

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-247

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 7, BUILDING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE I.-IN GENERAL, SECTION 7-2, SAME – AMENDMENTS; CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 11, ELECTRICITY, ARTICLE III.-PERMITS; FEES; INSPECTION, SECTION 11-44, SAME FEES (A)(6) – AMENDMENTS; CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 25, PLUMBING, ARTICLE I.- IN GENERAL, SECTION 25-8, OTHER INSPECTIONS AND FEES (1); BY ESTABLISHING A FOUNDATION-ONLY PERMIT AND PERMIT FEE FOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF \$200.00; AND ESTABLISHING A SOLAR PANEL PERMIT AND SOLAR PANEL PERMIT FEE FOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF \$200.00, AND ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR PRE-DEVELOPMENT MEETING AND PRE-DEVELOPMENT SERVICE FEE OF \$200.00; ESTABLISHING AN AFTER-HOUR INSPECTION PROCESS AND AN AFTER-HOUR INSPECTION FEE \$150.00; ESTABLISHING A PARTIAL INSPECTION PROCESS AND A PARTIAL INSPECTION FEE OF \$75.00; PROVIDING A CUMULATIVE AND REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Laredo is a Home Rule City acting under its Charter adopted by the electorate pursuant to Article XI, Section 5 of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 9 of the Local Government Code;

WHEREAS, the City of Laredo strives to innovate and provide timely and efficient service to the citizens of Laredo via the implementation of new technological systems that will present customers with up-to-the-minute plan status and permit inspections updates;

WHEREAS, this new foundation-only permit process and new foundation-only permit fee will provide customers with reduced waiting time and expedite their construction by allowing commencing the foundation and all underground piping prior to obtaining the general construction permit;

WHEREAS, this solar panel process and solar panel permit will provide customers with expedited solar panel permits for their construction permit;

WHEREAS, this pre-development meeting process will provide customers with development answers for their proposed project prior to applying for their permit and will allow customers to reduce time and expedite their permit process prior to obtaining their construction permit;

WHEREAS, this new after-hour inspection process and after-hour inspection fee will provide customers with clarity of the inspector's schedule and time while providing the customer with better inspection service;

WHEREAS, this a partial inspection process and a partial inspection fee will provide customers with clarity of the inspector's schedule and time while providing the customer with better inspection service; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary and desirable to adopt the amendments to the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances as set forth in this Ordinance.

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

Section 1: The City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 7, Buildings and Building Regulations, Section 7-2. – Same Amendments; The City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 11, Electricity, Article III, Section 11-44. – Permits; Fees; Inspection; The City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 25, Plumbing, Article I.- In General, Section 25-8. Permit fees. The City of Laredo Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7-2. – Same Amendments

The following sections of the International Building Code are modified to be specifically tailored to the City of Laredo:

Section 109.2 Schedule of Permit Fees. On buildings, structures, electrical, gas, mechanical, and plumbing systems or alterations requiring a permit, a fee for each permit shall be paid as required, in accordance with the following schedule established herein:

SCHEDULE OF PERMIT FEES

Building Fees

(1) The fees for foundation-only permit fee shall be two-hundred dollars (\$200.00)

(2) Solar Panel permit fee required by section 109.8 of the International Building Code shall be two-hundred dollars (\$200.00)

(3) Pre-development Meeting service fee shall be two-hundred dollars (\$200.00)

(4) Any Partial Inspection service fee shall be one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00)

(5) After-hour inspection service fee shall be one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00)

Total Valuation Fee

\$1,000.00 and less

No fee, unless inspection required, in which case a \$50.00 fee for each inspection shall be charged.

TECHNOLOGY FEE - COMMERCIAL

A technology fee of the following amounts will be assessed to every commercial permit based on the valuation of the construction to provide for new plan review systems to aid in overall department efficiency:

	Fee
\$100,000.00 or less	\$150.00
Greater than \$100,000.00	\$300.00

TECHNOLOGY FEE - RESIDENTIAL

A technology fee in the amount of \$20.00 will be assessed to every residential permit to provide for new plan review systems to aid in overall department efficiency.

Sec. 11-44. Same—Fees.

(a) The fees for permits required by Section 11-44 of this article shall be as follows:

- (1) A basic fee\$50.00
- (2) Meter reconnection inspection fee25.00
- (3) In addition to the basic fee, there shall be charged the following fees per item:
Circuits5.00

Fixtures, base plug \$0.50

Motors 1 hp and smaller \$4.00

Motor over 1 hp to and include 5 hp4.00

Motor over 5 hp to and include 10 hp5.00

Motor over 10 hp to and include 25 hp6.00

Motors over 25 hp15.00

Service up to 60 amperes3.00

Service 61 to 100 amperes4.00

Service 101 to 200 amperes7.00

Service 201 to 400 amperes10.00

Service over 400 amperes18.00

Services each additional meter7.00

Appliances (range, water heater, dryers, dishwashers, disposals, etc.)7.00

Equipment—X-ray machine30.00

Equipment—Moving picture projector30.00

Equipment—Welding machine (transformer type)10.00

Equipment—Gasoline pump5.00

Equipment—Elevator20.00

Other misc. equipment30.00

Signs—Minimum5.00

Sign with two (2) transformers5.00

Additional transformers5.00

(4) Re-inspection fee50.00

(5) Residential emergency inspection outside normal working hours or holidays50.00/hr.

(6) Inspection request outside normal working hours or holidays \$150.00 ~~50.00~~ hr.
(minimum 2 hours)

- (b) If work is started before a permit is issued, or applied for, the fee shall be subject to a penalty of one hundred fifty (150) percent of the usual permit fee in addition to the required permit fees.

Sec. 25-8. Permit fees.

Plumbing Permits Fees Schedule

For issuing each permit\$50.00

For issuing each supplemental permit50.00

1. For each plumbing fixture or trap or set of fixtures on one (1) trap (Including water, drainage piping and backflow protection therefore)6.00
2. For each building sewer and each trailer park sewer10.00
3. Rainwater system—per drain (inside building)6.00
4. For each private sewage disposal system25.00
5. For each water heater and/or vent7.00
6. For each industrial waste pretreatment interceptor including its trap vents excepting kitchen-type grease interceptors functioning as fixture traps3.00
7. For installation, alteration or repair of water piping and/or water treating equipment, each7.00
8. For repair or alternation of drainage or vent piping, each fixture7.00
9. For each lawn sprinkler system on any one (1) meter, including backflow protection devices therefore3.00
10. For atmosphere type vacuum breaker not included in item 2:

One (1) to five (5)15.00

Over five (5), each10.00

11. For each backflow protection device other than atmospheric-type vacuum breaker:

Two (2) inches and smaller25.00

Over two (2) inches40.00

12. For each backflow protective device other than atmospheric-type vacuum breakers:

Two (2) inches (51mm) and smaller\$25.00

Over two (2) inches (51mm)40.00

Other Inspections and Fees

1. Inspections outside of normal business hours, per hour ~~\$150.00~~ \$50.00
2. Re-inspection fee assessed under provisions of section 107.3.350.00
3. Inspections for which no fee is specifically indicated (minimum charge—one-half hour)25.00
4. Additional plan review required by changes, additions, or revisions to approved plans (minimum charge—one-half hour)0.00

Section 2: This ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of ordinances of the City of Laredo, Texas, except where the provisions of this ordinance are in direct conflict with the provisions of such ordinances, in which event the conflicting provisions of such ordinances are hereby repealed.

Section 3: It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without the incorporation in this ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

Section 4: The City Secretary of the City of Laredo is hereby directed to publish the proposed Ordinance as required by Section 2.09 of the Charter of the City of Laredo.

Section 5: This Ordinance shall become effective sixty (60) days from date of the first public hearing.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS ____
DAY OF _____, 2024.**

DR. VICTOR D. TREVIÑO

MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARIO I. MALDONADO, JR.

CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: _____

DOANH “ZONE” NGUYEN

CITY ATTORNEY