

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE CALENDAR NO.: 7879

ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO.: 25-

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MR. LAUGHLIN

PROVIDED BY: CIVIL DA/COUNCIL OFFICE

INTRODUCED BY: MR. CORBIN

SECONDED BY: MR. LAUGHLIN

ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2025

ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. TAMMANY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART I – CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 14 – FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION, ARTICLE I – IN GENERAL, TO ADD SEC. 14-4 – GATE ACCESS SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS, TO REQUIRE RESTRICTED ACCESS COMMUNITIES TO INSTALL SIREN OPERATED SENSOR.

WHEREAS, St. Tammany Parish Government is charged with protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, residential communities with restricted gate access create a unique challenge for emergency responders which could affect the health and safety of the residents of those communities; and,

WHEREAS, rather than provide access codes or physical keys which change frequently, new technology exists to allow emergency responders to gain immediate access to gated communities using siren operated sensors; and,

WHEREAS, siren operated sensors are a convenient and low cost solution compatible with all access gates which work by detecting a specific sound pattern, such as a “Yelp” siren, and triggering access; and,

WHEREAS, in order to ensure expedient access by emergency responders, all new subdivisions, apartment complexes, and other residential communities with restricted gate access applying for building permits on or after June 5, 2025, or existing private subdivisions, apartment complexes, and other residential communities applying for a building permit affecting their gate access on or after June 5, 2025, shall be required to install a siren operated sensor on or before January 1, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, additionally, any existing private subdivisions, apartment complexes, and other residential communities is strongly encouraged to install a siren operated sensor to ensure the timely response by first responders to the residents thereof.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY ORDAINS that St. Tammany Parish Code of Ordinances, Part I – Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14 – Fire Prevention and Protection, Article I – In General, to add Sec. 14-4, to provide as follows:

**Sec. 14-4. Gate Access System Requirements.**

- (a) *Siren operated sensor required.* Any subdivision, apartment complex, and other residential community with restricted gate access shall be required to install and maintain the functionality of a siren operated sensor to ensure immediate access by emergency responders, including fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services.
- (b) *Communities affected.* These regulations shall apply to any new subdivision, apartment complex, and other residential community with restricted gate access applying for building permits on or after June 5, 2025, or any existing private subdivisions, apartment complexes, and other residential communities applying for a building permit affecting their gate access on or after June 5, 2025.
- (c) *Penalty.* Failure to install and maintain a siren operated sensor by the owner of the access gate operator constitutes a violation of this section. The owner of the access gate found to be in violation of this section shall be fined \$500.00.

(d) *Limitation of liability.* The parish assumes no liability for any defects in the operation of any siren operated sensor or transmission of signals, for any failure or neglect of any person associated with the installation, operation or maintenance of a siren operated sensor, for any failure or neglect of any siren operated sensor user, or neglect to respond from any source. No special duty other than that owed to the general public shall be created by virtue of this section or as a result of the installation or operation of a siren operated sensor.

REPEAL: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY: If any provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2026.

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS SUBMITTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS ORDINANCE WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2025; AND BECOMES ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO. 25-\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOE IMPASTATO, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK

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MICHAEL B. COOPER, PARISH PRESIDENT

Published Introduction: APRIL 23, 2025

Published Adoption: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

Delivered to Parish President: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 at \_\_\_\_\_

Returned to Council Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 at \_\_\_\_\_