

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE CALENDAR NO.: 7795

ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO.: 25-

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MR. IMPASTATO

PROVIDED BY: CIVIL DA/COUNCIL OFFICE

INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2025

ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. TAMMANY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART I, CHAPTER 26 – NUISANCES, ARTICLE II – ABANDONED OR INOPERABLE VEHICLES ON PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY, SEC. 26-42 – DEFINITIONS, TO UPDATE THE DEFINITION OF ABANDONED JUNK, WRECKED OR USED AUTOMOBILES OR MOTOR VEHICLES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, in order to best protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, St. Tammany Parish Government is empowered to enforce its ordinances and abate nuisances throughout the Parish; and,

WHEREAS, abandoned junk vehicles are a nuisance as they create environmental hazards, harbor vermin, and appear unsightly; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to update the definition of *abandoned junk, wrecked or used automobiles or motor vehicles on private property* to allow for better enforcement of this Article by St. Tammany Parish Code Enforcement.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY ORDAINS that St. Tammany Parish Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 26 – Nuisances, Article II – Abandoned or Inoperable Vehicles on Public or Private Property, Sec. 26-42 – Definitions, be amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 26-42. Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Abandoned junk, wrecked or used automobiles or motor vehicles on private property* means a motor vehicle, situated upon any occupied or unoccupied private property, which is totally inoperable and is so damaged or dismantled as to be a total loss. The term "total loss" means that the cost to repair a damaged or dismantled motor vehicle exceeds the value of such vehicle, as determined by any recognized national appraisal book. Additionally, lack of current and/or valid registration, inspection sticker and/or license plate ~~alone does not~~ may constitute abandoned, inoperative condition.

*Abandoned motor vehicle on public property* means a motor vehicle that is inoperable and is left unattended on public property for more than 24 hours or is inoperable and left unattended on the shoulder, neutral ground or sidewalk of any public street, road or right-of-way for more than 24 hours.

*Antique vehicle* means any motor vehicle 25 years or older, which is operable and substantially in its original condition. These vehicles must be registered as antiques and display antique license plates.

*Enforcing agency* means the chief of police, sheriff, constables, code enforcement office or director of public works, as well as their duly authorized agents.

*Motor vehicle or vehicle* means every device by which persons or things may be transported upon a public highway or bridge, except devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, and includes a motor vehicle, which is commonly referred to as a car, any passenger vehicle, truck, tractor, tractor-trailer, truck-trailer, motor home, motorcycle, trailer or semitrailer propelled or drawn by mechanical power. A trailer or semitrailer shall be a separate vehicle.

*Owner of the motor vehicle* means the last registered owner.

*Owner of the premises* means the owner of the land on which the vehicle is located, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll.

*Secured motor vehicle* means any abandoned junk, wrecked or used automobiles or motor vehicles on private property, which is completely enclosed within a building, garage or under a carport, or is otherwise covered and placed at the rear of a residence or other primary structure that is located on the property in such a manner that the vehicle is not otherwise visible from the street or other public or private property.

*Unoccupied property* means vacant land and property upon which there is a residential or commercial structure that would constitute "blighted property," a "derelict and dangerous structure" or be considered "vacant or not lawfully occupied," although "secured," as those terms are defined in Ordinance C.S. No. 05-1104, May 5, 2005, and set forth in article III of this chapter.

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 fifteen (15) days after adoption.

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 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025; AND BECOMES ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO. 25-\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOE IMPASTATO, COUNCIL CHAIR

ATTEST:

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KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL B. COOPER, PARISH PRESIDENT

Published Introduction: JANUARY 01, 2025  
Published Adoption: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025  
Delivered to Parish President: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 at \_\_\_\_\_  
Returned to Council Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 at \_\_\_\_\_