

CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-11-19-F04-OR

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS, CREATING A NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT CONSISTING OF CITY STAFF RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE, OVERSIGHT AND RESTORATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE CITY'S JURISDICTION; CREATING A SPECIAL FUND DEDICATED TO EXPENDITURES RELATED TO CONSERVATION EASEMENTS WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE CITY'S JURISDICTION; AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2025-09-11-E01-OR TO PROVIDE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES FUND; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR ENGROSSMENT AND ENROLLMENT OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2025, the City Commission approved Resolution No. 2025-10-15-F03-RE creating the Natural Resources Committee responsible for the maintenance, oversight and restoration of natural resources within and adjacent to the City's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to create the Natural Resources Department consisting of city staff to receive recommendations and advice from the Natural Resources Committee; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 101.004 of the Texas Local Government Code, the City Commission seeks to create a Natural Resources Fund, a special fund dedicated solely to expenditures related to conservation easements within and adjacent to the City's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, adopted by Ordinance No. 2025-09-11-E01-OR on September 11, 2025, is necessary to transfer funds from the City's General Fund to the Natural Resources Fund to provide the beginning fund balance; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, as the City's Budget Officer as set forth in section 102.001 of the Local Government Code, and in consultation with the City Administrator, has prepared a proposed budget amendment attached hereto as **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, after due deliberation and consideration, the City Commission has determined that this Ordinance should be adopted, and that such Ordinance is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City and general public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Premises. The premises set forth above are incorporated herein as if set forth verbatim.

SECTION 2. Department of Natural Resources Created. The City Commission hereby creates the Natural Resources Department consisting of city staff, including but not limited to, the City Administrator and City Clerk, including subordinate employees of said officials. The Natural Resources Committee shall provide consultation and direction to the Natural Resources Department on matters relating to the maintenance, oversight and restoration of natural resources within and adjacent to the City's jurisdiction. Upon consultation with the Natural Resources Committee, the Natural Resources Department staff shall seek approval from the City Commission on ordinances, resolutions and contracts, or as necessary when required by law or ordinance.

SECTION 3. Natural Resources Fund Created. In accordance with section 101.004 of the Texas Local Government Code, the City Commission hereby creates a special fund entitled "Natural Resources Fund." The Natural Resources Fund balance shall only be dispersed for expenditures related to conservation easements within and adjacent to the City's jurisdiction, including ensuring compliance with the terms and conditions of the conservation easements, monitoring for encroachments or other violations, providing for the legal defense of the conservation easement, and other long-term land stewardship duties. The City Commission hereby allocates a starting fund balance of \$50,000 and commits to maintaining a minimum fund balance of \$50,000 at the beginning of each fiscal year. The City Administrator is authorized to disburse funds from the Natural Resources Fund in accordance with the City's budget and adopted financial management and purchasing policies, as may be amended. In the event an encroachment in violation of the conservation easement is observed, additional funds shall be allocated to the Natural Resources Fund as necessary.

SECTION 4. Budget Amendment. The fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, approved by Ordinance No. 2025-09-11-E01-OR, is hereby amended to transfer \$50,000 from the General Fund to the Natural Resources Fund, as set forth in the attached **Exhibit A**. The City Administrator is hereby authorized to make all necessary revisions to the City's fiscal and financial records to reflect amendments approved by this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. Severability. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Commission that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Commission without the incorporation in this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

SECTION 6. Repealer. This Ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of all ordinances of the City of Starbase, as amended, and shall not repeal any of the provisions of such ordinances, except in those instances where provisions of such ordinances are in direct conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. Engrossment/Enrollment. The City Clerk is hereby directed to enroll and engross this Ordinance by reflecting the passage of this Ordinance in the minutes of the City Commission and by filing this Ordinance in the Ordinance Records of the City.

SECTION 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Commission of the City of Starbase, Texas, on this 19th day of November, 2025.

CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS


Bobby Peden, Mayor

ATTEST:


Caroline Cole, City Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Marie N. Johnson, Assistant City Attorney

Exhibit A

City of Starbase FY 2026 Budget Amendment

Natural Resources Fund

Transfer From General Fund Fund Balance	\$50,000
Transfer To Natural Resources Fund (New Fund)	\$50,000