

CITY OF SEGUIN

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SEGUIN CITY COUNCIL
AMENDING APPENDIX C. FEE SCHEDULE, CHAPTER 18. BUILDINGS AND BUILDING
REGULATIONS, BY CREATING ARTICLE 1. DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT FEE
EXEMPTIONS, ESTABLISHING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE AND AUTHORIZING STAFF TO SUBMIT THIS ORDINANCE AS A
SUPPLEMENT TO THE SEGUIN CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of Texas, including but not limited to Chapter 211 of the Texas Local Government Code, authorize the City Council to protect and preserve places and areas of historical and cultural importance and significance; to designate places and areas of historical and cultural importance; and to regulate the construction, reconstruction, alteration, or razing of buildings and other structures in order to maintain the City's heritage and property values; and

WHEREAS, in the public interest of the City of Seguin, an ordinance is in place designating a Downtown Historic District (DHD) and providing for the review of building permits for improvements, repair and new construction in the DHD; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seguin has enacted a Tax Abatement Ordinance and certain properties located in the DHD are eligible for a Federal Tax Credit and these incentives are in place to encourage reinvestment in the DHD; and

WHEREAS, waiving fees in the DHD will provide relief to property and business owners seeking to bring older buildings into compliance with all safety, accessibility, environmental requirements and will serve to encourage additional reinvestment in the area and demonstrate the City of Seguin's commitment to revitalizing the downtown; and

WHEREAS, incentives like this help support Heritage Tourism and help make Seguin a tourism destination while serving to create community pride in Seguin's colorful and interesting history and architecture; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of reinvesting in the DHD will be reaped by the City of Seguin with increased tax revenues.

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

That Appendix C, Fee Schedule, Chapter 18. Buildings and Building Regulations is hereby amended by adding the following:

1. Article 1. Downtown Historic District Fee Exemption

Applicants for the following permits within the Downtown Historic District are exempt from the payment of the relevant permit fees: Building, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, Sprinkler Systems, Alarm Systems, Sign and Sign Variance.

2. Should any of the various clauses, sentences, paragraphs, sections or parts of this Chapter be held of any reason invalid, unconstitutional or unenforceable, the same shall not be constructed to affect any other valid portions hereof and such valid portions shall remain in full force and effect.

3. That this ordinance shall be effective ten days from passage on second reading.

4. City staff is hereby authorized to submit this Ordinance as a supplement to the Seguin Code of Ordinances.

Passed and Approved on the first reading this 18th day of November 2008.

Passed and Approved on the second reading this 2nd day of December 2008.

Betty Ann Matthies, Mayor

Attest:

Thalia Stautzenberger, City Secretary