

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE QUALIFYING DATES FOR THE MARCH 2026 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIRECTION OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Section 11 (Elections) of the City Charter sets the dates for qualifying for municipal elections from and including noon on the last Tuesday in January to and including noon on the second Tuesday in February, of the year in which the election is held; and

WHEREAS, in order to accommodate the statutory vote-by-mail requirements, the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections (“SOE”) has requested that the City amend its qualifying period to ensure that it ends no later than ninety-five (95) days before Election Day.

WHEREAS, the SOE has further advised that it may not be able to accommodate the elections of those municipalities that do not change their qualifying dates, as requested; and

WHEREAS, Section 166.021(4) and Section 100.3605, F.S., authorize the City Council, by ordinance, to amend the qualifying dates and the regular City Council election date as set forth in the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, in response to the SOE's request, the City Council seeks to change the qualifying dates for the City's general elections; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that changing the qualifying dates of the City's general municipal elections, as requested by the SOE, is in the best interest of the citizens and residents of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

1st Reading _____
2nd Reading _____

1 **SECTION 1. Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are confirmed, adopted and
2 incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference.

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4 **SECTION 2.** In accordance with Section 166.021(4) and Section 100.3605, F.S.,
5 and at the request of the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections, the qualifying dates
6 for the City's March 2026 general election are hereby established as Tuesday, November 4 –
7 Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

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9 **SECTION 3. Conflicts.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances, resolutions or
10 parts of resolutions which are in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed to the extent of
11 such conflict.

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13 **SECTION 4. Severability.** Should the provisions of this ordinance be declared
14 to be severable and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall for any
15 reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity
16 of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this ordinance but they shall
17 remain in effect, it being the legislative intent that this ordinance shall remain
18 notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

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20 **SECTION 5. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be effective upon adoption on
21 second reading.

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23 **PASSED** this ____ day of _____, 2025, on first reading.

24 **PUBLISHED** on this ____ day of _____, 2025 in the Palm Beach Post.

25 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this ____ day of _____, 2025, on second reading.

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ATTEST:

Zoie Burgess, City Clerk

City of Westlake
John Paul O'Connor, Mayor