

ORDINANCE NO. XXX N.S.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES  
AMENDING TITLE 21 (ZONING) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE  
TO ALLOW SECOND UNITS TO HAVE THEIR OWN UTILITY METERS  
(CODE AMENDMENT 05-003)

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WHEREAS, Subsection (d) of Section 21.16D.040 presently provides that only one electric, one gas, and one water meter shall be allowed on the (single family residential zoned) property on which a second unit is built and that the single meters shall serve both the primary and secondary units; and

WHEREAS, the City has been informed by representatives of the electric and gas utilities that their rate structures are established to encourage conservation and penalize use above historically-determined baselines, which in turn makes the utilities used by second units subject to higher rates; and

WHEREAS, the original intent of the provisions of Subsection (d) of Section 21.16D.040 was to discourage subdivisions which did not conform with zoning and subdivision codes; and

WHEREAS, the provisions contained within Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 21.16D.040 provide sufficient safeguards against nonconforming subdivision of single family lots with second units; and

WHEREAS, Action Items #1 and 2 implementing Housing Element Policy H-3A call for the City to review the City policies, regulations, and development standards to identify and remove any constraints to affordable housing, especially provisions which unnecessarily increase the cost of housing; and

WHEREAS, the State's definition of affordable housing costs for rental housing (Health and Safety Code Section 50053) states that such affordable housing costs shall include a reasonable allowance for utilities; and

WHEREAS, second units are by definition rental units, and the maintenance of reasonable utility costs are an essential component of the City's efforts to provide affordable housing to low and moderate income households; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of October 11, 2005, the Planning Commission took the following actions regarding this ordinance:

- a. Considered the facts and analysis, as presented in the staff report prepared for this ordinance;
- b. Conducted a public hearing to obtain public testimony on the proposed ordinance;
- c. Recommended that the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of October 18, 2005, the City Council took the following actions regarding this ordinance:

- a. Considered the facts and analysis, as presented in the staff report prepared for this ordinance;
- b. Considered the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding this ordinance;
- c. Conducted a public hearing to obtain public testimony on the proposed ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN that the Paso Robles City Council, based upon the substantial evidence presented at the above referenced public hearing, including oral and written staff reports, hereby finds as follows:

1. The above stated facts of this ordinance are true and correct.
2. This ordinance is consistent with the City's General Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Section 21.16D.040 of the El Paso de Robles Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**21.16D.040 General Requirements**

- (a) No Subdivision of Property. No subdivision of property shall be allowed where a second unit has been established unless the subdivision meets all requirements of the city's zoning and subdivision regulations (Titles 21 and 22 of this code). Nothing in this section shall prohibit joint ownership of the property where a secondary dwelling unit has been established.
- (b) Constructive Notice. The property owner shall record an instrument, on a form approved by the City Attorney, to provide constructive notice to all future owners of the property of the second unit use and the restrictions on subdivision that affect the property. Said instrument shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder prior to issuance of a building permit for a second unit. Said instrument shall run with the land and be coterminous in tenure with the life of the second dwelling unit.
- (c) Water and Sewer Service. Second units shall be served by city water and sanitary sewer systems.
- (d) Garage Conversions. Garages may be converted to second units provided that:
  1. Replacement covered off-street parking which conforms to Chapter 21.22 and to the underlying zoning district regulations (e.g. setbacks) is provided for the primary dwelling;
  2. Off-street parking for the second unit is provided in accordance with this chapter; and
  3. Converted garages meet all building code requirements for a dwelling unit.
- (e) Guest House. A second unit may not be developed on a lot containing a guest house (separate living quarters without kitchen facilities). However, a guest house may be converted to a second unit, provided that it complies with the regulations set forth in this chapter and with the regulations for the underlying zoning district.
- (f) Recreational Vehicles, Campers, and Travel Trailers. Recreational vehicles, campers, and travel trailers may not be used as second units.

- (g) Non-Conforming Use. Only one second unit shall be permitted on a lot. If a lot contains two single-family dwelling units that were legally-established as a non-conforming use, as defined by Section 21.08.310, and were established prior to the effective date of the ordinance creating this chapter, a third dwelling unit, to be considered a second unit, shall not be permitted.
- (h) Non-Conforming Primary Dwelling. If the primary dwelling is a non-conforming building as defined by Section 21.08.300, an attached second unit may be developed subject to compliance with Section 21.20.350.
- (i) Illegal Second Unit. The establishment or continuance of a second unit contrary to the provisions of this chapter is declared to be unlawful and shall constitute a misdemeanor and a public nuisance.

SECTION 2: Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published once within fifteen (15) days after its passage in a newspaper of general circulation, printed, published and circulated in the City in accordance with section 36933 of the Government Code.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of the Ordinance is, for any reason, found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance by section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases are declared unconstitutional.

SECTION 4. Inconsistency. To the extent that the terms of provisions of this Ordinance may be inconsistent or in conflict with the terms or conditions of any prior City ordinance(s), motion, resolution, rule, or regulation governing the same subject matter thereof and such inconsistent and conflicting provisions of prior ordinances, motions, resolutions, rules, and regulations are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the 31st day after its passage.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council held on October 18, 2005, and passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2005 by the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

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Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sharilyn M. Ryan, Deputy City Clerk