

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR THE AMENDMENT OF EXISTING PLATS PREVIOUSLY FILED WITHIN COUNTIES IN OKLAHOMA CITY TO REMOVE DISCRIMINATORY LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN SAID PLATS.

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma City Human Rights Commission has passed a resolution supporting the amendment of plats to remove discriminatory language and encouraging the implementation of procedures to identify and address such language in recorded plats filed in counties located within Oklahoma City; and

WHEREAS, historically, many plats, deeds, and other property documents in Oklahoma City and throughout the United States contained racially and religiously restrictive covenants and other discriminatory language that prohibited the sale, rental, or occupancy of property by members of certain racial, ethnic, and religious groups; and

WHEREAS, although such discriminatory provisions are no longer legally enforceable pursuant to the United States Supreme Court ruling in *Shelley v. Kraemer (1948)*, and the Fair Housing Act of 1968, many of these provisions remain in recorded documents; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of such language in official records perpetuates a legacy of discrimination, creates psychological harm to community members historically affected, and stands in conflict with Oklahoma City's commitment to human rights; and

WHEREAS, the removal of discriminatory language from existing plats aligns with the City's goals to address historic inequities and foster a stronger community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oklahoma City is committed to addressing barriers to fair housing and implementing strategies to increase affordable housing options, as evidenced by the recently received Housing Affordability Implementation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Oklahoma City that:

1. The City supports efforts to identify and remove discriminatory language from existing plats filed and recorded in counties located in Oklahoma City; and
2. Relevant City departments, commissions, and external partners are encouraged to develop appropriate processes to address discriminatory language in recorded plats; and
3. The City affirms its commitment to addressing historic discrimination in housing.

ADOPTED by the Council and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Oklahoma City

this 22ND day of APRIL, 2025.

ATTEST:

THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Amy K Simpson
City Clerk



David Holt
Mayor

REVIEWED for form and legality

Rita V. Douglas-Vally
Assistant Municipal Counselor