

MEMO



To: Planning Commission

From: Aspen Elmer, Planner

Date: May 15, 2026

RE: Code Amendment Removing Single-Family Residential Landscaping Requirements

It is proposed that the Planning Commission and City Council consider removing language within Santaquin City Code (SCC) 10.52.020, 10.32.030, to remove the requirement that all single-family residential homes complete front and side yard landscaping before a certificate of occupancy is granted to match state code 10-9a-802.

Below are the proposed changes to Santaquin City Code.

10.52.020 CITY WIDE LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENT FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

All new residential dwellings must provide completely landscaped front yards and side yards, as defined in SCC 10.16.290, where such yard area is visible from the public street or private street. Acceptable landscaping must include plants and sufficiently control erosion, dust, and weeds to mitigate negative impact on neighboring residences. All single-family residential landscaping should meet the recommendations in SCC 10.52.030.B.1. and shall follow requirements in SCC 10.52.030.F. ~~Unless an appropriate bond is posted, landscaping must be completed before the residential dwelling receives a certificate of occupancy.~~

In the event that a residential dwelling is completed when pressurized irrigation is not available, a cash bond may be provided to Santaquin City as per the approved fee schedule. If a cash bond is paid, the landscaping improvements shall be completed by the end of the following irrigation season before the City's pressurized irrigation is turned off in mid-October.

10.32.030 INFILL REDUCTION

Infill development standards may be applied to no more than three (3) lots within a proposed development. Infill properties may be eligible for a reduction in the lot area and frontage requirements stipulated within the zoning classification in which the property is located. Use of these infill standards requires Planning Commission approval through City subdivision review processes. The following standards shall apply: (Ord. 10-01-2014, 10-1-2014, eff. 10-2-2014)

A. Infill Reduction:

1. A proposed lot area may be reduced by no more than twenty percent (20%) of the underlying zone standard.

2. A proposed frontage may be reduced by no more than twenty percent (20%) of the underlying zone standard.
 3. Except as provided for architectural considerations in paragraph B, all new construction must comply with setbacks of the underlying zone. Existing dwellings, which are to remain as part of an infill development, may have reduced rear setbacks to a minimum setback of fifteen feet (15'), so long as all other setbacks and lot standards are met relative to the remaining dwelling. (Ord. 03-01-2017, 3-8-2017, eff. 3-9-2017)
- B. Architectural Considerations: The following architectural requirements must be demonstrated prior to a building permit being given for construction on an infill property:
1. Architectural Styles: Architectural styles indicative of the 1890 - 1920 period should be utilized. These include Queen Anne, folk Victorian, shingle style, craftsman (arts and crafts), bungalow, American foursquare, or neoclassical.
 2. Porches: Porch areas should be utilized to provide emphasis to the dwelling area. Porches must be a minimum of five feet (5') deep and should run the width of the dwelling area facing the front lot line. Porch areas may encroach into the front setback of an infill lot by five feet (5') unless otherwise specified in the underlying zone.
 3. Building Materials: Elevations facing public rights-of-way must have a minimum fifty percent (50%) coverage of brick or masonry materials. The use of smooth faced concrete block, prefabricated steel panels, EIFS (stucco) or concrete siding materials will not count toward the minimum masonry requirement unless consistent with the architectural style of home proposed. Vinyl or aluminum siding is prohibited except in areas immediately under gable areas or on second story pop out features (e.g., box window, etc.).
- C. Landscaping: All front and visible side yard landscaping and maintenance systems shall be installed ~~prior to a certificate of occupancy being granted~~. Where landscaping cannot be completed before October in the same year construction begins, a certificate of occupancy may be granted if a cash bond for completion of the landscaping is provided to Santaquin City. Bond amounts shall be determined by the City Engineer consistent with the City development bonding regulations. Landscaping must be installed within six (6) months of bond posting. (Ord. 10-01-2014, 10-1-2014, eff. 10-2-2014)

Motion: "Motion to recommend (approval/denial) of the proposed code amendment to remove the requirement of single family homes installing front and side landscaping to receive a certificate of occupancy is given."

ORDINANCE NO. DRAFT

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SANTAQUIN CITY CODE TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT ALL SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HOMES COMPLETE FRONT AND SIDE YARD LANDSCAPING BEFORE A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IS GRANTED, PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, the City of Santaquin is a fourth-class city of the state of Utah; and

WHEREAS, the state legislature has granted general welfare power to the City Council, independent, apart from, and in addition to, its specific grants of legislative authority, which enables the city to pass ordinances which are reasonably and appropriately related to the objectives of that power, i.e. providing for the public safety, health, morals, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend Santaquin City Code Title 10, Chapter 52, Section 020 and Title 10, Chapter 32, Section 030, to remove the requirement that all single-family residential homes complete front and side yard landscaping before a certificate of occupancy is granted to match state code 10-9a-802; and

WHEREAS, the Santaquin City Planning Commission held a public hearing on January 27, 2026, which hearing was preceded by the posting of public notice in at least three public places within the City limits of Santaquin City; and

WHEREAS, after the noted public hearing, the Santaquin City Planning Commission forwarded a recommendation to the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Santaquin City, State of Utah, as follows:

Section I. Amendments

Title 10 Chapter 52 Section 020 is amended as follows: (underlined text is added, stricken text is deleted)

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granted if a cash bond for completion of the landscaping is provided to Santaquin City. Bond amounts shall be determined by the City Engineer consistent with the City development bonding regulations. Landscaping must be installed within six (6) months of bond posting. (Ord. 10-01-2014, 10-1-2014, eff. 10-2-2014)

Section II. Severability

If any part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall, for any reason, be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this ordinance or the application thereof to other persons and circumstances, but shall be confined to its operation to the section, subdivision, sentence or part of the section and the persons and circumstances directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the City Council that this section would have been adopted if such invalid section, provisions, subdivision, sentence or part of a section or application had not been included.

Section III. Contrary Provisions Repealed

Any and all other provisions of the Santaquin City Code that are contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section IV. Codification, Inclusion in the Code, and Scrivener's Errors

It is the intent of the City Council that the provisions of this ordinance be made part of the Santaquin City Code as adopted, that sections of this ordinance may be re-numbered or re-lettered, and that the word ordinance may be changed to section, chapter, or other such appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intent regardless of whether such inclusion in a code is accomplished. Typographical errors which do not affect the intent of this ordinance may be authorized by the City without need of public hearing by its filing a corrected or re-codified copy of the same with the City Recorder.

Section V. Posting and Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3rd, 2026. Prior to that time, the City Recorder shall deposit a copy of this ordinance in the official records of the City and place a copy of this ordinance in three places within the City.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 2nd day of June, 2026.

Daniel M. Olson, Mayor

Councilmember Art Adcock	Voted	___
Councilmember Brian Del Rosario	Voted	___
Councilmember Lynn Mecham	Voted	___
Councilmember Jeff Siddoway	Voted	___
Councilmember Travis Keel	Voted	___

ATTEST:

Stephanie Christensen, City Recorder

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

STATE OF UTAH)
) ss.
COUNTY OF UTAH)

I, STEPHANIE CHRISTENSEN, City Recorder of Santaquin City, Utah, do hereby certify and declare that prior to the ordinance taking effect, I posted a short summary of the ordinance on the Utah Public Notice Website as required by Utah State Code 10-3-711(1)(b) as a Class A Notice and Santaquin City Code 1-2-050(D)

I further certify that copies of the ordinance were posted online at www.santaquin.org, at the City Hall Building at 110 S. Center Street and on the State of Utah's Public Notice Website, <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>. A copy of the notice may also be requested by calling (801)754-1904.

STEPHANIE CHRISTENSEN
Santaquin City Recorder

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me on this ____ day of ____ 2026, by STEPHANIE CHRISTENSEN.

My Commission Expires:
