

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-O-194

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS REPEALING
ORDINANCE NO. 2021-O-152 AND AMENDING CHAPTER 7 OF THE
CODE OF ORDINANCES BY DELETING ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 7-
32 TO 7-47, ENTITLED "VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION
PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR
PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Laredo adopted Ordinance No. 2021-O-152 to establish Article III, Sections 7-32 to 7-47 of Chapter 7 of the City Code, creating a Vacant Building Registration program applicable to commercial buildings located in the Downtown area;

WHEREAS, the original ordinance was intended to encourage property rehabilitation, improve public safety, and prevent blight in the Downtown corridor through monitoring and registration;

WHEREAS, upon further review and stakeholder engagement, the City Council has determined that the current provisions under Article III do not align with long-term redevelopment objectives and should be reconsidered;

WHEREAS, the City of Laredo intends to explore alternative strategies and incentives that better balance economic development, property rights, and effective code enforcement;

WHEREAS, the City of Laredo recognizes that effective revitalization of vacant buildings requires proactive collaboration with downtown property owners, developers, and community stakeholders to explore and develop incentive programs that encourage rehabilitation, productive reuse, and long-term economic investment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS THAT:

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 2021-O-152 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SECTION 2. Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo is hereby amended by deleting Article III, Sections 7-32 through 7-47, entitled "Vacant Building Registration", in full.

SECTION 3. The City Secretary is directed to remove all references to the repealed sections from the City's official records and Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 4. The City Council affirms its ongoing commitment to addressing the issue of vacant and substandard buildings within the City of Laredo. Following the repeal of Ordinance No. 2021-O-152, the City shall initiate a public engagement process involving downtown stakeholders, property owners, economic development leaders, for the purpose of developing a revised vacant building ordinance. This process shall prioritize public input, code enforcement alignment, and equitable policy outcomes, and will culminate in the introduction of a new ordinance for City Council consideration.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall be published once in the official newspaper of the City of Laredo and shall take effect immediately upon its passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

DR. VICTOR D. TREVINO
MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
MARIO I. MALDONALDO, JR.
CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM: _____
DOANH “ZONE” T. NGUYEN
CITY ATTORNEY