

**ORDINANCE NO. 502**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHEATLAND  
AMENDING WHEATLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 18.60.060 RELATING TO ANIMALS  
AND ANIMAL SHELTERS**

The Wheatland City Council ordains as follows:

SECTION 1: Purpose and Authority.

The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 18.60.060 of the Wheatland Municipal Code to increase the permitted number of small domestic animals on parcels that are a minimum of six thousand square feet in size. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to Article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution, Chapter 18.85 of the Wheatland Municipal Code, and other applicable laws.

SECTION 2. Findings.

The Wheatland City Council finds and determines as follows:

- A. The City has received several requests to increase the permitted number of small domestic animals on parcels that are a minimum of six thousand square feet in size.
- B. The provisions relating to keeping small domestic animals as an accessory to any residential use allowed in zones other than an agriculture-exclusive zone are contained in the City of Wheatland Municipal Code, Section 18.60.060 "Animals and Animal Shelters."
- C. The Wheatland Planning Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing on April 29, 2025, in accordance with the law, and recommends that the City Council amend Wheatland Municipal Code, Section 18.60.060 "Animals and Animal Shelters."
- D. On May 27, 2025, the Wheatland City Council held a duly noticed public meeting concerning the adoption of a proposed ordinance amending Section 18.60.060 of the Wheatland Municipal Code.
- E. The City Council has evaluated the amendment of the Section 18.60.060 of the Wheatland Municipal Code and the City's General Plan and has determined that the amendment of the is consistent with the General Plan and the desires of the Wheatland City Council.
- F. The City Council has determined that, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, and after full consideration of the administrative record, the proposed Ordinance amending Section 18.60.060 – Animals and animal shelters – of the Wheatland Municipal Code is exempt from environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the Common-Sense exemption and Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations.
- G. The Wheatland City Council finds it necessary to pass and implement the proposed amendment to Section 18.60.060 of the Wheatland Municipal Code which will promote and protect the public health, safety, comfort, convenience, and general welfare of the residents within the city.

SECTION 3. Ordinance. Subsection E of Section 18.60.060 of the Wheatland Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

- E. Up to five small domestic animals (as defined in subsection D, but excluding roosters, geese and peacocks) may be kept on any parcel of not less than six thousand square feet. All small domestic animals must be kept in a side or rear yard and a minimum of 10 feet from property lines.

Except as expressly amended by this Ordinance, all other provisions of Chapter 18.60 of the Wheatland Municipal Code remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, that portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and the holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be enforced thirty (30) days from and after the date of its adoption.

SECTION 6. Posting. Within fifteen (15) days from the date of passage of this ordinance, the City Clerk shall post a copy of it in at least three public places in the City.

\* \* \* \* \*

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the Wheatland City Council, held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2025, and passed and adopted at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025, by the following vote:

**AYES:** B. Abe, Coe, J. Abe, McIntosh, Teter

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

Angela Teter  
Angela Teter, Mayor  
City of Wheatland

**ATTEST:**

Lisa Thomason  
Lisa Thomason, City Clerk  
City of Wheatland