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ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 15-5 REGARDING REGULATION OF ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITIES AND LIQUID WASTE HAULERS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. City Code Section 15-5-1 (*Applicability*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-1 APPLICABILITY.

This <u>article</u> [chapter] applies to a structure that discharges sewage into an onsite sewage facility within:

- (1) the full purpose boundaries of the City; and
- (2) an area annexed in the limited purpose boundaries of the City where the City's health and safety ordinances apply.
- **PART 2.** City Code Section 15-5-2 (*Definitions*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-2 DEFINITIONS.

Words and phrases in this <u>article</u> [chapter] have the same meaning they have in <u>Chapter 341</u> (*Minimum Standards of Sanitation and Health Protection Measures*), Chapter 366 (*On-Site Storage Disposal Systems*) of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and in Chapter 285 (*On-Site Sewage Facilities*) of Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code. The following terms also are applicable to this <u>article</u> [chapter]:

PART 3. City Code Section 15-5-3 (*Adoption of State Law, Rules and Design Criteria*) is amended to read:

§15-5-3 ADOPTION OF STATE, LAW, RULES AND DESIGN CRITERIA.

This chapter adopts and incorporates by reference:

- (1) <u>Chapter 341 (Minimum Standards of Sanitation and Health Protection Measures) of the Texas Health and Safety Code;</u>
- (2) [4] Chapter 366 (*On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems*) of the Texas Health and Safety Code;
- (3) [2] Chapter 285 of Title 30 (*On-Site Sewage Facilities*) of Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code; and

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(4) [3] The Design Criteria for On-Site Sewage Facilities promulgated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

PART 4. City Code Section 15-5-4 (*Authority*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-4 AUTHORITY.

- (A) A City official or employee with a duty under <u>Chapter 341 (Minimum Standards of Sanitation and Health Protection Measures)</u>, Chapter 366 (On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems) of the Texas Health and Safety Code <u>and [or]</u> Chapter 285 (On-Site Sewage Facilities) of Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code is authorized to perform that duty.
- (B) The director is the designated representative to enforce this chapter.
- (C) A City employee who exercises the authority of the designated representative under this article must be approved and certified by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
- **PART 5.** City Code Section 15-5-7 (*Appeal*) is amended to amend the title and to read:

§ 15-5-7 APPEAL THROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING.

A person aggrieved by an action or decision <u>made by</u> [of] the designated representative <u>under this article</u>, may appeal the action or decision to the director <u>no later than 30 days from the date of the action or decision</u>. A person may appeal the decision of the director by <u>requesting an administrative hearing pursuant to Section 15-9-193</u> (Administrative Hearing) [following the procedures set forth in Section 15-9-191(D)].

PART 6. Subsection E of City Code of 15-5-10 (*OSSF Regulations*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-10 OSSF REGULATIONS.

- (E) This subsection establishes requirements for the maintenance of OSSFs.
 - (1) Requirements for homeowners providing maintenance of OSSF:
 - [(1)](a) At the end of the initial two-year service policy, an owner of a single-family owner-occupied residence (homeowner) utilizing an OSSF that requires maintenance, as specified in Table XII of 30 TAC Chapter 285, may only perform maintenance on the OSSF if they [have]:
 - [(a)](i) have taken the training [and passed the test] required for a TCEQ registered maintenance technician, as required in 30 TAC Chapter 30, Section 30.245 (b); or

- [(b)](ii) have taken an equivalent training specifically for homeowners, as determined by the City; and
 - (iii) are registered with the City as a Homeowner Maintenance Provider.
- [(2) The results of the test and proof of attendance at the training must be provided to the City.
- (3) Within 30 days of receiving a written request from the City, homeowners who own an OSSF must inform the City whether they will do the maintenance themselves or will have it done by a maintenance provider.]
- [(4)](b) Homeowners that perform maintenance on their own OSSF must submit to the City the same reports that are required for licensed maintenance providers by the TCEQ.
- [(5)](c) Within one year of receiving a written notice from the City, a homeowner who has previously maintained an existing OSSF that requires a maintenance affidavit must comply with the maintenance and reporting requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 285, and this Subsection even if compliance was not previously required.
- [(6)](d) A copy of the results of all testing related to the maintenance of OSSFs, including analytical results, must be provided to the City.
 - (e) Failure to comply with TCEQ's reporting requirements for TCEQ licensed maintenance providers, as specified in 30 TAC Section 285.7 may result in the revocation of a homeowner's City registration.
 - (f) A Homeowner Maintenance Provider whose registration has been revoked must secure the services of a TCEQ licensed maintenance provider within 30 days of the date of revocation.
 - (g) A Homeowner Maintenance Provider whose registration has been revoked will not be allowed to apply for a new registration.
- (2) Requirements for TCEQ licensed maintenance providers:

- (a) In addition to the licensing requirements established in 30 TAC Chapter 285, any TCEQ licensed maintenance provider who works within the City's jurisdiction for OSSFs must be registered as a Professional Maintenance Provider with the City.
- (b) The City's registration issued to a Professional Maintenance Provider is permanent unless it is suspended or revoked.
- (3) Suspension and Revocation of Licensed Maintenance Provider's City Registration:
 - (a) The City may suspend a registration issued by the City for failing to comply with:
 - (i) requirements listed in Title 30 TAC Section 285.64 (a);
 - (ii) violating Title 30 TAC Section 285.65 (a) (1); or
 - (iii) failing to meet deadlines administratively established by the City, or failing to resolve any non-compliance.
 - (b) The City may suspend a licensed maintenance provider's registration for up to six calendar months.
 - (c) Licensed maintenance providers with suspended registrations may not submit new or renewed maintenance contracts to the City, and thus may not enter into new service contracts during the suspension.
 - (d) <u>Maintenance providers with suspended registrations may continue to service existing customers for the duration of the contract with the property owner.</u>
 - (e) <u>Licensed maintenance providers with suspended registrations</u> who submit late monitoring reports or who fail to submit reports may have the provider's registration revoked.

- (f) A licensed maintenance provider whose registration is revoked must immediately provide notice to each customer and immediately cease providing maintenance service.
- (i) A licensed maintenance provider with a revoked registration may not submit new or renewed maintenance contracts to the City, and thus may not enter into new service contracts during the revocation.
- (j) A licensed maintenance provider whose registration is suspended or revoked may request an administrative hearing pursuant to Section 15-9-193 (Administrative Hearing).
- (k) A licensed maintenance provider with a revoked registration may apply for re-registration after one calendar year from the date of revocation.

PART 7. Subsection (F) of City Code Section 15-5-10 (*OSSF Regulations*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-10 OSSF Regulations.

- (F) This subsection establishes additional design criteria.
 - (1) A spray irrigation may only be used for a single-family residence. Spray irrigation may only be conducted during nighttime hours (after 12:00 AM and before 5:00 AM). The minimum setback to a property line or the residence from the edge of the spray area shall be 25 feet for a spray irrigation system.
 - (2) Soil Absorption Systems following septic tank treatment require a minimum depth to indications of groundwater of 36 inches, measured from the bottom of the media or the bottom of the excavation, whichever is applicable. The use of drip irrigation or low-pressured dosing after septic treatment reduces this vertical separation requirements to 24 inches.
 - (3) An impervious liner must be used between excavated surface and evaportranspiration system where 36 inches of suitable soil (as referenced in 30 TAC § 285.91 Table XIII) does not exist between the excavated surface and indications of groundwater.

- (4) A drainfield may not be installed within Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, as it is defined in the Section 15-5-2,[-] unless it follows a Cityapproved nitrogen reduction system.
- (5) If a site is not suitable for a standard absorption system based on the criteria of 30 TAC § 285.91 (Table V) and the additional vertical separation criteria of this ordinance, a City-approved nitrogen reduction system must be installed within the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone.
- (6) A drainfield may not be installed within 75 feet of the control elevation of Lake Austin unless it follows a City-approved nitrogen reduction system.
- (7) All aerobic treatment units must be installed with a pretreatment tank or chamber sized at a capacity of at least one-half the average daily design flow or the minimum volume recommended by the aerobic treatment unit manufacturer, whichever is greater. The pretreatment unit must also be designed in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC § 285.32.
- (8) Chipped tires are not a permitted drainfield medium
- (9) Pump tanks must be large enough to provide at least one day's total average flow between the inlet flow line and the alarm-on level (one day reserve capacity).
- (10) All aerobic treatment units must be buried in the ground with access ports at ground level or above.
- (11) An OSSF for nonresidential sites must be dedicate twice the proposed area required for the proposed OSSF for future drainfield expansion unless the Director determines otherwise upon application by the property owner.
- (12) An OSSF for nonresidential sites must install a flow meter to verify flow rates to the system unless the property owner requests an exemption for the property, and the requested exemption is approved by the director.

- (13) The portion of an irrigation system which irrigates a drainfield area shall be valved in order to be isolated from the remainder of the irrigation system. This is necessary in order to prevent oversaturation of a disposal system.
- (14) When a 10-foot separation between water irrigation lines and OSSF components can be obtained, the irrigation system must be protected by a backflow prevention assembly acceptable to the City to protect the system's water source from contamination. The backflow prevention assembly must be placed at the head of the irrigation system.

PART 8. Subsection (F) of City Code Section 15-5-11 (*Permitting*) is amended to read: § 15-5-11 **PERMITTING.**

- (F) A permit to construct will expire after [twelve] 12 months from the date of original issuance or when a license to operate has been issued, whichever is first. The City will conduct construction inspections as specified in the original permit to construct.
 - (1) The director may grant a one-time 12 month extension to a permit to construct if Austin Water has conducted a minimum of one construction inspection at the permitted site within 12 months after the issuance date of the permit to construct.
 - (2) The extension of a construction permit is valid for 12 months from the date the extension was granted or until a license to operate is issued, whichever is first.
 - (3) The City permit fee will not be collected for resubmittals of expired applications if no changes to the generating structure(s) or the OSSF have been made and the OSSF meets applicable regulations.
 - (4) A state permit fee (as required by Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 367) will be collected for all applications, including resubmittals.
- **PART 9.** Subsection (G) of City Code Section 15-5-11 (*Permitting*) is repealed and the remaining subsections are renumbered accordingly.

PART 10. City Code Section 15-5-15 (*Criminal Penalty*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-15 CRIMINAL PENALTY.

A person who violates this <u>article</u> [ehapter] commits <u>a class C misdemeanor [an offense]</u>, punishable under Section 1-1-99 (*Offenses; General Penalty*) by a fine not to exceed \$500.

PART 11. A new City Code Section 15-5-19 is added to read:

§ 15-5-19 TERMINATION OF LICENSE TO OPERATE OSSF.

The director or designee may revoke a license to operate an OSSF if:

- (1) The OSSF fails;
- (2) The OSSF receives more wastewater than the amount approved;
- (3) The structure served by the OSSF exceeds or violates the terms of the license;
- (4) The property on which the OSSF is located is used for a purpose other than that described in the original application for the permit to construct; or
- (5) The OSSF is being operated in a manner that does not conform to the design or the use approved by the City and non-compliance continues for more than 120 days. If there is an imminent threat to the public's health and safety, the director may require the owner to resolve non-compliance within a shorter period. The director may authorize a one-time extension of 120 days to resolve non-compliance.
- (6) The owner of an OSSF whose license has been terminated may request an administrative hearing pursuant to Section 15-9-193 (*Administrative Hearing*).
- **PART 12**. City Code Section 15-5-21 (*Definitions*) is amended to add the following new definitions, amend a definition, and to renumber the remaining definitions accordingly:

§ 15-5-21 DEFINITIONS.

- (1) DIRECTOR means the director of Austin Water.
- (6) OPERATOR means a person who operates a state-approved waste treatment system, waste reduction system, waste recovery system, state-permitted Type V transfer station or waste disposal site for septic tank waste and hauled liquid waste.

(8) PERMIT means a liquid waste hauler permit issued by the director authorizing collection, transport, or disposal of hauled liquid waste.

PART 13. City Code Section 15-5-22 (*Use of Permitted Liquid Waste Hauler Required*) is amended to read as follows:

§ 15-5-22 USE OF PERMITTED LIQUID WASTE HAULER REQUIRED.

A person who produces hauled liquid waste commits an offense if the person fails to have the waste removed or transported by a liquid waste hauler holding a permit under this [chapter] article for both the hauler's vehicle and the type of waste produced.

PART 14. Subsection C of City Code Section 15-5-23 (*Use of Approved Site for Disposal Required*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-23 USE OF APPROVED SITE FOR DISPOSAL REQUIRED.

- (B) The <u>director</u> [health authority] may require that a liquid waste hauler provide a signed, written statement from an operator:
 - (1) identifying the rule, permit, or other document issued by the regulating state agency that permits an operator's facility to receive a specific hauled liquid waste; and
 - (2) the operator's agreement to receive the liquid waste hauler's hauled liquid waste.

PART 15. City Code Section 15-5-25 (Vehicle Requirements and Inspection) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-25 VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS AND INSPECTION.

- (A) A liquid waste hauler must obtain a permit for each vehicle used to haul liquid waste.
 - (B) A vehicle or other equipment used to transport hauled liquid waste must be:
 - (1) constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent:
 - (a) the loss of hauled liquid waste; or
 - (b) the creation of an unsanitary or unsafe condition;
 - (2) licensed and inspected annually under Title 7 (*Vehicles and Traffic*) of the Texas Transportation Code;

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Chapter 15-5 Code Amendment

PART 17. Subsections (C), (E) and (F) of City Code Section 15-5-32 (*Delivery and Maintenance of Manifests*) are amended to read:

§ 15-5-32 DELIVERY AND MAINTENANCE OF MANIFESTS.

- (C) A generator, liquid waste hauler, and operator shall retain a copy of each manifest in a file available for inspection by the <u>director</u> [health authority] during regular business hours, for not less than three years from the date the ticket was completed.
- (E) A liquid waste hauler shall return the manifest book to the <u>director</u> [health authority] not later than the 30th day after all manifests in the book have been used.
- (F) A liquid waste hauler shall return a manifest book to the <u>director</u> [health authority] not later than the second working day after the liquid waste hauler receives a written request from the director [health authority].
- **PART 18**. Subsection (C) of City Code Section 15-5-33 (*False Information and Transfer Prohibited*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-33 FALSE INFORMATION AND TRANSFER PROHIBITED.

- (C) A liquid waste hauler commits an offense if the liquid waste hauler transfers, causes, or allows the transfer of a manifest or manifest book to a person other than the director [health authority] or an employee of the liquid waste hauler.
- **PART 19**. City Code Section 15-5-34 (*Regulations Authorized*) is amended to read:

§15-5-34 REGULATION AUTHORIZED.

The <u>director</u> [health authority] may adopt regulations <u>necessary for the administration</u> [relating to the manifest requirements] of this <u>article</u> [chapter].

PART 20. City Code Section 15-5-41 (*Permit Required*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-41 PERMIT REQUIRED.

A person shall obtain a liquid waste hauler's permit under this [chapter] article before the person operates a vehicle to transport hauled liquid waste, or causes, allows, or permits a vehicle owned by the person to transport hauled liquid waste.

PART 21. City Code Section 15-5-42 (*Permit Application*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-42 PERMIT APPICATION.

- (A) <u>A person seeking a [An application for a liquid waste hauler's] permit must complete and [shall] file an application for a permit with the director [health authority] and pay an application and permit fee established by separate ordinance.</u>
- (B) An application for a permit under this section must include: name, title, address, and telephone number of the authorized representative of the applicant;
 - (1) description or address of this business location;
 - (2) description of the activity and type of liquid waste transported;
 - (3) proof that each vehicle is covered by insurance as prescribed Section 15-5-45 (*Insurance Required*);
 - (4) confirmation that the applicant or if the applicant is a business entity, a partner or corporate officer in the business entity, has not convicted or a violation directly related to this article;
 - (5) confirmation that each vehicle to be used to transport hauled liquid waste complies with the requirements prescribed in Section 15-5-25 (Vehicle Requirements and Inspection); and
 - (6) a list with the name and valid driver's license number of each vehicle operator.
- [(B) The health authority shall provide an applicant with a copy of this article.]
- (C) A permittee shall send the director an updated list of authorized drivers in writing no later than the 30th day after each change in personnel occurs.
- [(C) An application under this section shall include evidence acceptable to the health authority that:
 - (1) each vehicle is covered by insurance as prescribed by Section 15-5-45 (*Insurance Required*);
 - (2) the applicant or if the applicant is a business entity, a partner or corporate officer in the business entity, has not been convicted of a violation directly related to this chapter; and
 - (3) each vehicle to be used to transport hauled liquid waste complies with the requirements prescribed in Section 15-5-25 (Vehicle Requirements and Inspection).]

- (D) The director may require additional application information as necessary to determine compliance by the applicant.
- [(D) A permittee shall file with the health authority a list of the name and Texas driver's license number of each vehicle operator. A permittee shall send the health authority an updated list of authorized drivers in writing no late than the 30th day after a change in personnel occurs.]
- (E) The application must be signed by the individual applicant or by the applicant's authorized representative.
- (<u>F) [(E)</u>] A permit issued under this <u>article</u> [chapter] is nontransferable.

PART 22. City Code Section 15-5-43 of City Code (*Determination on Application*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-43 DETERMINATION ON APPLICATION.

- (A) The <u>director</u> [health authority] may not grant a permit under this article unless the applicant has complied with the requirements of Section 15-5-42 (*Permit Application*). In making a determination relating to an offense under Subsection 15-5-42 (B) (5) [(C) (2)], the <u>director</u> [health authority] may consider the factors prescribed in Section 53.022 (*Factors in Determining Whether Conviction Relates to Occupation*) of the Texas Occupations Code.
- [(B) The health authority shall make a determination on an application for a permit under this chapter on or before the 30th day after the application was filed.]
- (B) [(C)] If the <u>director</u> [health authority] rejects an application, the <u>director</u> [health authority] shall send the applicant a written explanation of the basis of the rejection by certified or registered mail to the mailing address provided on the application.
- **PART 23**. Subsection (C) of City Code Section 15-5-44 (*Permit Fees Exceptions*) is amended to read:

§ 15-5-44 PERMIT FEES EXCEPTIONS

- (C) The <u>director</u> [health authority] may assess an additional fee for re-inspection of a vehicle.
- **PART 24.** Subsections (A), (B), and (C) of City Code Section 15-5-45 (*Insurance Required*) are amended to read:

§ 15-5-45 INSURANCE REQUIRED.

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- (A) The owner or operator of a permitted vehicle shall file with the <u>director</u> [health authority] a commercial automobile insurance policy insuring against bodily injury and property damage issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in Texas for each permitted vehicle with a minimum:
 - (1) combined single limit \$500,000; or
 - (2) split limit of \$250,000 for each person, \$500,000 for each occurrence, and \$100,000 property damage.
- (B) An insurance policy under this section must include a notice of cancellation clause stating that the policy may not be cancelled or amended before the 30th day after the <u>director</u> [health authority] received notice of cancellation, amendment, or non-renewal.
- (C) The <u>director</u> [health authority] may not issue a permit for a vehicle until the owner or operator has provided proof of insurance under this section.
- **PART 25.** Section 15-5-46 (*Term and Renewal*) of City Code is amended to read:

§ 15-5-46 TERM AND RENEWAL

- (A) A permit issued under this division shall expire <u>two years</u> [one <u>year</u>] from the date of issuance. [and must be renewed annually.]
- (B) A person holding a permit under this article shall apply for a new permit no later than the 30th day before the expiration date of the permit.
- **PART 26.** Subsections (A), (B), and (C) of City Code Section 15-5-47 (*Permit Revocation*) are amended to read:
 - (A) If a permittee fails to comply with this article or applicable state <u>or local</u> requirements, [law] the <u>director</u> [health authority] may revoke a permit issued under this article for a period of one year.
 - (B) The <u>director</u> [health authority] shall provide a liquid waste hauler written notice of a hearing on revocation of the hauler's permit on or before the 10th day before the hearing. A notice under this section shall include the basis of the proposed action. The [health authority] <u>director</u> may promulgate rules for a hearing under this section.
 - (C) Following a hearing, the <u>director</u> [health authority] shall provide the liquid waste hauler with the <u>director's</u> [health authority] decision in writing, including the reasons for a revocation.

1	PART 27.	Section 15-5-48 (Appeal) of	City Code is amended to read:
2 3 4 5	An applicant or permittee whose application is denied or permit is revoked by the <u>director</u> [health authority] under the provisions of this article may appeal director's [health authority's] decision under Section <u>15-10-291</u> (Appeal Procedure) [15-5-7 (Appeal)].		
6	PART 28.	A new City Code Section 15-5	5-48 (<i>Right of Entry</i>) is added to read:
7	§ 15-5-48	RIGHT OF ENTRY.	
8 9 10	(A)		notice the director may enter the premises of a person is in compliance with the requirements sued under this article.
11	(B)	With reasonable advance no	otice to a liquid waste hauler, the director may:
12		(1) Enter a premises to ins	pect or take samples of liquid waste;
13		(2) enter a premises to gain	n access to a source of liquid waste; or
14 15		(3) inspect, sample, monitarticle.	tor equipment, or records, required under this
16 17 18	(C)	A person transporting, or proposing to transport liquid waste shall at the person's sole expense, promptly remove security barriers or other obstacles that inhibit access by the director.	
19	PART 29.	This ordinance takes effect on	
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26			Mayor
27 28 29	APPROVI	ED:	ATTEST:
30 31		Anne L. Morgan City Attorney	Jannette S. Goodall City Clerk