

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-08

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VISALIA
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LONG-TERM
AGRICULTURAL GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT FOR
APPROXIMATELY 408 ACRES OF CITY-OWNED OPEN GROUND
(APNs 118-020-036, 118-020-037, AND 119-010-021)**

WHEREAS, the City of Visalia owns approximately 408 acres of open-ground agricultural land located near State Highway 99 and State Highway 198, identified as APNs 118-020-036, 118-020-037, and 119-010-021; and

WHEREAS, the City issued Request for Proposals No. 25-26-15 seeking qualified agricultural operators to lease, farm, and conduct SGMA-aligned recharge operations on said property; and

WHEREAS, Correia Custom Farming Inc. submitted a responsive and qualified proposal based on its agricultural experience, prior operation of the property, and demonstrated ability to coordinate with the Tulare Irrigation District and Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency; and

WHEREAS, the negotiated Long-Term Agricultural Ground Lease Agreement includes a five-year initial term with five one-year renewal options, annual rent of \$25 per acre, SGMA-compliant recharge operations, prohibition on groundwater pumping, and full lessee responsibility for maintenance and improvements; and

WHEREAS, Visalia Municipal Code Section 16 requires that *“no lease shall be made for a period longer than five years except by ordinance adopted by the Council.”*; and

WHEREAS, the proposed lease exceeds five years and therefore must be approved by ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VISALIA:

Section 1. Authorization.

The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the City of Visalia, the Long-Term Agricultural Ground Lease Agreement with Correia Custom Farming Inc. for the lease and agricultural management of APNs 118-020-036, 118-020-037, and 119-010-021, substantially in the form attached as Attachment 3.

Section 2. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days following its adoption.

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 2026-02 passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Visalia at a regular meeting held on _____, 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