the fixture, is projected below the  
67 horizontal plane immediately beneath the fixture's lowest light-emitting part."  
68 See exhibit in the Residential Lighting Manual for examples of conforming  
69 and nonconforming light fixtures.
- 70 (2) "Footcandle" as used herein shall mean: The illuminance produced on a  
71 surface one foot from a uniform point source of one candela and equal to one  
72 lumen per square foot.
- 73 (3) "String Lights" means electric lights affixed to a wire, string, or cable,  
74 typically used for decorative purposes and often designed for temporary or  
75 festive installations, such as holiday lighting, patio ambiance, or special  
76 events.

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78 (b) Applicability.

- 79 (1) The regulations contained in this section are applicable to outdoor lighting  
80 fixtures installed on structures within the residential zoning districts of the  
81 City.
- 82 (2) All outdoor lighting fixtures existing and legally installed and operating  
83 before the effective date of this section, or installed pursuant to a permit  
84 approved prior to the effective date of this Section, shall be brought into  
85 conformance with this Section upon the earlier of: (1) an application for a site

86 plan or building permit for construction of a new building or modification of  
87 50% or more of an existing structure, or (2) replacement or modification of an  
88 existing non-conforming fixture.

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90 (c) Exemptions. The following are exempt from the provisions of this section:

- 91 (1) Publicly maintained traffic control devices;
- 92 (2) Street lights installed prior to the effective date of this section;
- 93 (3) Temporary emergency lighting (fire, police, repair crews);
- 94 (4) Lighting fixtures and illumination requirements imposed by TxDOT within  
95 TxDOT rights of way (ROW);
- 96 (5) Moving vehicle lights;
- 97 (6) Navigation lights (aircraft warning beacons on water towers and wireless  
98 transmission facilities) required by State or Federal law;
- 99 (7) Signs and associated lighting that conform to the city's sign regulations in  
100 Chapter 24;
- 101 (8) Seasonal decorations with lights in place illuminated no longer than sixty (60)  
102 days; and
- 103 (9) Other temporary uses approved by the City Council (festivals, carnivals, fairs,  
104 night-time construction);
- 105 (10) Unshielded decorative lights meeting the standard (not exceeding .25  
106 footcandle which mimic natural gas flickering lights);
- 107 (11) Uplighting in trees not to exceed 50 lumens from source reflection or support  
108 structures, provided that the light source shall not be visible from the horizontal  
109 plane, i.e. the luminaire must be fully shielded; and
- 110 (12) String Lights provided that the emission of such lighting does not exceed 125  
111 lumens per linear foot of line or square foot of space. These lights must be rated  
112 at or below 3000 Kelvin and can only be turned on between sunset and  
113 midnight; and
- 114 (13) Motion activated security lights that are controlled by a timer that deactivates  
115 after no more than ten (10) minutes.

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117 (d) General Standards. The following standards shall apply to all outdoor lighting  
118 installed after the effective date of this section:

- 119 (1) Except for street lighting in public right of way, all exterior fixtures over  
120 1,000 initial lamp lumens must be hooded or shielded so that the light source  
121 is not directly visible from adjacent properties or properties within 250 ft of  
122 light source. As directed by city building official a submittal of exterior light  
123 fixtures shall be included with the building permit plans that includes lumens  
124 output, color temperature and a physical description.

- 125 (2) Lighting must have a color temperature of no more than 3000 Kelvins (K).  
126 (3) Exterior lighting may not exceed .25 footcandle across the source property  
127 line.  
128 (4) No light or illumination that flashes, moves, scrolls rotates, scintillates, blinks,  
129 flickers, varies in intensity or color, or uses intermittent electrical pulsations  
130 is permitted other than low voltage lights permitted under item 8 above for  
131 the limited period allowed in C8. Light fixtures may be controlled by a motion  
132 detector that deactivates fixtures after no more than 15 minutes.  
133 (5) Light fixtures shall be controlled by a timer that restricts activation to night  
134 time use only.  
135 (6) Private walkway light fixtures shall not exceed 385 lumens each.  
136 (7) Lighting within Required Yards. No light fixtures shall be installed in any  
137 required yard area, as defined in Section 107-76 of the Zoning ordinance,  
138 except for lighting installed in accordance with (6) above and for two light  
139 fixtures at a driveway entrance.  
140 (8) Landscape/yard lighting. Light fixtures used for illuminating landscape  
141 features shall not exceed 530 lumens.

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143 (e) Enforcement. The city shall have the power to administer and enforce the  
144 provisions of this Section, as provided in this Chapter. Any violation of this Section  
145 is hereby declared to be a nuisance. A civil penalty of up to \$2,000 for each day a  
146 violation occurs may be assessed when it is shown that the defendant was actually  
147 notified of the provisions of this article and after receiving notice failed to take  
148 action necessary for compliance with this article.  
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151 **SECTION 3.** All provisions of the ordinances of the City of Rollingwood in conflict with  
152 the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and all other  
153 provisions of the City of Rollingwood ordinances not in conflict with the provisions of this  
154 ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.  
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156 **SECTION 4.** Should any sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or section of  
157 this ordinance be adjudged or held to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not  
158 affect the validity of this ordinance, or any part or provision thereof other than the part so decided  
159 to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, and shall not affect the validity of the Code of Ordinances  
160 as a whole.  
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162 **SECTION 5.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and  
163 the publication of the caption, as the law and charter in such cases provide.  
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165 **APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Rollingwood, Texas,  
166 on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.  
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APPROVED:

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Gavin Massingill, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Makayla Rodriguez, City Secretary

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