

CITY OF STRAFFORD

BILL 26-09

ORDINANCE 1125

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF STRAFFORD, MISSOURI TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR LANDSCAPING FOR RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

WHEREAS, in May 2011, the City of Strafford adopted landscaping, bufferyard and open space requirements in Article XVI of Chapter 400 relating to Land Use per ordinance No. 659; and

WHEREAS, at the time of adoption, the ordinance stated that Residential Landscaping Requirements were "Reserved for future use" pending consideration of additional future details; and

WHEREAS, as part of its final review to approve certificates of occupancy for newly constructed dwelling units, City Building Inspection staff has recommended that it is appropriate to include minimum provisions to require front yards to have a finished appearance with regard to landscaping, ground coverage, and soil stabilization; and

WHEREAS, these provisions are also appropriate to adopt in consideration of local and regional Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) stormwater management and soil erosion plans; and

WHEREAS, to account for cold weather conditions that do not allow for the use of sod, seed or mulch, it is appropriate to allow for temporary occupancy of residential dwellings until such time that the requirements of this ordinance can be met; and

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2026, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays (5-0) that the Board of Aldermen approve the provisions contained herein.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF STRAFFORD AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City does hereby deletes previous text in this section and adopts the following text
Section 400.685 Residential Landscaping Requirements.

- A. At the time of final inspection for a certificate of occupancy, the front yard shall be completed using sod, turf, native plantings, xeriscape techniques, or living low-growing plants other than turf grass, installed in a manner so as to form a continuous cover over the ground surface. All other areas of the lot not covered with buildings, pavement, or sod shall be completed with standard grass seed and mulch.
- B. Temporary occupancy permits may be given to tenants from November first (1st) to March first (1st) if inclement weather delays completion of the requirements of this section. These requests must be approved by the City Administrator. Issuance of a final occupancy permit shall be contingent on subsection A being met, as determined by the Building Inspector or designee.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage by the Board of Aldermen and after its execution and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE STRAFFORD BOARD OF ALDERMEN THIS 1st DAY OF JUNE, 2026.




Sandy Strecker, Mayor

ATTEST:


DeAnn Reynolds
City Clerk