

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-24

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, AMENDING THE BASTROP CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 14, THE BASTROP BUILDING BLOCK (B3) CODE, BY REMOVING ALL REFERENCES TO THE MANDATORY STREET NETWORK AND THE GRIDDED STREET NETWORK AND ESTABLISHING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES; AS SHOWN IN AS EXHIBIT A; AND PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, EFFECTIVE DATE, PROPER NOTICE, AND MEETING.

WHEREAS, the City of Bastrop, Texas (the “City”) is a home rule municipality located in Bastrop County, Texas acting under its Charter adopted by the electorate pursuant to Article XI, Section 5 of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 9 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 51.001, the City Council of the City of Bastrop has general authority to amend an ordinance that is for the good government, peace, or order of the City and is necessary or proper for carrying out a power granted by law to the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Chapters 211, 212, 214, and 217 the City Council of the City of Bastrop has general authority to regulate planning, zoning, subdivisions, and the construction of buildings; and

WHEREAS, these amendments are to remove references to the gridded street network within each place type, definition, and executive summary pages to create cohesion in other areas of the code that are also in line to be modified with previously adopted ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on February 17, 2025, and February 24, 2025, and recommended approval with a vote, six to one to recommend these B3 Code text amendments at the February 24, 2025 meeting; and

WHEREAS, a notice of the public hearing to consider the amendments to the Code of Ordinances was published on January 29, 2025, and the City held a public hearing and conducted the first reading for the City Council on March 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City finds these certain amendments to the aforementioned ordinances

are necessary and reasonable to meet changing conditions and are in the best interest of the City.

WHEREAS, the City finds that this Ordinance was passed and approved at a meeting of the City Council of the City of Bastrop held in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at which a quorum of the City Council Members was present and voting.

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

Section 1. The facts and recitations set forth in the preamble of this Ordinance are hereby found to be true and correct.

Section 2. The City of Bastrop authorizes the amendment to the Bastrop Building Block Code (B3), Section 3.2.001, 3.2.002, 4.2.001, 5.2.001, 5.2.002, 5.2.005, 10.1.002, and Article 7.3 Street Types of the Bastrop Building Code is hereby amended and shall read in accordance with Exhibit "A", which is attached hereto and incorporated into this Ordinance for all intents and purposes. Any struck-through text shall be deleted from the Code, as shown in each of the attachments.

Section 3. Passage. Pursuant to Section 3.12 of the City Charter, the Council determined that the first reading of this Ordinance is sufficient for adequate consideration by an affirmative vote of five or more members of the City Council during the first reading and the Ordinance was passed by the affirmative vote of four or more members of the City Council; therefore, this Ordinance is adopted and enacted without further readings. In the event a second reading is necessary, this Ordinance is adopted and enacted upon the affirmative vote of four or more members of the City Council upon a second reading.

Section 4. Severability. If any clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be unenforceable for any reason, such unenforceable clause or provision shall be severed from the remaining portion of the Ordinance, which shall continue to have full force and effect.

Section 5. Repeal. This Ordinance shall be and is hereby cumulative of all other ordinances of the City of Bastrop, Texas, and this Ordinance shall not operate to repeal or affect any of such other ordinances except insofar as the provisions thereof might be inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, in which event such conflicting provisions, if any, in such other Ordinances, are hereby repealed.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after its final passage and any publication in accordance with the requirements of the City of Bastrop and the laws of the State of Texas.

READ & ACKNOWLEDGED on First Reading on this the 4th day of March 2025.

READ & ADOPTED on Second Reading on this the 11th day of March 2025.

APPROVED:

by: 
John Kirkland, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:


Victoria Psencik, Assistant City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney



Exhibit A

THE CITY

THE CITY OF BASTROP WILL:

- ▶ Adopt Standards and processes that result in fiscally sustainable development and promote Incremental development with intentional character by focusing on the intersection of the Public and Private Realms;
- ▶ Retain its natural infrastructure and visual character derived from topography, woodlands, farmlands and waterways;
- ▶ Encourage Infill and redevelopment growth strategies along with new neighborhoods;
- ▶ Facilitate development of Infill properties contiguous to an existing built environment in the pattern of Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) or Village Center Development (VCD) and be integrated with the existing ~~grid~~ pattern;
- ▶ Promote development of properties non-contiguous to an existing built environment organized in the pattern of Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND), Cluster Land Development (CLD), or Village Center Development (VCD);
- ▶ Plan and reserve Transportation Corridors in coordination with land development;
- ▶ Define and connect the built environment with trails and greenways; and
- ▶ Create a framework of transit, Pedestrian, and bicycle systems that provide alternatives to the automobile.

Exhibit A

Block Types - Blocks are the foundation for development in Bastrop. The ~~gridded~~ network of Streets formed by the Bastrop Building Block has been proven to support each Place Type and all associated Standards in the Code. Block Types match the level of intensity of development they are serving. The Block Types will vary from rural to urban, becoming more formal as the urbanity increases. See the [Pattern Book](#) for more examples of Block Types.

Building Types - Building Types correspond to the Place Types and Street Types. Building Types are contained within each Place Type to confirm the intensity of development aligns with the infrastructure and building forms to support the wide variety of Building Types.



Block Examples for illustrative purposes

See Chapter 10 - Definitions for defined terms. All defined terms are capitalized throughout this document.

Exhibit A

ARTICLE 3.2 PLACE TYPE STANDARDS

SEC 3.2.001 ALLOCATION & SEQUENCE OF PLACE TYPE DETERMINATION

(a) Determination of Place Type designations shall be made based on the following factors considered in the following sequence:

- (1) Geographically sensitive Development Patterns;
- (2) The existing Streets and Master Thoroughfare Plan
~~Mandatory Street Network;~~
- (3) Proximity to existing Place Types (built or entitled);
- (4) Size of new Development; and
- (5) Pedestrian Shed Distribution.

(b) The City of Bastrop shall have the following assigned percentages of each Pedestrian Shed allocated to the established Place Types. Before preparing a Neighborhood Concept Scheme the Applicant must review permitted Development Patterns and the associated Standards. Place Type percentage allocation per Pedestrian Shed as described in Article 3.3:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| P1 - Nature | Varies |
| P2 - Rural | Varies |
| P3 - Neighborhood | 10-35% |
| P4 - Mix | 25-75% |
| P5 - Core | 5 - 20% |
| CS – Civic Space | 10% Min. |
| EC – Employment Center | No Min. |
| PDD – Planned Development District | No Min. |

Exhibit A

SEC 3.2.002 NEIGHBORHOOD REGULATING PLAN

- (a) All areas within the City of Bastrop more than 3.4 acres that do not require Place Type Zoning changes will require a Neighborhood Regulating Plan. Place Types shall be assigned through the creation of a Neighborhood Regulating Plan.
- (b) The process for creating a Neighborhood Regulating Plan is described in the B³ Technical Manual Article 2.3 - Neighborhood Regulating Plan.
- (c) Neighborhood Regulating Plans must provide the Street Types, location and sizes of proposed Streets consistent with the Transportation Master Plan ~~Mandatory Street Network~~, and the Block requirements of this Code. It must contain Place Type allocation as defined in Section 3.2.001.b and be reflective of Section 4.2.001 Character District Descriptions & additional Standards.
- (d) A Neighborhood Regulating Plan must adhere to the Pedestrian Shed Map, Sec. 3.3.001, and must be reviewed and comply with the percentages of 3.2.002(b).

SEC 3.2.003 NEIGHBORHOOD REGULATING PLAN EXEMPTIONS

- (a) All areas within the City of Bastrop over 3.4 acres on a platted Lot not seeking to develop.

ARTICLE 3.3 PEDESTRIAN SHED

- (a) In TND developments, every 1/4 mile radius or “Pedestrian Shed,” i.e. approx. 80 acres or 6 Farm Lots, is to contain a mix/allocation of Place Types that reflect the Character District. Measuring Development by the Pedestrian Shed will ensure walkable neighborhoods are created.
- (b) The Pedestrian Shed is the area encompassed by the walking distance from a town or neighborhood center. They are often defined as the area covered by a 5-minute walk (about 0.25 miles or 1,320 feet) from the center.
- (c) Pedestrian Sheds in VCD or CLD Development Patterns vary in size and are prescribed in Article 5.2 Development Patterns Standards.

Exhibit A

lends itself to village centers. A mix of retail, restaurant and office Buildings, that incorporate Residential around community agriculture, open fields, and water features being reminiscent of meandering streams and stock tanks that once served livestock.

- (3) **Cultural Arts District** - Arts and culture are the centerpiece of this district. Located in one of the oldest parts of the City, this district will pay homage to the rich culture of Bastrop by providing a physical landscape to share the human experience. A sophisticated mix of theater, music, and art will blend with a mix of housing, while also providing shopping and dining opportunities. Situated along two state highways, this district will be a destination for tourists and locals alike sharing a cultural experience.
- (4) **District 71** - District 71 promotes regional trade and easy vehicular access from major Thoroughfares. Developments become destinations unto themselves, with parking areas nearby for visitor access. Elements within the Public Realm encourage walk- or bike-ability bringing large, developed areas back to the human scale.
- (5) **Downtown District** - Downtown Bastrop is laid out in an almost perfect series of small, gridded blocks. The

~~gridded~~ **downtown** network of Streets is a fundamental element that creates the most effective and efficient structure for cities to be walkable, flexible and timeless. It contains human scale Streets and buildings organized in a uniform manner. Parks and Civic Spaces integrated into the built form of the City. The shopfronts and ground floor characteristics at the Street edge are made up of glass and directly relate to the Street. The Residential Lot sizes, House sizes, housing types, and setbacks vary throughout the district.

- (6) **Ferry District** - This district follows the east side of the Colorado River north of SH 71. People may seamlessly access both riverine resources and shopfronts. Shopfronts directly interact with the Street where topography allows or are clustered into accessible destinations along the river providing entertainment in scenic setting. Walkable trail connections to other districts, with shade from mature trees and structural features of the Public Realm, are key elements of Development.
- (7) **Historic Highway District** - As one of the oldest towns in Texas, Bastrop has served travelers going from Austin to Houston for over 100 years. The Historic

Exhibit A

Railroad, State Highway 95, and Piney Creek. Originally laid out in the pattern of Farm Lots, Residential growth has happened incrementally, creating a diverse mix of Lot sizes and housing styles. The addition of neighborhood Commercial along established Streets and the inclusion of housing type variation will add to the vitality and timeless nature of the community. Continued Development should focus on establishing additional east/west connectivity to continue the Building Block pattern originally established in Downtown Bastrop.

(13) **Old Town District** - Old Town has a rich history based on the Building Block and Farm Lot configuration of the 1920 Iredell Map. The **gridded downtown** Street network is well connected, and a variety of Lot types, setbacks, and Building Types are present. Human scale and tree shaded Streets encourage comfortable multimodal connectivity to the surrounding neighborhoods, while discrete and rural-style infrastructure functions steadily.

(14) **PDD District** - Planned Development Districts are existing master planned developments created under previous Codes that allow a mix of land uses and design Standards. Each area has specific concept and

Development plans that determine Street connectivity, Lot layout, and Building design.

(15) **Pine Village District** - Characterized by scenic vistas of the Colorado River, this district is positioned along the rolling hills of the Lost Pines. The natural geography in the district provides both opportunity for commerce and Residential neighborhoods. The built environment will harmoniously integrate with the natural environment, creating inviting Open Spaces with storefronts and residences.

(16) **River District** - The Colorado River serves as the focal point of this district. Ample Commercial and Residential opportunities are present, interacting with the natural environment, giving an uptown feel along the banks of the river. Open space, Civic Spaces, and trails will bring people to the district while they enjoy dining, retail, and entertainment opportunities. The natural geography will inform the Building pattern blending the urban and natural form.

(17) **Riverside Grove District** - Situated between a City Park and a Commercial corridor, Riverside Grove provides a classic opportunity to connect people to places. Mobility is promoted via the tree-lined Streets in a semi-grid pattern that allow multiple modes of

Exhibit A

ARTICLE 5.2 DEVELOPMENT PATTERN STANDARDS

SEC. 5.2.001 TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT (TND)

(a) Intent:

TND may occur in Infill areas and involve adaptive reuse of existing buildings or can be created as new Construction on previously undeveloped land.

(b) TND characteristics may include the continuation of the ~~Grid~~ Street Network as the basic platform of arrangement of the Neighborhood Regulating Plans and Zoning Concept Schemes. They contain a range of housing types, a network of well-connected Streets and blocks, well defined public spaces, and have amenities such as stores, schools, and Third Places within walking distance of residences.

(c) TND is the preferred and default Development Pattern in the City of Bastrop.

SEC. 5.2.002 TND STANDARDS

(a) Location: The TND is located within a Character District that allows for the Development Pattern.

(b) 1,320' ~~preferred~~ suggested max Block perimeter.

(c) 330' x 330' ~~preferred~~ suggested Block size.

(d) If Block dimensions exceed the preferred Block perimeter and size, a 20' Pedestrian Walkway shall be included at mid-Block.

(e) Smaller blocks are allowed By Right.

(f) In the P4 Mix, a minimum Residential mix of three Building Types (not less than 20%) shall be required.

(g) A TND shall be structured by one standard or Linear Pedestrian Shed (see Article 3.2.2 Place Types by Pedestrian Shed) and shall be no fewer than 13.6 acres and no more than 160 acres.

(h) A TND shall include Place Types as allocated in Section 3.2.002.b.

(i) Sites larger than 80 circular acres or 160 linear acres shall be designed and developed as multiple Neighborhood Regulating Plans. Each Neighborhood Regulating Plan is subject to the individual Place Type requirements for its Development Pattern as allocated Section 3.2.002.b or associated Standards.

Exhibit A

SEC. 5.2.005 VILLAGE CENTER DEVELOPMENT (VCD)

- (a) Intent: A VCD is a series of small Streets lined with buildings at the Street edge creating a unique village style community.
- (b) Description: VCD consists of a small dense grouping of predominately P4 and P5 Building serving as Residential, live/ work and Commercial and office buildings organized in a vernacular, curvilinear grid, or potential for a grid network of blocks and Streets. The Streets are small and serve as shared Streets. Vehicles are kept on the exterior of the developments. Buildings are located directly to the Street edge.

SEC. 5.2.006 VCD STANDARDS

- (a) See Section 5.2.007 Development Patterns by Character District to determine if Village Center Development is an allowed Development Pattern.
- (b) Streets Types are narrow and serve as shared Streets in the Development.
- (c) Vehicles are kept on the exterior of the key areas of developments to create plazas and Civic Spaces throughout the Development;

- (d) Buildings are located directly to the Street edge at the Frontage Line and occupy 80% to 100% of the Lot Frontage; and
- (e) Parking shall be located in the Third Layer of the Lot.
- (f) Vehicle access shall be kept in the rear of the property served by alleys or the rear lanes.
- (g) P3 shall be limited to 10% of the Development.
- (h) P1 and CS shall be more than 40% of the Development.
- (i) P4 and P5 shall make up the remaining 50% of the Development.
- (j) A VCD shall be structured by one Long Pedestrian Shed or Linear Pedestrian Shed and shall consist of no fewer than 13.6 acres and no more than 80 acres.

Exhibit A

- (c) Applicants must dedicate sufficient right-of-way to the City for Streets and sidewalks, in accordance with the Master Transportation Plan. Typical Street right-of way widths are illustrated in this Section.
- (d) The City may require turn lanes and additional right-of-way beyond that shown in the applicable Street typical cross-section to accommodate turn lanes when warranted.

SEC. 7.2.004 MEASUREMENT OF STREETS & PUBLIC REALM

- (a) Face of Curb. All measurements of parking spaces and lane widths are taken from the Face of Curb and are inclusive of the gutter.
- (b) Pavement Markings. All measurements of parking spaces and lane widths are made to the center of pavement markings.

ARTICLE 7.3 STREET TYPES

- (a) A range of Streets Types have been provided which correspond back to the built environment they serve. Street Types were created in conjunction with all other B³ Code sections to promote long-term fiscal sustainability and a walkable environment. Each Street Type contains

characteristics which correspond with the Place Types and Building Types in the B³ Code.

- (b) The following Street illustrations are to be used as a guide when designing Streets for Neighborhood Regulating Plans or Zoning Concept Schemes and Infill Street designs. The Streets types are separated into two categories:

- (1) Primary Multimodal Streets (80' R.O.W.) - provide a higher degree of mobility than most of the grid **street** network by serving travel between major destinations or activity centers, as well as providing local cross-City route alternatives to the major highway routes. These Streets should be designed as walkable, low-to-moderate speed Thoroughfares that carry both through and local traffic, pedestrians, and bicyclists. These Streets are also important connections for primary goods movement and emergency response routes. These Streets will often require additional right-of-way than a typical **grid** connector, either for additional through travel lanes or for dedicated Pedestrian and bicycle facilities (Bastrop Master Transportation Plan).

- (2) Local Connector Streets (55.5' R.O.W.) - provide a higher degree of direct access to abutting property.