

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DEKALB**

ORDINANCE 2026-15

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A DOWNTOWN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN; TO AUTHORIZE THE OUTDOOR POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITHIN A DESIGNATED DISTRICT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR PARTICIPATING LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS; TO PROVIDE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT; TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, The City of Stone Mountain is a municipal corporation organized and existing under the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and City Council are authorized to adopt ordinances necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare and to regulate the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages within the City; and

WHEREAS, The City recognizes that its historic downtown serves as the center of commerce, tourism, special events, dining, entertainment, and community gatherings; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and City Council find that establishing a Downtown Entertainment District will encourage economic development, support local businesses, enhance tourism, increase pedestrian activity, and improve the overall visitor experience while maintaining appropriate public safety standards; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and City Council desire to establish regulations governing the outdoor possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages purchased from participating licensed establishments within a designated Downtown Entertainment District.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish a Downtown Entertainment District within the City of Stone Mountain and to authorize the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages within designated public areas under regulations adopted by the City.

SECTION 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DOWNTOWN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.

A Downtown Entertainment District is hereby established. The boundaries of the Entertainment District shall be designated by resolution of the Mayor and City Council and may be amended from time to time without amendment of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. PARTICIPATING LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS.

Only establishments holding a valid City of Stone Mountain alcohol license for on-premises consumption **and sale** and located within **and-or having a property boundary adjacent to** the Downtown Entertainment District may participate. Participation shall be voluntary and subject to compliance with all City ordinances, administrative policies, and applicable state law.

SECTION 4. AUTHORIZED OUTDOOR CONSUMPTION.

Persons twenty-one (21) years of age or older may possess and consume alcoholic beverages within the Downtown Entertainment District provided that:

1. The beverage was purchased from a participating licensed establishment.
2. The beverage is contained in a City-approved disposable container.
3. The beverage remains within the boundaries of the Entertainment District.
4. The individual complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws. Glass containers shall not be permitted outside the licensed premises.

SECTION 5. APPROVED CONTAINERS.

Alcoholic beverages removed from participating establishments shall be served only in City-approved disposable containers displaying identifying information required by the City. The City Manager is authorized to establish specifications regarding container size, design, labeling, and other administrative requirements.

SECTION 6. HOURS OF OPERATION.

Outdoor consumption within the Entertainment District shall be permitted only during hours established by resolution of the Mayor and City Council or as otherwise authorized by the City's Alcohol Beverage Ordinance.

SECTION 7. PROHIBITED ACTS.

It shall be unlawful to:

- a. Remove alcoholic beverages outside the boundaries of the Entertainment District **unless said beverages are in original, unopened packaging**.
- b. Possess alcoholic beverages in glass containers on public property within the district.
- c. Consume alcoholic beverages **brought from outside the Entertainment District or** purchased from a non-participating establishment while in the district.
- d. Violate any provision of this Ordinance or any applicable provision of the City Code or Georgia law.

SECTION 8. ADMINISTRATION.

The City Manager is authorized to adopt administrative policies and procedures necessary to implement this Ordinance, including but not limited to:

- Entertainment District maps;
- Approved container specifications;

- Required signage;
- Operational guidelines for participating establishments;
- Temporary suspension of district operations during public safety emergencies or special circumstances.

SECTION 9. ENFORCEMENT.

Violations of this Ordinance shall be subject to enforcement by the City of Stone Mountain Police Department and may result in citations, suspension of participation privileges, administrative penalties, or other remedies authorized by law.

SECTION 10. CODIFICATION.

It is the intent of the Mayor and City Council that this Ordinance be codified within Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stone Mountain relating to Alcoholic Beverages, with section numbering to be assigned by the City Clerk during codification.

SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY.

Should any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 12. REPEALER.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Stone Mountain.

SO ORDAINED, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA

Jelani Linder, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Shavala Ames, City Clerk

[Affix City Seal]

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Angela Couch, City Attorney