

ORDINANCE NO. __-____
CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE TO ADDRESS SOUP KITCHENS AND FOOD PANTRIES; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, soup kitchens and food pantries are use types that are currently not specifically addressed by the City’s Unified Development Ordinance;

WHEREAS, the City of Pascagoula desires to amend its Unified Development Ordinance to address soup kitchens and food pantries; and

WHEREAS, given the City of Pascagoula’s lack of regulations addressing the development of soup kitchens and food pantries, the amendments set forth herein will improve compatibility among uses and will ensure efficient development within the City, will result in a logical and orderly development pattern, and are necessitated by a demonstrated community need to achieve the objectives and policies stated herein; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2023, the City of Pascagoula Planning Board conducted a public hearing on the amendments contained herein and voted to recommend their approval by the City of Pascagoula City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby adopts the foregoing recitals as its findings.

SECTION 2. Section 10.2. Terms and Uses Defined is hereby amended to include the following definitions:

1. “Food pantry” means a charitable establishment that distributes unprepared food to the public.

2. “Soup kitchen” means a charitable establishment that distributes or otherwise serves prepared food to the public.

SECTION 3. Section 4.3.C.5. Other Institutional Uses is hereby amended to include “Food Pantry”, which shall become Section 4.3.C.5.d. and state as follows:

Food Pantry

Food pantries shall comply with the following standards:

- i. The use shall not provide for outdoor seating areas, queues, or customer waiting areas. All activities shall be conducted within the structure and adequate indoor waiting areas shall be provided for all patrons.
- ii. The use shall be located at least 250 feet from any residential district or existing residential use.
- iii. A food pantry may be an accessory use to a place of worship, in which case the 250-foot set-back requirement established above shall not apply.

SECTION 4. Section 4.3.C.5. Other Institutional Uses is hereby amended to include “Soup Kitchen”, which shall become Section 4.3.C.5.e. and state as follows:

Soup Kitchen

Soup kitchens shall comply with the following standards:

- i. The use shall not provide for outdoor seating areas, queues, or customer waiting areas. All activities shall be conducted within the structure and adequate indoor waiting areas shall be provided for all patrons.
- ii. The use shall be located at least 250 feet from any residential district or existing residential use.

SECTION 5. Table 4.2.B.2: Principal Use Table is amended to include food pantries and

soup kitchens as follows:

Use Category	Use Type	Commercial						Industrial			Use-Specific Standards
		NC	CC	RC	DT	GC	WMU	LI	HI	P	
Other Institutional Uses	Food pantry			S				P	P		4.3.C.5.d.
	Soup kitchen			S				P	P		4.3.C.5.e.

SECTION 6. Table 4.4.B: Accessory Use/Structure Table is amended to include food pantries as follows:

Use type	Residential				Commercial						Industrial			Specific Standards
	SFR10	SFR8	SFR6	MR3	NC	CC	RC	DT	GC	WMU	LI	HI	P	
Food pantry	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		4.4.F.5.

SECTION 7. “Food Pantry” is inserted with the Standards for Specific Accessory Uses and Structures at Section 4.4.F.5., with all following Specific Accessory Uses and Structures in Section 4.4.F. and Table 4.4.B. renumbered accordingly. Section 4.4.F.5. Food Pantry shall read as follows:

Food Pantry

A food pantry (See definitions in Section 10.2, Terms and Uses Defined.) shall be permitted as an accessory to any place of worship, provided it complies with the following standards:

- i. The food pantry is located within the place of worship or an associated accessory structure (but not an accessory dwelling unit), and involves an area that does not exceed 15 percent of the heated floor area of the principal structure, or 400 square feet, whichever is less.
- ii. There is sufficient off-street parking for patrons of the food pantry, with the

number of off-street parking spaces required for the food pantry provided and maintained in addition to the space or spaces required for the place of worship itself.

- iii. The food pantry does not involve significantly greater volumes or frequencies of deliveries or shipments, vehicular traffic, or pedestrian traffic than normally expected in a residential area.
- iv. All activities associated with the food pantry shall be conducted indoors.

SECTION 8. Table 6.2.D.1.: Minimum Number of Off-Street Parking Spaces is amended as follows:

Use Category	Use Type	Minimum Number of Parking Spaces
Other Institutional Uses	Food pantry	1 per 150 sf
	Soup kitchen	

SECTION 9. Any Table of Contents, Index, Table information, and other page or section numbering impacted by the amendments herein shall be updated and renumbered as necessary.

SECTION 10. The amendments to this Ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

The above Ordinance was introduced in writing by Mayor Willis, seconded for adoption by Councilman _____, and received the following vote: Mayor Willis voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, and Councilman ___ voted “___”.

Passed this the __ day of _____ 2023.

APPROVED:

/s/
Jay Willis, Mayor

/s/

Karen Kennedy, City Clerk