STATE OF LOUISIANA

CITY OF WEST MONROE

ORDINANCE NO. _____ MOTION BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE DOWNTOWN WEST MONROE ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR OPEN-CONTAINER PRIVILEGES WITHIN THE DISTRICT; TO AMEND THE CITY'S OPEN-CONTAINER REGULATIONS; AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the title of Chapter 6 of Part 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 6: BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that Article D of Chapter 6 of Part 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, be and is hereby enacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE D. ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

Sec. 2-6030. Purpose

Entertainment districts established pursuant to this article are special geographic areas designated by the city for purposes of promoting economic development, tourism, dining, retail, arts, entertainment, pedestrian activity, and related activities. An entertainment district shall not constitute a zoning district or alter the zoning classification or otherwise applicable zoning requirements of property located therein unless expressly provided by ordinance.

Sec. 2-6031. Downtown West Monroe Entertainment District established; boundaries.

(a) There is hereby established the Downtown West Monroe Entertainment District ("District").

(b) The boundaries of the District shall be as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Bridge Street and Trenton Street, continuing southeast on Trenton Street, then northeast on Pine Street to Commerce Street, southeast on Commerce Street, northwest on Wood Street, southeast on North Riverfront Street, continuing onto South Riverfront Street to Endom Bridge.

From the intersection of Bridge Street and Trenton Street, continuing southwest on Bridge Street, then southeast on Cotton Street, southwest on Natchitoches Street, southeast on Cypress Street, and northwest on Wood Street to its intersection with Commerce Street.

The District shall include all lots, as well as all existing or new buildings or structures, facing the portions of the streets described above, together with all property and public areas lying between Riverfront Street and the Ouachita River along the portion of

Riverfront Street described above, and the property municipally known as 95 McClendon Avenue.

The boundaries of the District are further depicted on the map attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by reference.

Sec. 2-6032. Definitions.

(a) *Approved container* means a new, non-glass, non-aluminum container provided by a participating establishment and bearing the name or logo of that establishment.

(b) *Participating establishment* means an establishment located within the District that holds and maintains a current city permit authorizing the retail sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption and is authorized by the city to participate in the District.

Sec. 2-6033. Participating establishments.

(a) An establishment located within the District that desires to participate in the privileges provided by this article shall hold and maintain a current permit from the city authorizing the retail sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption.

(b) Participation shall be subject to such administrative procedures as may be established by the city.

(c) The city may suspend or revoke an establishment's authorization to participate in the District for failure to comply with the provisions of this article or applicable administrative procedures.

Sec. 2-6034. Hours of operation.

Open-container privileges within the District shall be permitted daily between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

The board of aldermen may establish more restrictive days or hours by resolution. Any expansion of the days or hours established by this section shall require an ordinance.

Sec. 2-6035. Open-container privileges within the District.

(a) Notwithstanding section 11-4039 of this Code, during the authorized hours, a person twenty-one years of age or older may possess and consume an alcoholic beverage in an open container, in a public place, within the District, provided that the alcoholic beverage:
   (1) Was lawfully purchased from a participating establishment;
   (2) Is contained in an approved container provided by the participating establishment from which the beverage was purchased;
   (3) Remains within the boundaries of the District; and
   (4) Is otherwise possessed and consumed in accordance with this article and applicable law.

(b) A participating establishment may allow a patron to leave its licensed premises with an alcoholic beverage pursuant to this article only after the beverage has been placed in an approved container.

(c) The authorization provided by this section does not extend to private property without the consent of the owner, occupant or person lawfully in control thereof.

Sec. 2-6036. District rules and regulations.

The following rules and regulations shall apply to the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in open containers within the District:

(a) Alcoholic beverages possessed in or consumed from an open container in a public place within the District shall have been lawfully purchased from a participating establishment and shall be contained in an approved container. Approved containers shall not be reused or refilled.

(b) Alcoholic beverages shall not be brought into the District in an ice chest, cooler, personal container or other receptacle for consumption in a public place pursuant to this article.

(c) An open container containing an alcoholic beverage possessed pursuant to this article shall not be removed from the District.

(d) Approved containers shall be properly disposed of in a waste receptacle and shall not be discarded or left on any street, sidewalk, public area or other property within the District. Littering within the District is prohibited and shall be subject to enforcement in accordance with applicable law.

(e) The open-container privileges provided by this article shall not extend to the use of a vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer, tent or similar setup as a location for the consumption of alcoholic beverages, except when specifically authorized by the City.

Sec. 2-6037. Compliance with other laws.

(a) Nothing in this article shall be construed to authorize any activity prohibited by state law or this Code or to expand the authority granted by any state or local alcoholic beverage permit.

(b) Nothing in this article shall authorize the possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle or watercraft in violation of applicable law.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that subsection (d) of Section 11-4039 of Chapter 4 of Part 11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Monroe, be and is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

(d) *Exceptions*. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, this section shall not apply:

(1) On such dates, times, and places specifically authorized by resolution of the board of aldermen or by proclamation of the mayor; or

(2) To the possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage within an entertainment district established pursuant to Chapter 6, Article D of Part 2 of this Code, provided such possession or consumption is in compliance with the provisions of said article.

SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that if any sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is declared unconstitutional, unenforceable, or invalid by a court of

competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality, unenforceability or invalidity shall not affect the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance. To that end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

SECTION 6. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective on and after September 15, 2026.

The above Ordinance was read and considered by sections at a public meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in regular and legal session convened, voted on by yea or nay vote, passed and adopted the 1st day of September, 2026, the final vote being as follows:

YEA: _____

NAY: _____

NOT VOTING: _____

ABSENT: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED THIS 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2026

_____
ANDREA PATE, CITY CLERK
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

_____
STACI ALBRITTON MITCHELL, MAYOR
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA