

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-16
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VISALIA
TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTERS 15.04, 15.06, 15.08, 15.20, 15.24,
15.28, 15.36, 15.64, 15.68, 15.72, and 15.76
OF THE VISALIA MUNICIPAL CODE,
BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VISALIA;

Section 1. Consistent with its control over municipal affairs and the powers vested in the City of Visalia through the California Constitution and its Charter, the City of Visalia is authorized to secure and promote the public health, comfort, safety and welfare of its citizenry. The City Council of the City of Visalia finds that the revisions to Chapters 15.04, 15.06, 15.08, 15.20, 15.24, 15.28, 15.36, 15.64, 15.68, 15.72, and 15.76 of the Visalia Municipal Code as set forth below are necessary to promote the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Visalia. The existing Visalia Municipal Code Chapters 15.04, 15.06, 15.08, 15.20, 15.24, 15.28, 15.36, 15.64, 15.68, 15.72, and 15.76 are hereby repealed and replaced as follows below, it is noted that specific findings based on local climatic, topographical or geological conditions, pursuant to Health and Safety Code, sections 17958.7 and 18941.5, that support the adoption of the appendices and amendments described below are included in Section 2 of this Ordinance:

15.04.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Administrative Code.

- A. That certain administrative code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Administrative Code, California Code Regulations Title 24 Part 1, Published by International Code Council, is adopted as the technical Administrative Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
 1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.
 2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.

15.06.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Referenced Standards Code.

- A. That certain referenced code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California

Referenced Standards Code, is adopted as the technical Referenced Standards Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.

1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.

2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.

15.08.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Building Code.

- A. That certain building code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Volumes 1 and 2, and published by The International Code Council, is adopted as the Building Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
 1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.
2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.

- B. Included specifically are 2025 California Building Code Appendices B (Board of Appeals), C (Group U – Agricultural Buildings), F (Rodent proofing), H (Signs), I (Patio Covers), J (Grading), P (Sleeping Lofts) and Q (Emergency Housing).
- C. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Building Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of Building Safety Division of the city,

which are now filed for full particulars of said Building Code.

15.20.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Plumbing Code.

- A. That certain plumbing code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5 as Published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials prepared and published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, based on the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code adopted as the plumbing code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
 - 1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.
 - 2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.
- B. Included specifically are 2025 California Plumbing Code Appendix A (Recommended Rules for Sizing the Water Supply System), B (Explanatory Notes on Combination Waste & Vent Systems), D (Sizing Storm Water Drainage Systems), H (Private Sewage Disposal Systems), I (Installation Standards), and J (Combination of Indoor and Outdoor Combustion and Ventilation Opening Design)
- C. Section 808.0 of said California Code is amended to read as follows:

Section 808.0, Cooling Water. Discharge of cooling water into the sanitary sewer system is prohibited. Refer to Section 13.08.500 of City of Visalia Municipal Code (Prohibition on Unpolluted Water).
- D. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Plumbing Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said Plumbing Code.

15.24.10 Adoption of 2025 California Mechanical Code.

- A. That certain mechanical code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Mechanical Code, Title 24, part 4 as Published by the International Association of Plumbing

and Mechanical Officials, based on the 2024 Uniform Mechanical, adopted as the mechanical code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, including the appendices, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.

1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.
2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.

B. Included specifically are 2025 California Mechanical Code Appendix B (Procedures to be followed to Place Gas Equipment into operation) and C (Installation and testing of oil (liquid) fuel-fired equipment).

C. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Mechanical Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said Mechanical Code.

15.28.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Electrical Code.

A. That certain electrical code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3, Published by BNI Productions, Inc. based on the 2023 National electrical code, copyright 2022 National Fire Production Association, is adopted as the Electric Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase, or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.

1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.

2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.
- B. Included specifically are 2025 California Electrical Code Annexes A, B and C.
- C. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Electrical Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said electrical code.

15.36.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Historical Building Code.

- A. That certain building conservation code, in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Historical Building Code, California code and Regulations Title 24, part 8 as prepared and published by the International Code Council, is adopted as the Historical Building Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, subparagraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
- B. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Historical Building Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said 2025 California Historical Building Code.

15.64.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Residential Code

- A. That certain residential buildings code in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Residential Code, as prepared and published by the International Code Council is adopted as the Residential Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
 1. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the code adopted or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall build in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken or who shall fail to comply with such order as affirmed or modified by the city attorney based on a recommendation of the building official or by a court of competent jurisdiction, within the time fixed herein, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively be guilty of a misdemeanor, or infraction as determined by the city attorney.
 2. Such violation shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 1.12.010.
- B. Included specifically are the 2025 California Residential Code Appendix BF (Patio Covers), BB (Tiny Houses), BJ (Strawbale Construction), CK (Areas Protected by the Facilities of the

Central Valley Flood Protection Plan), and CJ (Emergency Housing).

- C. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Residential Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said 2025 California Residential Code.

15.68.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Green Building Standards Code.

- A. That certain green standards building code in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Green Building Standards Code, as prepared and published by the International Code Council is adopted as the Green Building Standards Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
- B. Included specifically are the 2025 California Green Building Standards Code Appendix A4 (Residential Voluntary Measures), and A5 (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures) including Tiers 1 & 2 which will remain voluntary measures.
- C. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Green Building Standards Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said 2025 California Green Building Standards Code.

15.72.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Energy Code

- A. That certain energy standards code in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Energy Code, as prepared and published by the International Code Council is adopted as the Energy Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.
- B. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Energy Code one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said 2025 California Energy Code.

15.76.10 Adoption of the 2025 California Existing Buildings Code

- A. That certain existing buildings code in book form known and designated as the 2025 California Existing Buildings Code, as prepared and published by the International Code Council is adopted as the Existing Buildings Code of the city, to all intents and purposes and to the same effect as if each and every section, paragraph, word, phrase or clause contained therein were fully set forth herein, except for those deletions, modifications, and amendments set forth below. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is for any reason,

held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the chapter.

B. Reference is made to three copies of the 2025 California Existing Buildings Code, one copy filed in the office of the city clerk and two copies filed in the office of building safety division of the city, which are now so filed for full particulars of said 2025 California Existing Buildings Code.

Section 2. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code, sections 17958.7 and 18941.5 because of local climatic, topographical or geological conditions the City of Visalia hereby finds that the following appendices and code section amendments are necessary. It is noted that these appendices and code section amendments are referenced above, but are also listed below to clarify that they have been found to be necessary and that they have been added by the City of Visalia:

A. The following appendices and code sections are adopted by reference as necessary due to the local climatic, topographical, or geologic conditions, which are described in further detail in this Section 2:

- 2025 California Building Code Appendices B (Board of Appeals), C (Group U – Agricultural Buildings), F (Rodent proofing), H (Signs), I (Patio Covers), J (Grading), P (Sleeping Lofts) and Q (Emergency Housing).
- 2025 California Plumbing Code Appendix A (Recommended Rules for Sizing the Water Supply System), B (Explanatory Notes on Combination Waste & Vent Systems), D (Sizing Storm Water Drainage Systems), H (Private Sewage Disposal Systems), I (Installation Standards), and J (Combination of Indoor and Outdoor Combustion and Ventilation Opening Design)
- Section 808.0 of the 2025 California Plumbing Code was amended to prevent the discharge of cooling water into the sanitary sewer system. Refer to Section 13.08.500 of City of Visalia Municipal Code (Prohibition on Unpolluted Water).
- 2025 California Mechanical Code Appendix B (Procedures to be followed to Place Gas Equipment into operation) and C (Installation and testing of oil (liquid) fuel-fired equipment).
- 2025 California Residential Code Appendix BF (Patio Covers), BB (Tiny Houses), BJ (Strawbale Construction), CK (Areas Protected by the Facilities of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan), and CJ (Emergency Housing).

B. The City of Visalia has found the following concerning local climatic conditions, specifically extreme temperatures, support the adoption of the listed appendices and code amendments:

- As documented in the Visalia General Plan Visalia is characterized as having an “inland Mediterranean” climate. High temperatures are also contributors to ozone formation, and summer high temperatures often exceed 100°F with an all-time high of 115°F averaging 275 sunny days per year. Climate models predict a 4°F temperature increase in the next 20 to 40 years, with an increase in the number of long dry spells (Visalia: 2010). Data shows that during the months of July and August, Visalia's daily

high temperature has averaged in excess of 94°F as compared to San Francisco with an average of 67°F and San Diego having an average of 74°F. Though Health & Safety Code § 17958.7 does not require the local conditions to be unique to a particular jurisdiction, the temperatures experienced in Visalia are extreme as compared to temperatures experienced in other parts of California.

- The City notes that these temperatures cause frequent use of cooling water during these times of high heat and in order to avoid disruptions with the City's sanitary sewer system that could be caused by cooling water discharges over the long period of high heat in Visalia the City has amended Section 808.0 to prevent the discharge of cooling water into the sanitary sewer system.
- The local climatic condition, high summer temperatures, results in patio covers being common in the City of Visalia to provide shade around homes. The City has determined to adopt 2025 California Building Code Appendix I and 2025 California Residential Code Appendix BF (Patio Covers) to regulate these types of improvements.
- The Heat Stress Index published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in its publication entitled Emergency Incident Rehabilitation sets forth the stress placed on the human body when exposed to various temperatures and humidity. A note under the Heat Stress Chart states that 10 degrees should be added to the temperature when protective clothing is worn and an additional 10 degrees should be added when the person is standing in direct sunlight. According to this chart, a person exposed to temperatures between 90 and 105 degrees is subject to heat cramps and heat exhaustion if exposure to these temperatures is prolonged and there is physical activity. A person exposed to temperatures of 105 to 130 degrees is likely to experience heat cramps and heat exhaustion. Furthermore, heat stroke is possible if exposure is prolonged and there is physical activity. A person exposed to temperatures above 130 degrees or greater faces a high risk of suffering from heat stroke.
- The high levels of potential heat stress that can occur during the summer periods in Visalia raised concerns by the City for emergency responders, which supports the City's adoption of the 2025 California Mechanical Code Appendix B and Appendix C concerning the installation of equipment that could lead to serious emergency incidents if installed incorrectly, and 2025 California Residential Code, Appendix BJ, concerning straw bale construction.

C. As documented below the City of Visalia makes the following findings concerning local geological conditions, specifically water supply and water pressure, that support the adoption of the listed appendices:

- The Visalia area is an arid area that receives an average of 11 inches of precipitation per year occurring primarily in the winter months. Furthermore, Visalia relies completely on groundwater for its water supply and the groundwater basin it is located within and has been found to be in overdraft by the State of California.
- Due to the hot, dry summers in the Visalia area, domestic water demand can substantially reduce the ability of the public water system to dependably provide

service, which supports the adoption of the referenced appendices to the 2025 California Mechanical Code needed to prevent serious emergency incidents.

- The adoption of 2025 California Plumbing Code Appendix A, Appendix B, Appendix I and Appendix J are necessary to prevent the loss of scarce water resources in the City of Visalia that could be caused by incorrect water supply facility installations.

D. In addition, the City of Visalia makes the following findings concerning local climatic/topographical conditions, specifically air quality caused by the topography of the San Joaquin Valley air basin, number of sunny days, and inversions that form during winter months, that support the adoption of the listed appendices:

- As a result of the San Joaquin Valley's climate and topography, the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAP) is predisposed to poor air quality. High mountain ranges surrounding the Valley frequently create air layer inversions that prevent mixing of air masses. The large number of sunny days per year, and high temperatures in the summer favors the formation of ozone. In the winter, inversions form that often trap particulate matter
- The Federal Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board have classified the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin as severe non-attainment for ozone and serious non-attainment (federal) non-attainment (state) for PM10. Ozone is formed by a complex series of chemical reactions between reactive organic gases (ROG), oxides of nitrogen and sunlight. PM10 is suspended particulate matter that is less than 10 microns in size. Given its small size, PM10 can remain airborne for long periods and can be inhaled, pass through the respiratory system, and lodge in the lungs. In general, nonattainment means that the federal standard has been exceeded more than twice per year.
- Due to the local topographic conditions that impact air quality the City of Visalia is concerned over activities that can cause additional particulate matter through dust or fire and has determined it is appropriate to adopt 2025 California Building Code Appendix J, Grading, and 2025 California Residential Code Appendix BJ concerning Strawbale Construction.

E. City makes the following findings concerning local topographical conditions, specifically the City of Visalia's development pattern, that supports the adoption of the listed appendices:

- There is a relatively low-density growth pattern in the Visalia area, Visalia is in an area with a high level of agriculture that contributes heavily to the local economy and the agricultural uses surround the community. As Visalia has expanded it sometimes annexes areas that were remain used for agriculture. This local topographic condition has resulted in areas consisting of former rural developments being incorporated into the City with areas of mixed rural and urban usage along with rural uses being immediately adjacent to urban uses.
- This local topographical condition supports the City's adoption of 2025 California Building Code Appendix C Group U – (Agricultural Buildings) and Appendix F (Rodent Proofing).

- The City's local topographical condition, its development pattern has led to numerous areas of residential housing being built on large lots, that are now available for use as secondary rental units or multigenerational homes on the same lots by building a small accessory dwelling unit, due to this local topographic condition, the City finds that the adoption of 2025 California Residential Code Appendix BB (Tiny Houses) and 2025 California Building Code Appendix P (Sleeping Lofts) are needed to oversee potential construction of this type of housing.
- The City also finds that this local topographic condition, existing rural development that has been incorporated into the City of Visalia, has led to numerous private sewer systems within the city limits. The City of Visalia has a public sewer system and has recently spent over one hundred million dollars updating its wastewater treatment plant, but still needs to deal with older homes and private sewage disposal systems. Therefore, the City has determined that it is appropriate for it to adopt 2025 California Plumbing Code Appendix H (Private Sewage Disposal Systems).

F. The City of Visalia makes the following findings concerning the local topographic, geographical, and climatic conditions of potential flooding within Visalia:

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides maps that estimate flood hazards throughout the United States and areas within the City of Visalia have been found to be considered by FEMA to be high risk for flooding.
- It is noted that the City of Visalia is located near the large alluvial fan formed by the Kaweah River and its distributary channels, historically the City of Visalia has flooded several times since it was founded in 1852, although the construction of the Terminus Dam on the Kaweah River in 1962 has drastically reduced the risk of flooding, flooding is still a possibility within the City of Visalia.
- Due to the possibility of flooding within the City of Visalia due to the local topographic, geographical, and climatic conditions, the City has adopted 2025 California Building Code Appendix Q (Emergency Housing), 2025 California Plumbing Code Appendix D (Sizing of Storm Water Drainage Systems), 2022 California Residential Code Appendix CK (Areas Protected by the Facilities of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan) and CJ (Emergency Housing) is necessary and appropriate.
- It is noted that the potential for flooding is magnified by the flat topography of Visalia, when constructing buildings in the areas in order to avoid being designed within an elevation subject to flooding grading measures are employed to alter the base elevation. Due to this local condition that leads to grading during building construction the City of Visalia has determined that 2025 California Building Code Appendix J (Grading), should be adopted.

G. The City of Visalia makes the following findings concerning the local topographic, geographical, and climatic conditions of potential wildfire near Visalia that support the adoption of the listed appendices:

- The City of Visalia is located near the Sierra Nevada mountains, and due to the previously described dry and hot summers the hills and mountains can be susceptible to wildfires, during such fires, residents of these areas seeking shelter often travel to Visalia, which is the largest city in Tulare County, the City of Visalia has also been

utilized as a staging area for firefighting operations, which can require the emergency housing of firefighters.

- Due to these local topographic, geographical, and climatic conditions, nearby wildfires, the City of Visalia has adopted 2025 California Building Code Appendix Q (Emergency Housing) and Appendix P (Sleeping Lofts) and 2025 California Residential Code Appendix CJ (Emergency Housing) and notes that during these events, alternative forms of housing, such as tiny homes could supply housing, further supporting the City's decision to adopt 2025 California Residential Code Appendix BB (Tiny Homes).

Section 3. That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Council of the City of Visalia hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

Section 4. That nothing in this ordinance hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed by this ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

Section 5. That this ordinance and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders and matters established and adopted hereby shall take effect and be in full force and effect 30 days after final passage and adoptions but not earlier than January 1, 2026.

Section 6. That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published or posted according to law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED:

BRETT TAYLOR, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LESLIE CAVIGLIA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED BY CITY ATTORNEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF TULARE) ss.
CITY OF VISALIA)

I, Leslie Caviglia, City Clerk of the City of Visalia, certify the foregoing is the full and true Ordinance 2025-16 passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Visalia at a regular meeting held on January 20, 2026 and certify a summary of this ordinance will be published in the Visalia Times Delta.

Dated:

LESLIE CAVIGLIA, CITY CLERK

By Reyna Rivera, Chief Deputy City Clerk