AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE APPROXIMATELY 0.844 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 715 NORTH A STREET, EASLEY, SC, PICKENS COUNTY, TAX MAP NUMBERS 5019-12-86-5557 FROM NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL (NC) TO RESIDENTIAL 7.5 (R7.5).

WHEREAS, National Funding and Distribution, as owner has applied to the City Planning Commission and City Council to rezone a piece of property at 715 N. A Street, Easley, SC, Pickens County, Tax Map Number 5019-12-86-5557 from Neighborhood Commercial (NC) to Residential 7.5 (R7.5); and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission pursuant to public notice held a public hearing on July 21, 2025, to consider the proposed rezoning, and the Commission recommended approval of the proposed zoning designation of Residential 7.5; and

WHEREAS, City Council finds the Residential 7.5 classification to be compatible with the established zoning of surrounding properties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED, THAT

The parcel of property currently titled in the name of National Funding and Distribution, shown as Tax Map Numbers 5019-12-86-5557 and located at 715 N. A Street shall be rezoned from Neighborhood Commercial (NC), to Residential 7.5 (R7.5). The attached plat shown as Exhibit A, prepared by the City of Easley Planning and Development Department, is incorporated by reference for the purpose of identifying the location of the property. This Ordinance shall be effective upon second and final reading by City Council.

First Reading: August 11, 2025
Second Reading: September 8, 2025

Mayor Lisa Talbert

ATTEST:

Form, substance, and number approved by City Attorney

Jennifer Bradley City Clerk Daniel Hughes Attorney at Law





Rezoning Application

City of Easley

Date Filed: 6-18-2025

All Meetings at the:

Request #: 20250618

A zoning map amendment may be initiated by the property owner(s), Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator or City Council. If the application is on behalf of the property owner(s), all owners must sign. If the applicant is not the owner, the owner(s) must sign the Designation of Agent section. The filing fee is \$100.00.

THE APPLICANT HEREBY REQUESTS THAT THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW BE REZONED.

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ax Map:	5019-1	.2-86-5557	Plat Book:	Mard # 6	71	
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220 North West Main Street, Easley, SC 29640

Ø/ LOCATION MAP (NOT TO SCALE) LOT 13, 14, 15 & 16 OF THE ALLEN MAULDIN PROPERTY 1. 1. JG767 SQ FT Q.BS# ACRES ANTHER REPORTS, THE COLUMN TWO IN THE COLUMN ű, SURKEY FOW WILLIAM J OATES, The Parent Control /1. NORTH A STREET EXHIBID A -5' M 1 MAN R WILLIFT The state of the s £01 107 AUGUSTA STREET 107 16 KIMBERLY E HAYES NY 2018-13-46-473 03 472 PC 155 P3 4 PG 17-173 137.27 16" E HASTING CIRCLE

TO ADOPT A REVISED BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUSINESS LICENSE STANDARDIZATION ACT (2020 ACT NO. 176)

WHEREAS, in September 2020 the South Carolina General Assembly adopted the South Carolina Business License Tax Standardization Act (2020 Act No. 176), now codified at the South Carolina Code Sections 6-1-400 to 6-1-420 (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Act requires all municipalities and counties that impose a business license tax to adopt a standard business license year of May 1 through April 30; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires all municipalities and counties that impose a business license tax to utilize the Act's standardized business licensing requirements and class schedule; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires all municipalities and counties to update their business license class schedules by December 31 of every odd year based on the latest available Internal Revenue Service (IRS) statistics, the latest Standardized Business License Class Schedule as recommended by the Municipal Association of South Carolina, and adopted by the Director of the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office; and

WHEREAS, following the enactment of the Standardization Act, the Municipality enacted Ordinance No. 2021-21 on November 8, 2021, in order to comply with the requirements of the Standardization Act (the "Current Business License Ordinance");

WHEREAS, the City Council of the Municipality (the "Council") now wishes to amend the Current Business License Ordinance to adopt the latest Standardized Business License Class Schedule, as required by the Standardization Act;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the Municipality (the "Council") now wishes to repeal and replace the Current Business License Ordinance in its entirety with the 2026 Business License Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED, THAT

- 1. Classes 1 through 8 in Appendix B to the Current Business License Ordinance, the "Business License Class Schedule," are hereby amended and restated as set forth on the attached Appendix B.
- 2. The attached 2026 Business License Ordinance is hereby adopted and shall become effective beginning with the business license period commencing on May 1, 2026.
- 3. All prior ordinances of the Municipality related to business licensing which are in effect at the time of this enactment are hereby repealed and replaced in they entirety with the 2026 Business License Ordinance; provided that any prior ordinances of the Municipality related to collections programs administered by the Municipal Association of South Carolina, including without limitation the Insurance Tax Collection Program (ITCP), the Brokers Tax Collection Program (BTCP), the

Telecommunications Tax Collection Program (TTCP), and Setoff Debt Collection Program, shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms except to the extent to the extent specifically amended by the 2026 Business License Ordinance.

DONE AND RATIFIED in Council assembled on this	day of	, 2025.
First Reading: August 11, 2025 Second Reading: September 8, 2025		
	Lisa Talbert Mayor	
ATTEST	·	
Jennifer Bradley City Clerk		
Form, substance, and number approved by City Attorney		
Daniel R. Hughes City Attorney		

Section 1. <u>License Required.</u> Every person engaged or intending to engage in any business, calling, occupation, profession, or activity engaged in with the object of gain, benefit, or advantage, in whole or in part within the limits of the City of Easley, South Carolina, is required to pay an annual license tax for the privilege of doing business and obtain a business license as herein provided.

Section 2. <u>Definitions.</u> The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this ordinance, shall have the meaning ascribed herein. Defined terms are not capitalized when used in this ordinance unless the context otherwise requires.

"Business" means any business, calling, occupation, profession, or activity engaged in with the object of gain, benefit, or advantage, either directly or indirectly.

"Charitable Organization" means an organization that is determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from Federal income taxes under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3), (4), (6), (7), (8), (10) or (19).

"Charitable Purpose" means a benevolent, philanthropic, patriotic, or eleemosynary purpose that does not result in personal gain to a sponsor, organizer, officer, director, trustee, or person with ultimate control of the organization.

"Classification" means that division of businesses by NAICS codes subject to the same license rate as determined by a calculated index of ability to pay based on national averages, benefits, equalization of tax burden, relationships of services, or other basis deemed appropriate by the COUNCIL.

"Council" means the City Council of the City of Easley.

"Domicile" means a principal place from which the trade or business of a licensee is conducted, directed, or managed. For purposes of this ordinance, a licensee may be deemed to have more than one domicile.

"Gross Income" means the gross receipts or gross revenue of a business, received or accrued, for one calendar or fiscal year collected or to be collected from business done within the Municipality. If the licensee has a domicile within the Municipality, business done within the Municipality shall include all gross receipts or revenue received or accrued by such licensee. If the licensee does not have a domicile within the Municipality, business done within the Municipality shall include only gross receipts or revenue received or accrued within the Municipality. In all cases, if the licensee pays a business license tax to another county or municipality, then the licensee's gross income for the purpose of computing the tax within the Municipality must be reduced by the amount of revenues or receipts taxed in the other county or municipality and fully reported to the Municipality. Gross income for business license tax purposes shall not include taxes collected for a governmental entity, escrow funds, or funds that are the property of a third party. The value of bartered goods or trade-in merchandise shall be included in gross income. The gross receipts or gross revenues for business license purposes shall be verified by inspection of returns and reports filed with the Internal Revenue Service, the South Carolina Department of Revenue, the South Carolina Department of Insurance, or other

government agencies. In calculating gross income for certain businesses, the following rules shall apply:

- A. Gross income for agents shall be calculated on gross commissions received or retained, unless otherwise specified. If commissions are divided with other brokers or agents, then only the amount retained by the broker or agent is considered gross income.
- B. Except as specifically required by S.C. Code § 38-7-20, gross income for insurance companies shall be calculated on gross premiums written.
- C. Gross income for manufacturers of goods or materials with a location in the Municipality shall be calculated on the lesser of (i) gross revenues or receipts received or accrued from business done at the location, (ii) the amount of income allocated and apportioned to that location by the business for purposes of the business's state income tax return, or (iii) the amount of expenses attributable to the location as a cost center of the business. Licensees reporting gross income under this provision shall have the burden to establish the amount and method of calculation by satisfactory records and proof. Manufacturers include those taxpayers reporting a manufacturing principal business activity code on their federal income tax returns.

"License Official" means a person designated to administer this ordinance. Notwithstanding the designation of a primary license official, the Municipality may designate one or more alternate license officials to administer particular types of business licenses, including without limitation for business licenses issued to businesses subject to business license taxes under Article 20, Chapter 9, Title 58, and Chapters 7 and 45, Title 38, of the South Carolina Code.

"Licensee" means the business, the person applying for the license on behalf of the business, an agent or legal representative of the business, a person who receives any part of the net profit of the business, or a person who owns or exercises control of the business.

"MUNICIPALITY" means the City of Easley, South Carolina.

"NAICS" means the North American Industry Classification System for the United States published under the auspices of the Federal Office of Management and Budget.

"Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, cooperative non-profit membership, corporation, joint venture, association, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, holding company, or other group or combination acting as a unit, in the singular or plural, and the agent or employee having charge or control of a business in the absence of the principal.

Section 3. Purpose and Duration. The business license required by this ordinance is for the purpose of providing such regulation as may be required for the business subject thereto and for the purpose of raising revenue for the general fund through a privilege tax. The license year ending on April 30, 2026, shall commence on May 1st, 2026 and shall run for a 12month period. Thereafter, the license periods shall be established as follows. Except as set forth below for business licenses issued to contractors with respect to specific construction projects, each yearly license shall be issued for the twelve-month period of May 1 to April 30. A business license issued for a construction contract may, at the request of the licensee, be stated to expire at the

completion of the construction project; provided, any such business license may require that the licensee file, by each April 30 during the continuation of the construction project, a statement of compliance, including but not limited to a revised estimate of the value of the contract. If any revised estimate of the final value of such project exceeds the amount for which the business license was issued, the licensee shall be required to pay a license fee at the then-prevailing rate on the excess amount. The provisions of this ordinance and the rates herein shall remain in effect from year to year as amended by the Council.

Section 4. Business License Tax, Refund

- A. The required business license tax shall be paid for each business subject hereto according to the applicable rate classification on or before the due date of the 30th day of April in each year, except for those businesses in Rate Class 8 for which a different due date is specified.
- B. A separate license shall be required for each place of business and for each classification or business conducted at one place. If gross income cannot be separated for classifications at one location, the business license tax shall be computed on the combined gross income for the classification requiring the highest rate. The business license tax must be computed based on the licensee's gross income for the calendar year preceding the due date, for the licensee's twelve-month fiscal year preceding the due date, or on a twelve-month projected income based on the monthly average for a business in operation for less than one year. It is the responsibility of the licensee to report and pay on gross receipts up to and including the day of closing for businesses that are closing. It is the responsibility of the licensee to pay on gross receipts up to and including the day of closing for businesses that are selling.
- C. A licensee that submits a payment greater than the amount owed may request a refund. To be considered, a refund request must be submitted in writing to the Municipality before the June 1 immediately following the April 30 on which the payment was due and must be supported by adequate documentation supporting the refund request. The Municipality shall approve or deny the refund request, and if approved shall issue the refund to the business, within thirty days after receipt of the request.

Section 5. Registration Required.

- A. The owner, agent, or legal representative of every business subject to this ordinance, whether listed in the classification index or not, shall register the business and make application for a business license on or before the due date of each year; provided, a new business shall be required to have a business license prior to operation within the Municipality, and an annexed business shall be required to have a business license within thirty (30) days of the annexation. A license for a bar (NAICS 722410) must be issued in the name of the individual who has been issued the corresponding state alcohol, beer, or wine permit or license and will have actual control and management of the business.
- B. Application shall be on the then-current standard business license application as established and provided by the Director of the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office and shall be accompanied by all information about the applicant, the licensee, and

- the business deemed appropriate to carry out the purpose of this ordinance by the license official. Applicants shall be required to submit copies of returns and reports filed with the Internal Revenue Service, the South Carolina Department of Revenue, the South Carolina Department of Insurance, or other government agencies reflecting gross receipts and gross revenue figures.
- C. The applicant shall certify under oath that the information given in the application is true, that the gross income is accurately reported without any unauthorized deductions, and that all assessments, personal property taxes on business property, and other monies due and payable to the Municipality have been paid.
- D. The Municipality shall allow application, reporting, calculation, and payment of business license taxes through the business license tax portal hosted and managed by the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, subject to the availability and capability thereof. Any limitations in portal availability or capability do not relieve the applicant or Licensee from existing business license or business license tax obligations.

Section 6. <u>Deductions, Exemptions, and Charitable Organizations.</u>

- A. No deductions from gross income shall be made except income earned outside of the Municipality on which a license tax is paid by the business to some other municipality or county and fully reported to the Municipality, taxes collected for a governmental entity, or income which cannot be included for computation of the tax pursuant to state or federal law. Properly apportioned income from business in interstate commerce shall be included in the calculation of gross income and is not exempted. The applicant shall have the burden to establish the right to exempt income by satisfactory records and proof.
- B. No person shall be exempt from the requirements of the ordinance by reason of the lack of an established place of business within the Municipality, unless exempted by state or federal law. The license official shall determine the appropriate classification for each business in accordance with the latest issue of NAICS. No person shall be exempt from this ordinance by reason of the payment of any other tax, unless exempted by state law, and no person shall be relieved of liability for payment of any other tax or fee by reason of application of this ordinance.
- C. Wholesalers are exempt from business license taxes unless they maintain warehouses or distribution establishments within the Municipality. A wholesale transaction involves a sale to an individual who will resell the goods and includes delivery of the goods to the reseller. It does not include a sale of goods to a user or consumer.
- D. A charitable organization shall be exempt from the business license tax on its gross income unless it is deemed a business subject to a business license tax on all or part of its gross income as provided in this section. A charitable organization, or any affiliate of a charitable organization, that reports income from for-profit activities or unrelated business income for federal income tax purposes to the Internal Revenue Service shall be deemed a business subject to a business license tax on the part of its gross income from such for-profit activities or unrelated business income.
- E. A charitable organization shall be deemed a business subject to a business license tax on its total gross income if (1) any net proceeds of operation, after necessary expenses of operation, inure to the benefit of any individual or any entity that is not itself a charitable

organization as defined in this ordinance, or (2) any net proceeds of operation, after necessary expenses of operation, are used for a purpose other than a charitable purpose as defined in this ordinance. Excess benefits or compensation in any form beyond fair market value to a sponsor, organizer, officer, director, trustee, or person with ultimate control of the organization shall not be deemed a necessary expense of operation.

Section 7. <u>False Application Unlawful.</u> It shall be unlawful for any person subject to the provisions of this ordinance to make a false application for a business license or to give or file, or direct the giving or filing of, any false information with respect to the license or tax required by this ordinance.

Section 8. Display and Transfer.

- A. All persons shall display the license issued to them on the original form provided by the license official in a conspicuous place in the business establishment at the address shown on the license. A transient or non-resident shall carry the license upon his person or in a vehicle used in the business readily available for inspection by any authorized agent of the Municipality.
- B. A change of address must be reported to the license official within ten (10) days after removal of the business to a new location and the license will be valid at the new address upon written notification by the license official and compliance with zoning and building codes. Failure to obtain the approval of the license official for a change of address shall invalidate the license and subject the licensee to prosecution for doing business without a license. A business license shall not be transferable, and a transfer of controlling interest shall be considered a termination of the old business and the establishment of a new business requiring a new business license, based on old business income.

Section 9. Administration of Ordinance. The license official shall administer the provisions of this ordinance, collect business license taxes, issue licenses, make or initiate investigations and audits to ensure compliance, initiate denial or suspension and revocation procedures, report violations to the municipal attorney, assist in prosecution of violators, produce forms, undertake reasonable procedures relating to the administration of this ordinance, and perform such other duties as may be duly assigned.

Section 10. <u>Inspection and Audits.</u>

- A. For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this ordinance, the license official or other authorized agent of the Municipality is empowered to enter upon the premises of any person subject to this ordinance to make inspections and to examine and audit books and records. It shall be unlawful for any such person to fail or refuse to make available the necessary books and records. In the event an audit or inspection reveals that the licensee has filed false information, the costs of the audit shall be added to the correct business license tax and late penalties in addition to other penalties provided herein. Each day of failure to pay the proper amount of business license tax shall constitute a separate offense.
- B. The license official shall have the authority to make inspections and conduct audits of businesses to ensure compliance with the ordinance. Financial information obtained by inspections and audits shall not be deemed public records, and the license official shall not release the amount of business license taxes paid or the reported gross income of any

person by name without written permission of the licensee, except as authorized by this ordinance, state or federal law, or proper judicial order. Statistics compiled by classifications are public records.

Section 11. Assessments, Payment under Protest, Appeal.

- A. Assessments, payments under protest, and appeals of assessment shall be allowed and conducted by the Municipality pursuant to the provisions of S.C. Code § 6-1-410, as amended. In preparing an assessment, the license official may examine such records of the business or any other available records as may be appropriate and conduct such investigations and statistical surveys as the license official may deem appropriate to assess a business license tax and penalties as provided herein.
- B. The license official shall establish a uniform local procedure consistent with S.C. Code § 6-1-410 for hearing an application for adjustment of assessment and issuing a notice of final assessment; provided that for particular types of business licenses, including without limitation for business licenses issued to businesses subject to business license taxes under Article 20, Chapter 9, Title 58, and Chapters 7 and 45, Title 38, of the South Carolina Code, the Municipality, by separate ordinance, may establish a different procedure and may delegate one or more rights, duties, and functions hereunder to the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

Section 12. Delinquent License Taxes, Partial Payment.

- A. For non-payment of all or any part of the correct business license tax, the license official shall impose and collect a late penalty of five (5%) percent of the unpaid tax for each month or portion thereof after the due date until paid, starting on May 1. Penalties shall not be waived. If any business license tax remains unpaid for sixty (60) days after its due date, the license official shall report it to the municipal attorney for appropriate legal action.
- B. Partial payment may be accepted by the license official to toll imposition of penalties on the portion paid; *provided*, however, no business license shall be issued or renewed until the full amount of the tax due, with penalties, has been paid.

Section 13. <u>Notices.</u> The license official may, but shall not be required to, mail written notices that business license taxes are due. If notices are not mailed, there shall be published a notice of the due date in a newspaper of general circulation within the Municipality three (3) times prior to the due date in each year. Failure to receive notice shall not constitute a defense to prosecution for failure to pay the tax due or grounds for waiver of penalties.

Section 14. Denial of License. The license official may deny a license to an applicant when the license official determines:

- A. The application is incomplete or contains a misrepresentation, false or misleading statement, or evasion or suppression of a material fact;
- B. The activity for which a license is sought is unlawful or constitutes a public nuisance *per se* or *per accidens*;
- C. The applicant, licensee, prior licensee, or the person in control of the business has been convicted within the previous ten years of an offense under a law or ordinance regulating business, a crime involving dishonest conduct or moral turpitude related to a business or a subject of a business, or an unlawful sale of merchandise or prohibited goods;
- D. The applicant, licensee, prior licensee, or the person in control of the business has

- engaged in an unlawful activity or nuisance related to the business or to a similar business in the Municipality or in another jurisdiction;
- E. The applicant, licensee, prior licensee, or the person in control of the business is delinquent in the payment to the Municipality of any tax or fee;
- F. A licensee has actual knowledge or notice, or based on the circumstances reasonably should have knowledge or notice, that any person or employee of the licensee has committed a crime of moral turpitude on the business premises, or has permitted any person or employee of the licensee to engage in the unlawful sale of merchandise or prohibited goods on the business premises and has not taken remedial measures necessary to correct such activity; or
- G. The license for the business or for a similar business of the licensee in the Municipality or another jurisdiction has been denied, suspended, or revoked in the previous license year.
- H. The location compromises the safety, health and/or the welfare of public; or
- I. The applicant has failed to purchase any or all applicable state licenses; or
- J. The applicant failed to meet all building, zoning and fire codes.

A decision of the license official shall be subject to appeal as herein provided. Denial shall be written with reasons stated.

Section 15. Suspension or Revocation of License. When the license official determines:

- A. A license has been mistakenly or improperly issued or issued contrary to law;
- B. A licensee has breached any condition upon which the license was issued or has failed to comply with the provisions of this ordinance;
- C. A licensee has obtained a license through fraud, misrepresentation, a false or misleading statement, or evasion or suppression of a material fact in the license application;
- D. A licensee has been convicted within the previous ten years of an offense under a law or ordinance regulating business, a crime involving dishonest conduct or moral turpitude related to a business or a subject of a business, or an unlawful sale of merchandise or prohibited goods;
- E. A licensee has engaged in an unlawful activity or nuisance related to the business; or
- F. A licensee is delinquent in the payment to the Municipality of any tax or fee.
- G. A licensee has reported false records regarding gross receipts in the business license application; or
- H. A licensee has violated a law regarding fire, building, and/or zoning codes; or
- I. A licensee has failed to pay Hospitality Tax within 30 days of the due date; or
- J. A fraudulent check with insufficient funds is returned uncollected to the City and is not redeemed within ten (10) days after notice of the applicant.
- K. A licensee has failed to renew any applicable state license or has allowed an applicable state license to lapse.
- L. A licensee, or an employee of the licensee, has been convicted or forfeited bond for the

violation of a law or ordinance of the City, State or the United States pertaining to the following:

- 1. Sale, possession, storage or transportation of intoxicating liquors, wine or beer
- 2. Drugs or narcotics
- 3. Gambling
- 4. Obscenity or pornography
- 5. Prostitution
- 6. Weapons violation
- 7. Violent crimes, including but not limited to murder, assault and criminal sexual conduct
- 8. Occupancy or use as a business of a structure which is substandard or unsafe.
- M. When any of the offenses listed in subsection (15) (L) of this section are committed on the premises of the business, or adjacent thereto, in connection with the operation by the owner, manager or any employee, and when due to the nature or frequency of such offenses the continued operation of the business would constitute a nuisance detrimental to the health, safety and welfare or the public, the license shall be revoked after notice set forth in this article.
- N. When any licensee shall operate or permit the operation of a business where there repeatedly occurs upon the premises, with the owner's or manager's actual or constructive knowledge:
 - 1. Acts resulting in conviction for violations of City Ordinances or State or Federal law by a person;
 - 2. Occurrences of "found" illegal drugs or weapons during police operations or calls to the premises.
 - 3. Occurrences of felonies or any crime involving serious bodily harm;
 - 4. The unauthorized carrying of a deadly weapon;
 - 5. Excessive police responses to the premises for any of the grounds mentioned in this subsection; and the nature or frequency of such occurrences would constitute a nuisance detrimental to the health, safety, and/or welfare of the public.
- 0. The applicant or manager of the business has a prior record of criminal convictions such as those listed in subsection (15) (L) of this section which render such applicant or manager unfit to engage in such licensed activities.
- P. A licensee or applicant has demonstrated inability or unwillingness to maintain a safe, crime-free and drug-free business environment. Examples shall include, but not be limited to, the failure to comply with State laws regarding private clubs and sale of alcohol, and lack of cooperation with law enforcement agencies.

The license official may give written notice to the licensee or the person in control of the business within the Municipality by personal service or mail that the license is suspended pending a single hearing before Council or its designee for the purpose of determining whether the suspension should be upheld and the license should be revoked.

The written notice of suspension and proposed revocation shall state the time and place at which the hearing is to be held, and shall contain a brief statement of the reasons for the suspension and proposed revocation and a copy of the applicable provisions of this ordinance.

Section 16. Appeals to Council or its Designee.

- A. Except with respect to appeals of assessments under Section 11 hereof, which are governed by S.C. Code § 6-1-410, any person aggrieved by a determination, denial, or suspension and proposed revocation of a business license by the license official may appeal the decision to the Council or its designee by written request stating the reasons for appeal, filed with the license official within ten (10) days after service by mail or personal service of the notice of determination, denial, or suspension and proposed revocation.
- B. A hearing on an appeal from a license denial or other determination of the license official and a hearing on a suspension and proposed revocation shall be held by the Council or its designee within ten (10) business days after receipt of a request for appeal or service of a notice of suspension and proposed revocation. The hearing shall be held upon written notice at a regular or special meeting of the Council, or, if by designee of the Council, at a hearing to be scheduled by the designee. The hearing may be continued to another date by agreement of all parties. At the hearing, all parties shall have the right to be represented by counsel, to present testimony and evidence, and to cross-examine witnesses. The proceedings shall be recorded and transcribed at the expense of the party so requesting. The rules of evidence and procedure prescribed by Council or its designee shall govern the hearing. Following the hearing, the Council by majority vote of its members present, or the designee of Council if the hearing is held by the designee, shall render a written decision based on findings of fact and conclusions on application of the standards herein. The written decision shall be served, by personal service or by mail, upon all parties or their representatives and shall constitute the final decision of the Municipality.
- C. Timely appeal of a decision of Council or its designee does not effectuate a stay of that decision. The decision of the Council or its designee shall be binding and enforceable unless overturned by an applicable appellate court after a due and timely appeal.
- D. For business licenses issued to businesses subject to business license taxes under Article 20, Chapter 9, Title 58, and Chapters 7 and 45, Title 38, of the South Carolina Code, the Municipality may establish a different procedure by ordinance.

Section 17. Consent, franchise, or license required for use of streets.

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, install, maintain, or operate in, on, above, or under any street or public place under control of the Municipality any line, pipe, cable, pole, structure, or facility for utilities, communications, cablevision, or other purposes without a consent agreement or franchise agreement issued by the Council by ordinance that prescribes the term, fees, and conditions for use.
- B. The annual fee for use of streets or public places authorized by a consent agreement or franchise agreement shall be set by the ordinance approving the agreement and shall be consistent with limits set by state law. Existing franchise agreements shall continue in effect until expiration dates in the agreements. Franchise and consent fees shall not be in lieu of or be credited against business license taxes unless specifically provided by the franchise or consent agreement.

Section 18. Confidentiality. Except in accordance with proper judicial order or as otherwise provided by law, no official or employee of the Municipality may divulge or make known in any manner the amount of income or any financial particulars set forth or disclosed in any report or return required under this ordinance. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the publication of statistics so classified as to prevent the identification of particular reports or returns. Any license data may be shared with other public officials or employees in the performance of their duties, whether or not those duties relate to enforcement of this ordinance.

Section 19. <u>Violations.</u> Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of an offense and shall be subject to a fine of up to \$500.00 or imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days or both, upon conviction. Each day of violation shall be considered a separate offense. Punishment for violation shall not relieve the offender of liability for delinquent taxes, penalties, and costs provided for in this ordinance.

Section 20. <u>Severability.</u> A determination that any portion of this ordinance is invalid or unenforceable shall not affect the remaining portions. To the extent of any conflict between the provisions of this ordinance and the provisions of the South Carolina Business License Tax Standardization Act, as codified at S.C. Code §§ 6-1-400 et *seq.*, the standardization act shall control.

Section 21. Classification and Rates.

- A. The business license tax for each class of businesses subject to this ordinance shall be computed in accordance with the current business license rate schedule, designated as Appendix A to this ordinance, which may be amended from time to time by the Council.
- B. The current business license class schedule is attached hereto as <u>Appendix B.</u> Hereafter, no later than December 31 of each odd year, the Municipality shall adopt, by ordinance, the latest standardized business license class schedule as recommended by the Municipal Association of South Carolina and adopted by the Director of the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. Upon adoption by the Municipality, the revised business license class schedule shall then be appended to this ordinance as a replacement <u>Appendix B</u>.
- C. The classifications included in each rate class are listed with NAICS codes, by sector, subsector, group, or industry. The business license class schedule (<u>Appendix B</u>) is a tool for classification and not a limitation on businesses subject to a business license tax. The classification in the most recent version of the business license class schedule adopted by the Council that most specifically identifies the subject business shall be applied to the business. The license official shall have the authority to make the determination of the classification most specifically applicable to a subject business.
- D. A copy of the class schedule and rate schedule shall be filed in the office of the municipal clerk.

APPENDIX A: BUSINESS LICENSE RATE SCHEDULE

	INCOME: \$0 - \$2,000	INCOME OVER \$2,000
RATE CLASS	BASE RATE	RATE PER \$1,000 OR FRACTION THEREOF
1	\$35.00	\$1.15
2	\$40.00	\$1.25
3	\$45.00	\$1.35
4	\$50.00	\$1.45
5	\$55.00	\$1.55
6	\$60.00	\$1.65
7	\$65.00	\$1.75
8.1	\$45.00	\$1.25 Inside Municipality
	\$90.00	\$2.50 Outside Municipality
8.2	Railroads set by state statu	te
8.3	MASC Telecommunications	
8.4	MASC Insurance	
8.51	\$12.50 + \$12.50 per machi	ne
8.52	\$12.50 + \$180.00 per mach	ine
8.6	\$5.00 -OR- \$12.50 per table	2
9.1	\$70.00	\$1.50
9.2	\$110.00	\$1.90
9.3	\$35.00	\$0.75
9.5	\$70.00	\$1.50
9.6	\$50.00	\$1.30
9.7	\$110.00	\$1.90

NON-RESIDENT RATES

Unless otherwise specifically provided, all taxes and rates shall be doubled for nonresidents and itinerants having no fixed principal place of business within the Municipality.

CLASS 8 RATES

Each NAICS number designates a separate subclassification. The businesses in this section are treated as separate and individual subclasses due to provisions of state law, regulatory requirements, service burdens, tax equalization considerations, and other factors that are deemed sufficient to require individually determined rates. In accordance with state law, the Municipality also may provide for reasonable subclassifications for rates, described by an NAICS sector, subsector, or industry, that are based on particularized considerations as needed for economic stimulus or for the enhanced or disproportionate demands on municipal services or infrastructure.

Non-resident rates do not apply except where indicated.

8.1 NAICS 230000 - Contractors, Construction, All Types [Non-resident rates apply].

Resident rates, for contractors having a permanent place of business within the Municipality:

Minimum on first \$2,000. \$ 45.00 PLUS

Each additional \$1,000. \$ 1.25

Non-resident rates apply to contractors that do not have a permanent place of business within the Municipality. A trailer at the construction site or structure in which the contractor temporarily resides is not a permanent place of business under this ordinance.

Non-resident rates, for contractors who do not have a permanent place of business within the Municipality

No contractor shall be issued a business license until all state and municipal qualification examination and trade license requirements have been met. Each contractor shall post a sign in plain view on each job identifying the contractor with the job.

Sub-contractors shall be licensed on the same basis as general or prime contractors for the same job. No deductions shall be made by a general or prime contractor for value of work performed by a sub-contractor.

No contractor shall be issued a business license until all performance and indemnity bonds required by the Building Code have been filed and approved. Zoning permits must be obtained when required by the Zoning Ordinance.

Each prime contractor shall file with the License Official a list of sub-contractors furnishing labor or materials for each project.

For licenses issued on a per-job basis, the total tax for the full amount of the contract shall be paid prior to commencement of work and shall entitle the contractor to complete the job without regard to the normal license expiration date. An amended report shall be filed for each new job

and the appropriate additional license fee per \$1,000 of the contract amount shall be paid prior to commencement of new work. Only one base tax shall be paid in a license year. Licensees holding a per-job license shall file, by each April 30 during the continuation of the construction project, a statement of compliance, including but not limited to a revised estimate of the value of the contract. If any revised estimate of the final value of such project exceeds the amount for which the business license was issued, the licensee shall be required to pay a license fee at the then-prevailing rate on the excess amount.

8.2 NAICS 482 - Railroad Companies (See S.C. Code § 12-23-210).

For the first 1000 inhabitants of the City of Easley = \$25.00

For each additional 1,000 inhabitants according to the last US census = \$35.00 per 1,000 Cannot be over \$2,000

8.3 NAICS 517311, 517312 - Telephone Companies.

With respect to "retail telecommunications services" as defined in S. C. Code § 58-9-2200, the Municipality participates in a collections program administered by the Municipal Association of South Carolina. The Municipality has approved participation in the collections program by separate ordinance (the "Telecommunications Collections Ordinance"). The rates, terms, conditions, dates, penalties, appeals process, and other details of the business license applicable to retail telecommunications services are set forth in the Telecommunications Collections Ordinance.

- A. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Business License Ordinance, the business license tax for "retail telecommunications services" as defined in S.C. Code Section 58-9-2200, shall be at the maximum rate authorized by S.C. Codes Section 58-9-2220, as it now provides or as provided by amendment. The business license tax year shall begin on January 1 of each year. Declining rates shall not apply.
- B. In conformity with S.C. Code Section 58-9-2220, the business license tax for "retail telecommunications services" shall apply the gross income derived from the sale of retail telecommunications services for the preceding calendar or fiscal year which either originate or terminate in the municipality and which are charged to a service address within the municipality regardless of where these amounts are billed or paid and on which a business license tax has not been paid to another municipality. The measurement of the amounts derived from the retail sale of mobile telecommunications services shall include only revenues from the fixed monthly recurring charge of customers whose service address is within the boundaries of the municipality. For a business in operation for less than one year, the amount of business license tax shall be computed on a twelve-month projected income.
- C. The business license tax for "retail telecommunications services" shall be due on January 1 of each year and payable by January 31 of that year, without penalty.

- D. The delinquent penalty shall be five percent (5%) of the tax due for each month, or portion thereof, after the due date until paid.
- E. Exemptions in the business license ordinance for income from business in interstate commerce are hereby repealed. Properly apportioned gross income from interstate commerce shall be included in the gross income for every business subject to a business license tax.
- F. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be interpreted to interfere with continuing obligations of any franchise agreement or contractual agreement in the event that the franchise or contractual agreement should expire after December 31, 2003.
- G. All fees collected under such a franchise or contractual agreement expiring after December 31, 2003, shall be in lieu of fees or taxes which might otherwise be authorized by this Ordinance.
- H. As authorized by S.C. Code Section 5-7-300, the Agreement with the Municipal Association of South Carolina for collection of current and delinquent license taxes from telecommunications companies pursuant to S.C. Code Section 58-9-2200 shall continue in effect.

8.4 NAICS 5241 - Insurance Companies.

Independent agents, brokers, and their employees are subject to a business license tax based on their natural class. With respect to insurers subject to license fees and taxes under Chapter 7 of Title 38 and to brokers under Chapter 45 of Title 38, the Municipality participates in a collections program administered by the Municipal Association of South Carolina. The Municipality has approved participation in the collections program by separate ordinance (the "Insurers and Brokers Collections Ordinance"). The rates, terms, conditions, dates, penalties, appeals process, and other details of the business license applicable to insurers and brokers are set forth in the Insurers and Brokers Collections Ordinance.

8.51 NAICS 713120 - Amusement Machines, coin operated (except gambling). Music machines, juke boxes, kiddy rides, video games, pin tables with levers, and other amusement machines with or without free play feature licensed by SC Department of Revenue pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2720(A)(1) and (A)(2) [Type I and Type II].

For operation of all machines (not on gross income), pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2746:

Per Machine......\$12.50 PLUS

Distributors that sell or lease machines and are not licensed by the state as an operator pursuant to §12 21-2728 are not subject to Subclass 8.51.

8.52 NAICS 713290 - Amusement Machines, coin operated, non-payout. Amusement machines of the non-payout type or in-line pin game licensed by SC Department of Revenue

•	nt to S.C. Code §12-21-2720(A)(3) [Type III).	720/D\.			
_	For operation of all machines (not on gross income), pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2720(B):				
	Per Machine.				
	Business license				
	utors that sell or lease machines and are not licensed by the state as an opera 21-2728 are not subject to Subclass 8.52.	itor pursuant			
or pool income addition SC Code	NAICS 713990 - Billiard or Pool Rooms, all types. A business that offers the offers shall be subject to business license taxation under its natural classe of the business excluding the gross income attributable to the billiard or pool, the billiard or pool tables shall require their own separate business license e §12-21-2746 and shall be subject to a license tax of \$5.00 per table measure twide and 7 feet long, and \$12.50 per table longer than that.	for all gross ool tables. In s pursuant to			
9.1 <u>r</u>	NAICS 423930 - Junk or Scrap Dealers [Non-resident rates apply]				
ſ	Minimum on first \$2,000	\$70.00			
I	Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000	.\$1.50			
9.2 <u>1</u>	NAICS 522298 - Pawn Brokers — All Types				
ſ	Minimum on first \$2,000	\$110.00			
Ī	Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000	\$1.90			
9.3 <u>N</u>	AICS 4411, 4412 - Automotive, Motor Vehicles, Boats, Farm Machinery or I	<u>Retail</u>			
(6	except auto supply stores — see 4413)				
IV	Ninimum on first \$2,000	\$35.00			
P	er \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000	\$0.75			
provide	les lot not more than 400 feet from the main showroom may be operated und ed that proceeds from sales at the lot are included in gross receipts at the mai re operated under the same name ownership.				
	receipts for this classification shall include value of trade-ins. Dealer transfers on resale items shall not be included in gross income.	rs or internal			
9.50	NAICS 713290 — Bingo Halls, parlors				
	Minimum on first \$2,000 \$70.	.00			
	Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000\$1.5	60			
9.60	NAICS 711190 - Other Performing Arts Companies (Carnivals and Circuses)			
	Minimum on first \$2,000\$50				
	Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000 \$1				

9.70 NAICS 722410 — Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)

License must be issued in the name of the individual who has been issued a State alcohol, beer or wine permit or license and will have actual control and management of the business.

APPENDIX B 2025 BUSINESS LICENSE CLASS SCHEDULE BY NAICS CODE

NAICS Sector/Subsector	Industry Sector	Class
	Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing	1
21	Mining	3
22	Utilities	1
31-33	Manufacturing	3
42	Wholesale trade	1
44-45	Retail trade	1
48-49	Transportation and warehousing	2
	Information	4
51	Finance and insurance	7
52	Real estate and rental and leasing	6
53	Professional, scientific, and technical services	4
54	Management of companies	7
55	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	3
56	Educational services	3
61	Health care and social assistance	3
62		3
71	Arts, entertainment, and recreation	$\frac{3}{1}$
721	Accommodation	2
722	Food services and drinking places	3
81	Other services	3
Class 8	Subclasses	
23	Construction	8.1
482	Rail Transportation	8.2
517111	Wired Telecommunications Carriers	8.3
517112	Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (except Satellite)	8.3
517122	Agents for Wireless Telecommunications Services	8.3
5241	Insurance Carriers	8.4
5242	Insurance Brokers for non-admitted Insurance Carriers	8.4
713120	Amusement Parks and Arcades	8.51
713290	Non-Payout Amusement Machines	8.52
713990	All Other Amusement and Recreational Industries (pool tables)	8.6
Class 9	Subclasses	
423930	Recyclable Material Merchant Wholesalers (Junk)	9.1
522298	Pawnshops	9.2
4411	Automobile Dealers	9.3
4412	Other Motor Vehicle Dealers	9.3
713290	Bingo Halls	9.5
711190	Other Performing Arts Companies (Carnivals and Circuses)	9.6
	Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)	9.7
722410	ass Schedule is based on a three-year average (2019-2021) of IRS statistical data.	3.7

Special Events

Shows: For purposes of this ordinance, a show (exhibit) is a group participation event in which exhibitors display in individual booths, stalls or any other specific division of an exhibit area, for the purpose of presenting to an audience, goods, wares, merchandise or services offered for sale, rent, promotional purposes, or for the general goodwill of the exhibitors. Shows generally are of two (2) types: trade shows and public shows.

- (1) <u>Trade Show:</u> For purposes of this ordinance, the term "trade show" means an exhibition or show:
 - i. To which the public generally is not invited;
 - ii. Where those participating as exhibitors or observers generally have a common business or other interest;
 - iii. Where registration of exhibitors and observers is structured and admission is restricted; and
 - iv. Where on-floor sales are not the primary purpose.
- (2) <u>Public Show:</u> For purposes of this ordinance, the term "public show" means any type of consumer-oriented show or exhibition:
 - i. To which the public is invited and admitted, with or without charge; and
 - ii. To which exhibitors present goods, ware, merchandise or services for sale, rent, or promotional purposes.
- A. The producer, promoter or sponsor of a trade show shall acquire a city business license prior to the opening of the show. The license shall be for a period not to exceed seven (7) consecutive days. The fee for the license shall be fixed from time to time by the city council and is set forth below.
- B. To obtain a license for a public or trade show, the producer, promoter or sponsor shall make application to the business license office at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled event, naming the producer, promoter or sponsor, specifying the dates and location of the event, specifying the purpose of the event, and listing the exhibitors or participants, and shall pay the required fee. Not later than five (5) days after the close of the show, the producer, promoter or sponsor shall adjust the payment based on estimates to cover a license based on actual revenue received or number of exhibitors, whichever requires the greater payment. The Business License Official may inspect and audit the records of the producer, promoter or sponsor prior to, during or after the event. If he/she determines that any additional fee is due pursuant to this ordinance, the producer, promoter or sponsor shall pay the additional fee within ten (10) days of the Business License Official issuing notification to him/her of the additional fee.
- C. The exhibitors in any such public or trade show shall not be required to acquire a city business license if the producer, promoter or sponsor has obtained a license for the show. In case the producer, promoter or sponsor does not acquire a city business license for the show before the opening of the show, each exhibitor in the show shall acquire a Vendors

city business license for the show.

- (3) Entertainment Events: For the purposes of this ordinance, an entertainment event includes any performance or performances by an individual actor or performer or a cast or group of performers on a certain day, or within any seven (7) consecutive calendar days:
 - i. To which the public is invited and admitted upon payment of a charge of admission; and
 - ii. To which is designed and produced for the entertainment and enlightenment of those attending.

Examples of entertainment events include but are not limited to an athletic game or match, a concert, a dance, a lecture, a play, a rodeo, a carnival and a circus.

- A. The producer, promoter or sponsor of an entertainment event shall acquire a city business license for the event. The license shall be for a period not to exceed seven (7) consecutive days. The fee for the license shall be fixed from time to time by the city council and is set forth in the fee schedule below.
- B. To obtain such a license for such an entertainment event, the producer, promoter or sponsor shall make application to the business license office at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled event, naming the producer, promoter or sponsor, specifying the dates and location of the event, specifying the purpose of the event, and listing principal actors, conductors or performers, and shall pay the required fee. No later than five (5) days after the close of the event, the producer, promoter or sponsor shall adjust the payment based on estimates to cover a license based on actual revenue produced by the event. The Business License Official may inspect and audit the records of the producer, promoter or sponsor prior to, during or after the event. If he/she determines that any additional fee is due pursuant to this ordinance, the producer, promoter or sponsor shall pay the additional fee within ten (10) days of the Business License Official issuing notification to him of the additional fee.

(4) City of Easley Sponsored Events:

- i. City is exempt and not required to pay a business license fee.
- ii. Exhibitors, Vendors, and Peddlers would require an individual business license as specified in the City of Easley Business License Ordinance under their natural class.

Examples of City sponsored events include, but are not limited to, July 4th, Farmers Market, Spring Fling, Christmas Festivals and the Little League/Big League World Series.

(5) Charitable, Educational and Religious and other Eleemosynary Organizations:

i. That are exempt from Federal Income taxes under Internal Revenue Code section
 § 501 C are exempt from the requirement that a city business license be obtained

- for any entertainment or public event produced, promoted or sponsored by such organization.
- ii. Exhibitors, Vendors, and Peddlers not associated with the exempt organization would require an individual business license as specified in the City of Easley Business License Ordinance under their natural class.

Special Event Fee Schedule

The license shall be for a period not to exceed seven (7) consecutive days and the fee of the license shall be:

Trade/Public Shows

Gross Receipts	<u>Vendors</u>	Base Fee	Additional Fee	<u>Total Fee</u>
\$10,000.00	25	\$150.00	-	\$150.00
\$20,000.00	50	\$150.00	\$40.00	\$190.00
\$30,000.00	75	\$150.00	\$80.00	\$230.00
\$40,000.00	100	\$150.00	\$120.00	\$270.00
\$50,000.00	125	\$150.00	\$160.00	\$310.00
\$60,000.00	150	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$350.00
\$70,000.00	175	\$150.00	\$240.00	\$390.00
\$80,000.00	200	\$150.00	\$280.00	\$430.00
\$90,000.00	225	\$150.00	\$320.00	\$470.00
\$100,000.00	250	\$150.00	\$360.00	\$510.00
\$110,000.00	275	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$550.00
\$120,000.00	300	\$150.00	\$440.00	\$590.00
\$130,000.00	325	\$150.00	\$480.00	\$630.00
\$140,000.00	3S0	\$150.00	\$520.00	\$670.00
\$150,000.00	375	\$150.00	\$560.00	\$710.00
\$160,000.00	400	\$150.00	\$600.00	\$750.00
\$170,000.00	425	\$150.00	\$640.00	\$790.00
\$180,000.00	450	\$150.00	\$680.00	\$830.00
\$190,000.00	475	\$150.00	\$720.00	\$870.00
\$200,000.00	500	\$150.00	\$760.00	\$910.00

Entertainment Events

Gross Receipts	Base Fee	Additional Fee	<u>Total Fee</u>
\$10,000.00	\$150.00		\$150.00
\$20,000.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$250.00
\$30,000.00	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$350.00
\$40,000.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$450.00
\$50,000.00	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$550.00
\$\$60,000.00	\$150.00	\$500.00	\$650.00
\$70,000.00	\$150.00	\$600.00	\$750.00
\$80,000.00	\$150.00	\$700.00	\$850.00
\$90,000.00	\$150.00	\$800.00	\$950.00
\$100,000.00	\$150.00	\$900.00	\$1,050.00
\$110,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,150.00
\$120,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,250.00
S130,000.00	S150.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,350.00
\$140,000.00	\$150.00	\$1.300.00	\$1,450.00
\$150,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,550.00
\$160,000.00	S150.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,650.00
\$170,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,750.00
\$180,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,850.00
\$190,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,950.00
\$200,000.00	s150.00	s1,900.00	\$2,050.00

THE EVENT FEES REFERENCED IN THIS SECTION OF THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE ARE IN LIEU OF THE REQUIRED CITY OF EASLEY BUSINESS LICENSE TAX PAYABLE FOR EVENT PRODUCER, PROMOTER, SPONSOR OR VENDORS.

IT DOES NOT INCLUDE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH CITY SERVICES SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, POLICE, FIRE, AND/OR PUBLIC WORKS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRODUCER, PROMOTER OR SPONSOR TO CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE CITY DEPARTMENTS TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE SERVICES.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF AN EASEMENT IN CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF EASLEY

WHEREAS, the City of Easley is the owner of certain real property located in the City of Easley known as the "Doodle Trail" within the city limits of Easley, County of Pickens (hereinafter the "City Property"); and,

WHEREAS, the Estate of Samiel J. Martin ("Martin") is the owner of certain real property located on either side of the City Property located at 306, 308, and 310 Gentry Memorial Highway identified by TMS No. 5019-10-36-4924; 5019-10-36-4722; and, 5019-10-36-5701 within the city limits of Easley, County of Pickens (hereinafter "Martin Properties"); and,

WHEREAS, Martin desires to create a legal right of access across the Doodle Trail between the Martin Properties; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Easley desires to convey an easement to Martin according to the terms of the Easement Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A," the terms and conditions of which are fully incorporated herein as if set forth verbatim; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to S.C. Code § 5-7-40, a municipality may convey an interest in property it owns by Ordinance.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council find that it is in the best interest of the City of Easley to convey an easement on the City Property to Martin according to the terms of the Easement Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED, THAT

the Mayor of the City is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute, acknowledge and deliver the Easement Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

This Ordinance shall be effective upon second reading approval thereof and no further authorization is required to execute and deliver all documents related to the conveyance contemplated by this Ordinance.

First Reading: August 11, 2025 Second Reading: September 8, 2025

Mayor Lisa Talbert
Form, substance, and number
approved by City Attorney
Daniel Hughes Attorney at Law

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF PICKENS)

ACCESS EASEMENT

THIS ACCESS I	EASEMENT ("Easement") is made and entered int	o this day of
	, 2025, by THE CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROL	
("Grantor") in favor of t	ne ESTATE OF SAMIEL J. MARTIN, a citizen and a	resident of Pickens
County, South Carolina. ("Grantee").	

RECITALS

- A. Grantor is the owner of certain land situated in Pickens County, South Carolina, known as the Doodle Trail being more particularly shown the plat attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and the GIS Map attached hereto as Exhibit "B" ("Doodle Trail"); and,
- B. The Doodle Trails runs between properties owned by the Grantee located at 306 and 310 Gentry Memorial Highway and 308 Gentry Memorial Highway identified by Pickens County Tax Map Nos. 5019-10-36-4924; 5019-10-36-4722; and, 5019-10-36-5701, said properties being shown on Exhibit "B" (collectively, the "Grantee Properties"); and,
- C. Grantor has agreed to grant an access easement to Grantee, subject to the terms set forth herein.

AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the sum of TEN AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, it is mutually covenanted and agreed by the parties hereto as follows:

- 1. <u>Recitals</u>. The foregoing recitals are true and accurate and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. Grant of Easement. Grantor hereby grants and conveys to Grantee and its tenants, invitees, licensees, guests, contractors, employees and successors and/or assigns, a perpetual non-exclusive easement over, across, under, upon and through the driveway presently existing and crossing the Doodle Trial as more particularly shown on Exhibit "B" attached hereto as an easement thirty (30') feet in width and extending the length across the Doodle Trail ("Easement Area"), for the purpose of providing vehicular and pedestrian access, ingress and egress to and from the Grantee Properties.
- 3. <u>Maintenance</u>. Grantee shall be responsible for the maintenance and repair of the access drive and any other improvements located within the Easement Area at its sole expense. The repair, upkeep and maintenance required shall be performed in a workmanlike, diligent and efficient manner consistent with a first class retail facility. Furthermore, Grantee shall be responsible to repair any damage it may cause to any portion of the Doodle Trail located within the Easement Area, or any improvements owned by the Grantor. Grantee shall commence repair work within twenty-four (24) hours after receiving notice from the City of Easley Public Works Director, accompanied by a description of the work to be performed within the Easement Area.

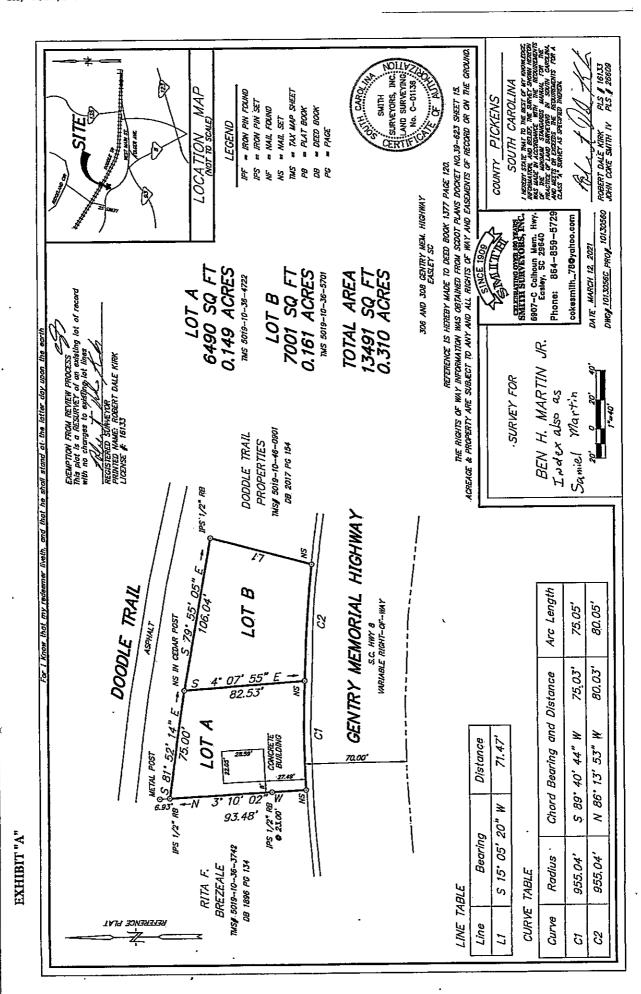
- 4. <u>Signage.</u> Grantee shall keep and maintain, in good condition, appropriate signage to alert the public of the crossing over the Doodle Trail signage alerting vehicles within the easement area to yield to users on the Doodle Trail.
- 14. <u>Doodle Trail</u>. Grantee shall not make any use of the Easement Area which interferes or conflicts with the use of the Doodle Trail or that, in the opinion of the Grantor, would injure or endanger the public in the use of the Doodle Trail or that would limit access to the Doodle Trail.
- 14. <u>Insurance</u>. Grantee shall maintain general liability insurance in the amounts specified below for any and all personal injury, bodily injury and/or property damage that may arise from any act or omission of Grantee or Grantee's tenants, invitees, licensees, guests, contractors, employees in connection with their use of the Easement. Such insurance shall cover any personal injury or property damage occurring with the easement area, including the Doodle Trail. Such insurance policy shall be primary and non-contributory with any insurance carried by Grantor. Subrogation against Grantor shall be waived as respects all of the insurance policies set forth above. A certificate attesting to such policies and endorsements shall be provided by Grantee to Grantor at least five (5) business days prior to any use of the easement, and updated certificates shall thereafter be submitted prior to expiration of the certificate then in Grantor's possession. Any such policy shall not be cancelable or coverage changed unless thirty (30) days' written notice has been given to Owner. The applicable amounts of insurance coverage are as follows: \$1,000,000 limit per occurrence for bodily injury, property damage, and personal injury with a \$2,000,000 general aggregate limit. The insurance should name the Grantor as an additional insured.
- Grantee Covenant. Grantee shall defend, indemnify, release, and hold harmless Grantor and its successors, assigns, officers, employees, agents, elected officials, and representatives (collectively, "Indemnified Parties") from, against, and with respect to, and shall be responsible for, any and all actions, claims, suits, demands, fees, losses, costs, expenses (including attorney's fees), obligations, liabilities, deaths, personal injuries, damages caused by or arising from Grantee's and its agents', invitees and representatives' (collectively, "Grantee Parties") entry onto, presence, or activities on or about the Easement Area, including those portions of the Easement Area located on the Doodle Trail (collectively, "Liabilities"). Grantee's duties to indemnify, defend, hold harmless, and release the Indemnified Parties excludes Liabilities arising out of the Indemnified Parties' own fault and/or negligence, but only to the extent caused by such fault and/or negligence by the Indemnified Parties.
- 8. <u>Further Assurances</u>. Grantor agrees to execute, acknowledge and deliver all such further documents and perform such acts as shall reasonably be requested in order to carry out this Easement and give effect thereto.
- 9. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. No agreements, representations, or warranties unless expressly incorporated or set forth in this Easement shall be binding upon any of the parties.
- 10. <u>Headings</u>. Descriptive headings are for convenience only and shall not control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Easement.

- 11. <u>Severability</u>. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Easement shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision hereto, and this Easement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.
- 12. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Agreement is to be governed, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina.
- 13. <u>Waiver</u>. The failure of either Grantor or Grantee to exercise any right given hereunder shall not constitute a waiver of either party's right to exercise such right.
- 14. <u>Covenants Running with the Land</u>. This Easement is binding on, and shall inure to the benefit of, the parties hereto and their heirs, devisees, successors and assigns, and the easement hereby granted is perpetual and shall run with the land.

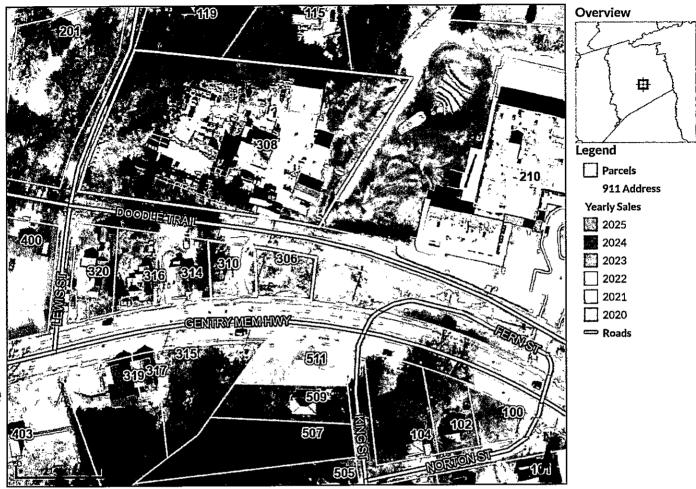
[SIGNATURES APPEAR ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

above. Witnessed By:	GRANTOR:
Print Name:	CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA a body politic
Print Name:	By: Name: Lisa R. Talbert Title: Mayor
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF PICKENS) ACKNOWLEDGMENT)
	ublic, do hereby certify that Lisa R. Talbert, as Mayor for the before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the
Witness my hand and officia	al seal this, 2025.
	Notary Public for South Carolina
·	My Commission Expires:

Witnessed By:	GRANTEE:
	ESTATE OF SAMIEL J. MARTIN
Print Name:	By: Name: Ellen Martin Musco, Personal Representative of the Estate of Samiel J. Martin
	By: Name: Robert Lamar Martin, Personal Representative of the Estate of Samiel J. Martin
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) COUNTY OF PICKENS)	ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Lamar Martin, as Personal Representative	do hereby certify that Ellen Martin Musco and Robert es of the Estate of Samiel J. Martin personally appeared due execution of the foregoing instrument.
Witness my hand and official seal	this, 2025.
	ary Public for South Carolina Commission Expires:







Account Commercial Ownership MARTIN **Documents** Parcel ID 5019-10-36-4722 **SAMIEL J** Date Price Doc Account No R0008531 Туре 303 ANDREW Office Property 310 GENTRY MEM HWY Class 3/12/2021 \$0 Address **EASLEY** Building AVE 11/3/2013 \$0 2686//315 Vacant EASLEY, SC District A09-Easley Acreage n/a 29640-0000 0012 Brief N/SIDE W MAIN ST, PLAT LEA Tax Description 622/251 LOT A Code (Note: Not to be used on legal Value \$27,000 documents)

Vacant or

Improved

Vacant

Date created: 9/3/2025 Last Data Uploaded: 9/3/2025 8:59:03 AM

Developed by SCHNEIDER

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL (1) THE CITY OF EASLEY ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EASLEY CODE OF ORDINANCES AND (2) THE CITY OF EASLEY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND TO REPLACE THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS WITH THE CITY OF EASLEY UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, The South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Act, S.C. Code §6-29-310 et seq. allows local planning commissions to prepare and recommend zoning ordinances and amendments thereto for city council's consideration and approval; and,

WHEREAS, the City currently has two (2) separate documents – (1) its Zoning Ordinance and (2) its Land Development Regulations ("LDR"). These two (2) documents regulate development and redevelopment within the City.

WHEREAS, the Unified Development Ordinance ("UDO") attached hereto as Exhibit "A" will combine and streamline the Zoning Ordinance and the LDR; and,

WHEREAS, the City utilized the services of MRB Group to assist the City with development and preparation of the UDO; and,

WHEREAS, the process for preparing the UDO has included community outreach and public engagement, including the following: hosted two open houses on October 24, 2024, six public hearings from February 25, 2025, through May 27, 2025, to give residents an opportunity to learn more, ask questions and provide feedback; and,

WHEREAS, the City continuously posted updates to the draft of the UDO for review by the public on the city's website. The final draft for approval by City Council is attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the public notice requirements set forth in S.C. Code §6-29-760, the City provided due notice of a public hearing before the Planning Commission for its consideration of the UDO in the following newspaper of general circulation: Greenville News.

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2025, a public hearing was held before the City of Easley Planning Commission and the Planning Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to recommend approval of the UDO and,

WHEREAS, the City Council, after considering all of the facts and circumstances surrounding the UDO project, do hereby find that the UDO attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is in the best interests of the City of Easley.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, in Council assembled: Section 1: That the City of Easley Zoning Ordinance and the Land Development Regulations are hereby repealed and replaced with the Unified Development Ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit "A." Section 2: That the Ordinance shall be effective upon second and final reading.

Section 3: To ensure that the Unified Development Ordinance is responsive to development and delivers on the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, the City Planning Staff will conduct periodic reviews of the Unified Development Ordinance to address technical issues or concerns and will make recommendations of amendments to the Planning Commission and City Council as needed to address those issues and concerns.

Section 4: Severability is intended throughout and within the provisions of this Ordinance. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

First Reading: September 8, 2025
Second and Final Reading: October 13, 2025

ADOPTED this 13th day of October 2025.

Lisa Talbert, Mayor

ATTEST: Approved as to Form:

Jennifer Bradley, City Clerk

Daniel, Hughes, City Attorney

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND FISCAL YEAR 25/26 OPERATING BUDGET TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the City Council of Easley has previously adopted a budget for fiscal year 2025-2026; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department requires upgrades in information technology equipment to ensure reliable operations and support public safety services; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to amend the approved budget to allocate funds for the purchase of such equipment.

WHEREAS, Amendment #1 for the FY 2025-2026 budget is attached to this Ordinance setting forth the amendment amounts in detail for a sum of \$330,000.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED,

to amend the FY 2025-2026 budget as outlined in the attached Amendment #1, effective upon Second Reading by Council and reallocate funds from line item 10-000-480-001 to line item 10-421-710-000 to fulfill the request for funds to purchase information equipment for the police department.

Done in meeting duly assembled this 13th day of October 2025.

First reading: September 8, 2025 Second reading: October 13, 2025

	CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA	
	Lisa Talbert, Mayor	
ATTEST:		
	Form, substance, and number Approved by City Attorney	
Jennifer Bradley, City Clerk	Daniel Hughes, City Attorney	

FY 25-26 BUDGET - AMENDMENT #1

REFLECTS \$330,000 TOWARDS THE FOLLOWING:

Upgrade 911 Emergency Operations Computer Systems & Equipment in Police Headquarters with a Total Cost of \$330,000

Revenue – General Fund	FY 25-26 Original Budget	FY 25-26 Amended Budget	Amount Amended
REVENUE 10-000-480-001— Budgeted Use of Fund Balance	\$983,521	\$1,313,521	\$330,000
TOTAL REVENUE CHANGE			\$330,000
Expenditures – General Fund	FY 25-26 Original Budget	FY 25-26 Amended Budget	Amount Amended
EXPENSE 10-421-710-000 — Capital Expenditures	\$114,000	\$444,000	\$330,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE CHANGE			\$330,000

A resolution authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of Lease No. 20000035174 dated July 8, 2025 (the "Lease"), between City of Easley, South Carolina, 111 Walkers Way, Easley, SC 29642 and VGM Financial Services, a division of The Huntington National Bank, 11100 Wayzata Blvd, Suite 700, Minnetonka, Hennepin, MN 55305-5517; and prescribing other details in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, City of Easley, South Carolina, (the "Lessee") is a political subdivision duly organized and existing pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Lessee is duly authorized by applicable law to acquire such items of personal property as are needed to carry out its governmental functions and to acquire such personal property by entering into lease-purchase agreements; and

WHEREAS, Lessee hereby finds and determines that the execution of a Lease for the purpose of leasing with the option to purchase the property designated and set forth in the Lease is appropriate and necessary to the function and operations of the Lessee; and

WHEREAS, VGM Financial Services, a division of The Huntington National Bank, (the "Lessor") shall act as Lessor under said Lease; and

WHEREAS, the Lease shall not constitute a general obligation indebtedness of the Lessee within the meaning of the Constitution and laws of the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, in Council assembled:

Section 1. The Lease, in substantially the form as presently before the governing body of the Lessee, is hereby approved, and the Mayor of the Lessee, is hereby authorized to negotiate, enter into, execute, and deliver the Lease and related documents in substantially the form as presently before the governing body of the Lessee, with such changes therein as shall be approved by such officer, and which Lease will be available for public inspection at the offices of Lessee.

Section 2. The Lessee shall, and the officers, agents and employees of the Lessee are hereby authorized and directed to take such further action and execute such other documents, certificates and instruments as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and comply with the intent of this Resolution, and to carry out, comply with and perform the duties of the Lessee with respect to the Lease.

Section 3. The Lessee's obligations under the Lease shall be expressly subject to annual appropriation by Lessee; and such obligations under the Lease shall not constitute a general obligation of Lessee or indebtedness of Lessee within the meaning of the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina.

Section 4. All other related contracts and agreements necessary and incidental to the Lease are hereby authorized, ratified and approved. Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval. CERTIFIED AS TRUE AND CORRECT this 8^{th} day of September 2025 . Lisa Talbert Mayor ATTEST: Form, substance, and number approved by City Attorney Daniel Hughes Jennifer Bradley Attorney at Law City Clerk

A resolution authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of Lease No. 20000035173 dated July 8, 2025 (the "Lease"), between City of Easley, South Carolina, 111 Walkers Way, Easley, SC 29642 and VGM Financial Services, a division of The Huntington National Bank, 11100 Wayzata Blvd, Suite 700, Minnetonka, Hennepin, MN 55305-5517; and prescribing other details in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, City of Easley, South Carolina, (the "Lessee") is a political subdivision duly organized and existing pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Lessee is duly authorized by applicable law to acquire such items of personal property as are needed to carry out its governmental functions and to acquire such personal property by entering into lease-purchase agreements; and

WHEREAS, Lessee hereby finds and determines that the execution of a Lease for the purpose of leasing with the option to purchase the property designated and set forth in the Lease is appropriate and necessary to the function and operations of the Lessee; and

WHEREAS, VGM Financial Services, a division of The Huntington National Bank, (the "Lessor") shall act as Lessor under said Lease; and

WHEREAS, the Lease shall not constitute a general obligation indebtedness of the Lessee within the meaning of the Constitution and laws of the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, in Council assembled:

Section 1. The Lease, in substantially the form as presently before the governing body of the Lessee, is hereby approved, and the Mayor of the Lessee, is hereby authorized to negotiate, enter into, execute, and deliver the Lease and related documents in substantially the form as presently before the governing body of the Lessee, with such changes therein as shall be approved by such officer, and which Lease will be available for public inspection at the offices of Lessee.

Section 2. The Lessee shall, and the officers, agents and employees of the Lessee are hereby authorized and directed to take such further action and execute such other documents, certificates and instruments as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and comply with the intent of this Resolution, and to carry out, comply with and perform the duties of the Lessee with respect to the Lease.

Section 3. The Lessee's obligations under the Lease shall be expressly subject to annual appropriation by Lessee; and such obligations under the Lease shall not constitute a general obligation of Lessee or indebtedness of Lessee within the meaning of the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina.



A resolution calling on the State of South Carolina, Pickens County, and Anderson County to review and provide a remedy for the congestion occurring along the Brushy Creek Road corridor (S-39-29 and S-4-486) from the intersection of US Hwy 123 into Anderson County to the intersection of St Paul Road.

WHEREAS the City of Easley, Pickens County, South Carolina (the "City") is a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina and is authorized to enact regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and general law of this State, including the exercise of powers in relation to roads, streets, markets, law enforcement, health, and order in the municipality or respecting any subject which appears to them necessary and proper for the security, general welfare, and convenience of the municipality or for preserving health, peace, order, and good government in them; and

WHEREAS in recent years, Pickens County, Anderson County, and the City of Easley have seen an unprecedented population and development growth and this unplanned growth stresses existing infrastructure, specifically the Brushy Creek Road Corridor and exacerbates and increases traffic, and threatens to overwhelm the essential nature of our community's natural and cultural environment; and

WHEREAS the citizens of Pickens County, Anderson County, and the City of Easley have expressed increased concern and frustration over the congestion in this corridor, and the lack of coordination between various levels of local governments in order to more adequately plan and provide for such relief; and that the corridor has not seen any major improvements; and

WHEREAS the State of South Carolina along with Pickens County and Anderson County have neglected and not addressed the concerns of the residents of Easley, Pickens County, and Anderson County and have not provided adequate coordination and cooperation despite the frustration and attempts to reasonably address community concerns and traffic patterns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, in Council assembled:

- That the corridor congestion should be managed in our communities in a consistent and coordinated manner,
- That the State of South Carolina, Pickens County, and Anderson County are essential partners for managing corridor improvements,
- That collaboration between the State and Counties would more effectively and efficiently meet the public's need for more managed traffic,
- That the SCDOT traffic division shall research both the traffic mitigation and costs.
- That the State of South Carolina, Pickens County, and Anderson County shall review the costs and determine the extent of procuring funding to implement the traffic mitigation plan.

Resolved and approved, this 8th day of September 2025.

	Lisa Talbert Mayor
ATTEST:	
	Form, substance, and number approved by City Attorney
Jennifer Bradley City Clerk	Daniel Hughes Attorney at Law