

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-__

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AMENDING THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (UDO), CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 5.5, SECTION 5.5.1, AND CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 12.1, TABLE OF PERMITTED USES, TO ESTABLISH THE PARKS (PK) ZONING DISTRICT AND DESIGNATE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE AS A PERMITTED USE

WHEREAS, the Unified Development Ordinance establishes conventional zoning districts to implement the City's land use and comprehensive planning objectives; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Easley owns and maintains public parks, recreational facilities, and greenway lands that are intended to serve the community's active and passive recreational needs; and,

WHEREAS, certain City-owned parks and recreational properties are currently zoned under districts that do not specifically reflect their intended long-term use as public parkland; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire to establish a Parks (PK) zoning district to recognize, map, and preserve public parkland as a distinct land use category within the Unified Development Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council further desire to update the Table of Permitted Uses in Chapter 12, Article 12.1, to reflect the PK zoning district and to designate Parks and Open Space as a (P) Permitted use; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council find that establishing the Parks (PK) zoning district and updating the Table of Permitted Uses at this time, without additional development restrictions, will allow flexibility for current and future park programming while maintaining the City's ability to refine standards in the future as necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Easley, South Carolina, as follows:

Section 1. Amendment – Chapter 5, Section 5.5.1.

Chapter 5, Article 5.5, Section 5.5.1 – **Conventional Districts**, appearing on Page 59 of the Unified Development Ordinance, is hereby amended to **add a Parks (PK) zoning district**, to read as follows:

Parks (PK) District

The intent of the Parks (PK) District is to provide for the identification, preservation, and use of land designated for public park and recreational purposes. The PK District is intended to apply primarily to **City-owned parks, recreational facilities, greenways, and related public open spaces** that serve the active and passive recreational needs of the community.

The PK District recognizes public parks as essential community assets that contribute to quality of life, public health, environmental stewardship, and recreational opportunity. Land within the PK District is intended to be used for public recreation and park-related purposes consistent with the City's adopted plans and policies.

Section 2. Amendment – Chapter 12, Article 12.1, Table of Permitted Uses.

Chapter 12, Article 12.1 – **Table of Permitted Uses**, appearing on Page 193 of the Unified Development Ordinance, is hereby amended to:

1. **Add the Parks (PK) zoning district as a column** in the Table of Permitted Uses.
2. **Designate “Parks and Open Space” as (P) Permitted** within the PK zoning district.

All other uses within the Table of Permitted Uses shall remain unchanged unless amended by future ordinance.

Section 3. Codification and Effective Date.

The amendments contained herein shall be codified within the Unified Development Ordinance of the City of Easley and shall be effective upon second and final reading of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Severability.

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, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions.

First Reading:

Second Reading:

CITY OF EASLEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Lisa Talbert, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer Bradley, Municipal Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Daniel Hughes, City Attorney