

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-O-618

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESTOWN, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 8.09.002 ENTITLED "GENERAL PROHIBITIONS; ESTABLISHED RESTRICTED AREAS; AND DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS" TO AMEND REGULATIONS RELATED TO THE CONNECTING OF BOATS TOGETHER ON PORTIONS OF LAKE TRAVIS IN ORDER TO INCREASE SAFETY; PROVIDING FOR PENALTY, CONFLICTS, SEVERANCE, EFFECTIVE DATE AND PROPER MEETING

WHEREAS, the City of Jonestown is adjacent to and includes portions of Lake Travis within its corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, Section 8.09.002 of the City of Jonestown Code of Ordinances, titled "General prohibitions; established restricted areas; and distance requirements," contains regulations and restrictions regarding the manner in which boats may be operated within the corporate limits of Jonestown; and

WHEREAS, previously, the City of Jonestown passed an ordinance prohibiting any boats from connecting to other boats on navigable waterways on Lake Travis within the territorial limits of Jonestown; and

WHEREAS, said prohibition had an unintended consequence of decreasing safety on the waterways since many boats were spread out as a result of the prohibition thereby creating too many obstacles for police and rescue boats to navigate around in a quick and effective manner when responding to calls for service; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. 31.092, Texas Parks & Wildlife Code, the governing body of an incorporated city or town, with respect to public water within its corporate limits and all lakes owned by it, may designate by ordinance certain areas as restricted areas and may make rules and regulations relating to the operation and equipment of boats which it deems necessary for the public safety. The rules and regulations shall be consistent with the provisions of this chapter; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council of Jonestown to provide regulations that protect the health, safety, welfare, and property of persons who utilize and enjoy those portions of Lake Travis located within the City;

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

Section 1. Adoption of Findings of Fact. The foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted by the City Council and made a part hereof for all purposes as findings of fact.

Section 2. Amendment of Section 8.09.002. Section 8.09.002 of Chapter 8 of the City of Jonestown Code of Ordinances is hereby amended so that it shall hereafter read in its entirety as follows:

Sec. 8.09.002 General prohibitions; established restricted areas; and distance requirements

The following prohibitions, restricted areas, and distance requirements are established:

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to anchor or secure a boat to another boat, or cause the anchoring, or securing of a boat to another boat within one hundred (100) feet of any boat dock located within the corporate limits of the city.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to tie off, stake, or otherwise secure a boat, or cause the tying off, staking, or securing of a boat upon or to any shoreline within the corporate limits of the city without the consent of the owner of the property forming the shoreline.
- (3) Consistent with state law, it shall be unlawful for any boat or groups of boats to block navigable waterways.
- (4) No person shall operate a wakeboard boat, wake surfing boat, or otherwise employ a wake-enhancing device to create large wakes on waters within the corporate limits of the city where the city has posted that such operation is prohibited.

Section 3. Penalty. A violation of any section of this ordinance shall be punishable as a misdemeanor under the provisions stated in Chapter 1, Article 1.01, Section 1.01.009 of the Code of Ordinances.

Section 4. Amendment of Conflicting Ordinances. Any existing ordinance of the City of Jonestown that is in conflict with this Ordinance is hereby amended to the extent necessary to eliminate such conflict.

Section 5. Severability. In the event any part of this Ordinance is found to be ineffective as unconstitutional, or unenforceable, the remaining parts shall remain in full force and effect as if the ineffective part no longer existed as part of the Ordinance.


Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after its passage on the date shown below.

Section 7. Open Meetings. That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance is passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapt. 551, Loc. Gov't. Code.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12TH day of MAY, 2022.

CITY OF JONESTOWN





Paul Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Belinda Gaytan, TRMC, City Secretary