



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX. BB
4/22/2025

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

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.

Background:

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. Although these 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.

On November 1, 2024, state law was amended to allow municipalities to amend an existing plat which was previously filed in counties where the property is located to remove discriminatory language.

On March 26, 2025, the Oklahoma City Human Rights Commission adopted a Resolution in support of the City of Oklahoma City amending plat documents to remove discriminatory language that has been determined to be no longer enforceable.

Review:

City Manager's Office

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.