

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TEXT OF SEC. 106-1 (DEFINITIONS), SEC. 218-1 (TABLE OF PERMITTED USES), AND SEC. 218-13 (STANDARDS OF USE AND DEVELOPMENT) OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA, AS AMENDED, ADDING VAPE STORES TO THE DEFINITIONS SECTION, ADDING VAPE STORES TO THE TABLE OF PERMITTED USES, AND ADDING SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS RELATED THERETO; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Title 2, the Unified Development Ordinance of Rockdale County (Subpart B – Planning and Development of The Code of Rockdale County, Georgia), as amended, governs land use and zoning; and

WHEREAS, Section 106-1 of the Unified Development Ordinance provides definitions of uses, and Vape Stores are not currently defined in the section; and

WHEREAS, A Vape Store shall be defined as any business whose principal product line for retail sale is alternative nicotine products, vape juice, or vape products. For the purposes of this chapter, “principal” shall mean that alternative nicotine products, vape juice, or vape products constitute at least 25 percent of the business’s aggregate retail sales; and

WHEREAS, Vape Stores will be subject to supplemental regulations to be found in Sec. 218-13 (mmm1); and

WHEREAS, the County has experienced a proliferation of Vape Stores, and the intent is to;

(a) In all zoning districts of the County, vape stores are considered objectionable and are prohibited.

(b) Any existing vape stores shall be declared to be legal nonconforming and shall be regulated as set forth in Section.

WHEREAS, public hearings were held following public notice and all other requirements of Sec. 238-4 of the Unified Development Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Rockdale County, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of same as follows:

Section I

That Section 106-1 entitled “Definitions” is hereby amended by enacting the following:

Vape Stores: A Vape Store shall be defined as any business whose principal product line for retail sale is alternative nicotine products, vape juice, or vape products. For the purposes of this chapter, “principal” shall mean that alternative nicotine products, vape juice, or vape products constitute at least 25 percent of the business’s aggregate retail sales.

Section II

That Section 218-13 Standards of Use and Development Article III Supplemental Use Standards (Subpart B Planning and Development) of the Code of Rockdale County, Georgia, as amended, is hereby amended to add Paragraph (zz3) "*Vape Stores*", which new paragraph shall read as follows:

- (a) In all zoning districts of the County, vape stores are considered objectionable and are prohibited.
- (b) Any vaping shop shall be declared to be legal nonconforming and shall be regulated as set forth in Section.

Section III

That all ordinances or resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section IV

Should any court of competent jurisdiction declare any section of this ordinance invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, which is not specifically declared to be invalid or unconstitutional.

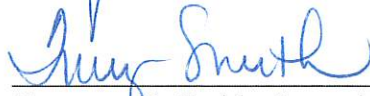
This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

THIS 8th DAY OF April, 2025.

ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA

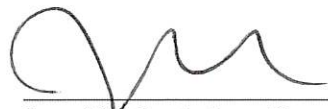
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


JaNice Van Ness, Chair & CEO

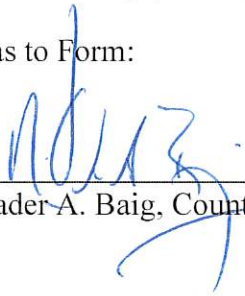

Tuwanya C. Smith, Commissioner Post I


Dr. Doreen Williams, Commissioner Post II

Attest:

By: 
Jennifer Rutledge, County Clerk

Approved as to Form:

By: 
M. Qader A. Baig, County Attorney

First Reading: 2/25/25

Second Reading: 4/8/25