

ORDINANCE NO. 275

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CANYON LAKE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 11.25 (SPECIAL EVENTS) OF THE CANYON LAKE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CLARIFY SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS

WHEREAS, Chapter 11.25 of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code establishes regulations governing special events within the City, including permitting requirements intended to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the existing definition of “special events,” which currently applies to activities attracting 50 or more persons, and finds that increasing this threshold to 100 or more persons better reflects the level of activity warranting municipal oversight; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that certain activities should be exempt from the Special Event Permit requirements, including funeral processions, governmental activities conducted within the scope of official duties, and private residential gatherings that are incidental and accessory to residential use and not conducted for commercial purposes, because such activities generally do not constitute organized public events requiring City event permitting and are more appropriately regulated through other provisions of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code, including zoning, noise, parking, and public safety regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that clarification is needed to ensure that the issuance of a special event permit does not supersede or exempt any person from compliance with other applicable provisions of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code, including but not limited to zoning, noise, public safety, and business licensing requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend Chapter 11.25 of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code to promote clarity, consistency, and effective enforcement.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CANYON LAKE, CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Incorporation.** The above recitals are all true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. **CEQA.** The adoption of this Ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act because the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

Section 3. **Municipal Code Amendment.**

3.1 Section 11.25.010 of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code shall be amended to read as follows:

11.25.010 Special Events Permit.

The purpose of this Chapter is to provide for the regulation of special events on public and certain private property to ensure the health and safety of the public, the protection of property, and the efficient transition of traffic, while protecting the constitutional rights of all persons to free speech and assembly.

(a) No person shall conduct, manage, or sponsor a Special Event, as defined herein, without first obtaining a Special Event Permit from the City Manager or their designee. This requirement applies to events held on public property (including streets, parks, and sidewalks) and events on private property, including Canyon Lake Property Owners Association property, that meet the criteria in subsection (b).

(b) As used in this Chapter, “Special Event” means any assembly, congregation, attraction, display, parade, race, entertainment, demonstration, carnival, bazaar, circus, rodeo, or other traveling show, fair, “party house,” festival, food faire, cookoff, dance, concert, party, or performance, block party or any other planned occurrence which is reasonably expected to involve 100 or more persons (including participants and spectators).

(c) This permit requirement shall not apply to:

- (i) Funeral processions;
- (ii) Activities conducted by a governmental agency within the scope of its official functions;
- (iii) Gatherings conducted on residential property that are incidental and accessory to the primary residential use of the property, provided that: (A) the gathering is private in nature and not open or advertised to the general public; (B) the gathering is not conducted for commercial purposes, including but not limited to charging admission, fees, whether directly or indirectly, or being promoted, marketed, or made available through any website, platform, or other medium for the purpose of hosting events in exchange for compensation; (C) the residential property is not rented, leased, licensed, or otherwise used as an event venue; and (D) the gathering otherwise complies with all applicable provisions of this Code, including but not limited to zoning, noise, parking, and public safety requirements.

(d) This permit requirement shall not supersede any other temporary outdoor event permit, business license, or other permit required by City Code. The City shall coordinate the processing of multiple permits to the extent feasible.

3.2 Section 11.25.090 of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code shall be amended to read as follows:

11.25.090 Compliance with Other Laws; Conflicts.

The issuance of a special event permit pursuant to this Chapter shall not supersede, replace, or eliminate the requirement to obtain or comply with any other applicable permit, license, or approval or requirement imposed by this Code or other applicable laws. All such permits, licenses, and approvals shall be obtained and complied with independently, and, to the extent possible, coordinated by the City. Where any provision of this Chapter imposes a standard or requirement that differs from any other applicable permit, license, or approval or requirement imposed by this Code or other applicable laws, the provision which is more specific to the nature of the Special Event shall control. In all other instances, the provision that imposes the more restrictive standard for the protection of public health and safety shall govern.

Section 4. **Clerical Errors.** The City Council directs the City Clerk to correct any clerical errors found in this Ordinance, including, but not limited to, typographical errors, irregular numbering, and incorrect section references.

Section 5. **Severability.** Should any section, subsection, clause, or provision of this Ordinance for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this Ordinance; it being hereby expressly declared that this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase hereof would have been prepared, proposed, approved, and ratified irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid, unenforceable, or unconstitutional.

Section 6. **Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from passage and adoption.

Section 7. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause the Ordinance or a summary thereof to be published in accordance with state law.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 13th day of May 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Jeremy Smith, Mayor

ATTEST & CERTIFIED:

I, Sheryl Garcia, City Clerk of the City of Canyon Lake, hereby attest to the Mayor's signature above and certify that the City Council duly adopted this Ordinance as recorded in the vote tally stated herein.

Sheryl L. Garcia, MMC, CPM
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven Graham Pacifico, City Attorney