



MOTION: GRAHAM

**December 9, 2025
Regular Meeting
Ordinance No. 25-20**

SECOND: GERLACH

RE: Amending Fredericksburg City Code Chapter 72, Unified Development Ordinance, to Update Regulations for Tattoo and Piercing Establishments

ACTION: APPROVED: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0

FIRST READ: November 18, 2025 SECOND READ: December 09, 2025

Sec. I. Introduction.

Prior to the adoption of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), tattoo and piercing establishments were considered “personal services” for zoning purposes and were widely permitted in various areas of the City. In 2013, the newly adopted UDO created “Tattoo Parlor/Body Piercing Establishment” as a separate use type and placed greater restrictions on where these businesses could operate.

In February 2025, the City Council inquired into the City’s regulations on tattoo/piercing establishments. Following City Council work sessions on the topic on April 8, 2025 and June 24, 2025, City Council directed City staff to pursue a UDO text amendment to broaden the use permissions for tattoo/piercing establishments.

The City Council adopted a resolution to initiate this text amendment at its meeting on September 9, 2025. The Planning Commission held its public hearing on the amendment on October 22, 2025, after which it voted to recommend the amendment to the City Council. The City Council held its public hearing on this amendment on November 18, 2025.

In initiating these amendments, the City Council has considered the factors listed in Code of Virginia § 15.2-2284. The City Council has determined that public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practice favor the amendments.

Sec. II. City Code amendment.

It is hereby ordained by the Fredericksburg City Council that City Code Chapter 72, “Unified Development Ordinance,” is amended as follows.

- 1. Section 72-40.2, “Use Table,” is amended to add the underlined language and delete the language shown in strikethrough as follows:**

72-40.2 Use Table

	Residential Districts							Nonresidential and Mixed-Use Districts						Planned Development Districts				
	R-2	R-4	R-8	R-12	R-16	R-30	R-MH	C-T	C-D	C-SC	C-H	CM	I-1	I-2	PD-R	PD-C	PD-MU	PD-MC
Tattoo/Piercing Establishment	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	<u>•</u>	<u>•</u>	P	P	<u>•</u>	<u>•</u>	•	•	<u>•</u>	<u>•</u>	•

2. Section 72-41.3, "Commercial Uses," Subsection Y, is amended to add the underlined language and delete the language shown in strikethrough as follows:

72-41.3. Commercial uses.

Y. Tattoo parlor/body piercing establishment. ~~Tattoo parlors and body piercing establishments shall be located at least 500 feet from any residential zoning district.~~ Hours of operation shall be limited to 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sec. III. Effective date.

This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Votes:


Ayes: Devine, Frye, Finn, Gerlach, Graham, Holmes, Mackintosh

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: None

Absent from Meeting: None

Approved as to form:


 Kelly J. Lackey, City Attorney

Clerk's Certificate

*I certify that I am Clerk of Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and that the foregoing is a true copy of **Ordinance No. 25-20** adopted at a meeting of the City Council held **December 09, 2025**, at which a quorum was present and voted.*



Molly Henderson
Clerk of Council