

(Published in the Journal Record January 31, 2024)

ORDINANCE NO. 27,507

ORDINANCE DECLARING A 725-DAY MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF NEW APPLICATIONS FOR, PROCESSING OF, AND ISSUANCE OF PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENTS AND SIMPLIFIED PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENTS THAT WOULD ALLOW CONSTRUCTION ON, OR USE OF, PROPERTY WITHIN 660 FEET OF LAKE HEFNER PARKWAY FROM A SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF NW EXPRESSWAY TO A NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF MEMORIAL ROAD OF OKLAHOMA CITY FOR FREESTANDING SIGNS WITH A DISPLAY SURFACE AREA OVER 200 SQUARE FEET AND ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF NEW APPLICATIONS FOR, AND ISSUANCE OF, ELECTRICAL, BUILDING OR SIGN PERMITS FOR FREESTANDING SIGNS OVER 200 SQUARE FEET ASSOCIATED WITH REZONING APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED DURING THE MORATORIUM; PROVIDING AN APPEAL PROCESS; PROVIDING RETROACTIVE EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXPIRATION DATE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2020, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 26,451 declaring a City-wide moratorium on the acceptance of certain rezoning applications and certain electrical, sign and building permits, which later was extended for a period of 1,445 days to address the proliferation of applications to request large freestanding signs in a zoning district where it would otherwise be prohibited, while the revised Sign Ordinance is in the process of being adopted; and

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2022, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 27,135, a second, temporary moratorium specifically relating to Lake Hefner Parkway, which is part of a settlement agreement in *Lamar Central Outdoor, LLC and Lamar TLC Properties, LLC v. State of Oklahoma ex. rel. Department of Transportation, City of Oklahoma City and Hearts for Hearing Foundation*, Case No. 20-CV-1194-SLP, and which later was extended to a period of 545 days or until such time as Lake Hefner Parkway is designated as a Scenic Corridor in accordance with the new Sign Ordinance, whichever occurs sooner; and

WHEREAS, this temporary moratorium applies to the acceptance of applications for Planned Unit Developments (PUDs), Simplified Planned Unit Developments (SPUDs), and the issuance of any electrical permit, sign permit or building permit, for new freestanding signs over 200 square feet in areas associated with a rezoning application submitted during the moratorium within 660 feet of the Lake Hefner Parkway from a southern boundary of NW Expressway to a northern boundary of Memorial Road; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of this Moratorium, “freestanding” means not attached to a building; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the intent of PlanOKC and Chapters 3 and 59 of the Oklahoma City Municipal Code to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Oklahoma City, and to allow for the holding of public hearings for consideration of the designation of Lake Hefner Parkway as a Scenic Corridor, it is necessary and advisable to extend the temporary moratorium on the acceptance of new re-zoning applications for Planned Unit Developments, and Simplified Planned Unit Developments, or the issuance of any electrical, building or sign permits associated with any rezoning application that was submitted during the moratorium that would allow construction of or use of property for new freestanding signs with a surface display over 200 square feet; and

WHEREAS, it is desired that the moratorium adopted under Ordinance No. 27,135 be extended from February 12, 2024 to August 10, 2024, or until such time as Lake Hefner Parkway is designated as a Scenic Corridor in accordance with the new sign ordinance, whichever occurs sooner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY:

Section 6 of Ordinance No. 27,135 is amended as follows:

Section 6. This Moratorium shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and shall remain in full force and effect for the shorter of ~~545~~ 725 days or the designation of Lake Hefner Parkway as a Scenic Corridor, after which it shall automatically be null, void, and repealed, provided that the repeal date of the Moratorium may be modified by the enactment of a subsequent ordinance of The City of Oklahoma City. The extension shall be ~~from August 16, 2023~~ February 12, 2024, with an expiration date of ~~February 12, 2024~~ August 10, 2024.

An emergency is hereby declared to exist for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety and by reason whereof this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, approval and publication.

INTRODUCED AND READ in the open meeting of the Council of The City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 30TH day of JANUARY, 2024.

PASSED by the Council of The City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 30TH day of JANUARY, 2024.

SIGNED by the Mayor of The City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 30TH day of JANUARY, 2024.

THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY

ATTEST:

Amy K. Simpson
City Clerk



David Holt
MAYOR

REVIEWED for form and legality.

Anna K. McDevitt
Assistant Municipal Counselor