

ORDINANCE NO. XXXXXX  
(PROPOSAL ONLY)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SWEENY, TEXAS, AMENDING  
CHAPTER 150 BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 150.04 TITLED  
EXTERIOR SECURITY CAMERAS; PROVIDING FOR  
INSPECTIONS; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR EACH VIOLATION;  
PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING THAT THIS  
ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT AND BE IN FORCE AT THE  
DATE OF ITS PASSAGE.

WHEREAS, excessive levels of violence and criminal activity are detrimental to human health and welfare and result in impaired health, safety and welfare for residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has seen the increased levels of violence and criminal activity especially around apartment complexes within the City; and

WHEREAS, the use of technology, including but not limited to video camera footage, is helpful to law enforcement in identifying and apprehending persons alleged to have committed violent crimes;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF SWEENY, TEXAS:**

Section One (1):

The findings of fact contained in the preamble to this ordinance are determined to be true and correct and are hereby adopted as part of this ordinance.

Section Two (2):

Chapter 150 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Sweeny is hereby amended by adding a new Section 150.04, which shall read as follows:

**“CHAPTER 150. SECTION 150.04 EXTERIOR SECURITY CAMERAS**

- (A) Apartment complexes, being any building or group of buildings, or portion thereof, which is designed, built, rented, leased, let or hired out to be occupied as greater than four (4) dwelling units or which is occupied as the home or residence of greater than four (4) families living independently from each other and maintaining separate cooking facilities shall, from and after the date of this ordinance, have a digital high resolution surveillance camera system sufficient to provide an overall view from the exterior of the building to the property line. The camera system must include all parking areas, gate entries and exit points, building doorways and exterior spaces.
- (B) Each camera location as required by this ordinance shall be confirmed by the inspection of the system by the Sweeny Police Department or the Sweeny Fire Marshal's office.

The number of cameras may be required to be increased, at any time, if it is determined by the Chief of Police, the Fire Marshal or their designee, that the coverage is insufficient as required by this ordinance.

- (C) Each camera system shall display the date and time of the recording for each camera. The camera system must be capable of providing a digital image with a minimum resolution of two megapixels, a minimum aspect ratio of 1920 horizontal pixels by 1080 vertical pixels and a minimum frame rate of 30 frames per second. The camera system shall have Wide Dynamic Range capabilities. The camera system shall be capable of exporting video footage in a non-proprietary MPEG-4 format.
- (D) Each camera system shall be maintained in proper working order at all times. Each camera system shall be operating at all times, including hours when the facility is not open for business.
- (E) The owner of any apartment complex defined in this ordinance shall within seventy-two (72) hours of a request, provide digital color video footage in connection with crime investigations to any State of Texas Law Enforcement Agency or Federal Law Enforcement Agency. Camera video data must be transferred to these organizations via a USB drive, Electronic Mail or digital file sharing transfer.
- (F) The owner or operator shall maintain a library of the recorded digital footage for not less than thirty (30) days.
- (G) A business subject to the requirements of this section shall have posted at all public exits and entrances, signs or decals indicating that surveillance cameras are in use.
- (H) Any person who shall willfully, intentionally or with criminal negligence violate any provision of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in an amount of not more than \$500.00. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.”

### Section 3:

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

### Section 4:

If any part of portion of this ordinance shall be determined to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect or impair any remaining portions or provisions of this ordinance.

### Section 5: This ordinance shall be effective from and after the date of its passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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DUSTY HOPKINS, Mayor of the City of  
Sweeny, Texas

ATTEST:

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KAYDI SMITH, City Secretary