

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA,
AMENDING GALT MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 18 GALT DEVELOPMENT CODE
SECTION 18.16.055 RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, the 2021 – 2029 Housing Element required the implementation of objective design standards (“Standards”), which were initially adopted in 2022 and codified at Galt Municipal Code (“GMC”) section 18.16.055; and

WHEREAS, the Standards apply to residential projects throughout the City, including certain residential projects that are eligible for streamlined review under State law; and

WHEREAS, over time, a need to update the Standards became apparent, specifically to reflect modern building needs and trends and be more objective, therefore enforceable, in light of modern housing law; and

WHEREAS, staff prepared amendments to Section 18.16.55 to bring the Standards in alignment with current State law and to clarify objective design standards for more efficient implementation and application; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2026, the Planning Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the proposed amendments to the Standards at which time all persons wishing to testify in connection with the Standards were heard and the amendments were comprehensively reviewed; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2026, the Planning Commission, by a vote of 5-0, recommended that the City Council approve the amendments to the Standards; and

WHEREAS, the City gave public notice of the City Council's public hearing regarding the amendments to the Standards on May 22, 2026 by advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation, and posted the public notice at City Hall; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2026, the City Council conducted a duly noticed public hearing at which time all persons wishing to testify in connection with the amendments to the Standards were heard, and said amendments were fully studied; and

WHEREAS, amending Section 18.16.55 of the Municipal Code to address residential design standards is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq., “CEQA”) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15305 where the amendments will not change the land use or density of any parcels, just the design of the building already permitted thereon. In the alternative, the amendments are exempt from CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) where it can be seen with certainty that minor adjustments to parameters on

the colors, style, and design of single-family homes will not have a significant impact on the environment. In the further alternative, the amendments are exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21166 where the development of single family homes in the City was entirely evaluated in the EIR accompanying the City's current general plan (SCH 2007082092) and the proposed amendments to single-family design standards are not substantial changes to the anticipated development, not substantial changes to the development circumstances, and not new information meriting further environmental review; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission and the City Council find that the proposed amendments to Section 18.16.055 is in conformance with the Galt General Plan.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, does ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. Findings. The Recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.

SECTION 2. Galt Municipal Code Title 18 Galt Development Code, Section 18.16.055, subdivisions (A) through (E) related to residential design standards shall be amended to read as set forth on Attachment 2 to the Staff Report, incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 3. CEQA. Amending Section 18.16.55 of the Municipal Code to address residential design standards is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq., "CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15305 where the amendments will not change the land use or density of any parcels, just the design of the building already permitted thereon. In the alternative, the amendments are exempt from CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) where it can be seen with certainty that minor adjustments to parameters on the colors, style, and design of single-family homes will not have a significant impact on the environment. In the further alternative, the amendments are exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21166 where the development of single family homes in the City was entirely evaluated in the EIR accompanying the City's current general plan (SCH 2007082092) and the proposed amendments to single-family design standards are not substantial changes to the anticipated development, not substantial changes to the development circumstances, and not new information meriting further environmental review.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable. This City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance irrespective of the invalidity of any particular portion thereof.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after its final passage and adoption.

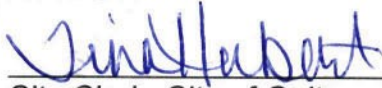
SECTION 6. Within fifteen (15) days after its final passage, the City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published in full in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code or publish a pre-adoption and post-adoption summary as otherwise authorized by law.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced and the title thereof read at the regular meeting of the City Council the 2nd day of June, 2026 and by a 4-1 roll call vote of the Council members present, further reading was waived.

On a motion by Council Member Reed, seconded by Council Member Pratton, the foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Galt at a regular meeting thereof, this 16th day of June, 2026 by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Council Members:	Reed, Pratton, Sandhu, Farmer, Rodriguez
NOES:	Council Members:	
ABSTAIN:	Council Members:	
ABSENT:	Council Members:	

ATTEST:



City Clerk, City of Galt



MAYOR, City of Galt

