



**ORDINANCE AMENDING  
CHAPTER 18 – JUNK VEHICLES**

**PH-25-071**

**December 2, 2025**

# Ord. Amending Ch. 18 – Junk Vehicles

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- Hold a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the City of Killeen Code of Ordinances; making the open storage of nuisance vehicles unlawful; providing a penalty; providing a severability clause; providing a savings clause; and providing for the repeal of conflicting provisions.

# Background

- During their 88<sup>th</sup> Regular Session in 2023, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 3297, abolishing the vehicle safety inspection program for non-commercial vehicles.
- Effective January 1, 2025, Chapter 548 of the Texas Transportation Code was amended, removing vehicle safety inspections for most passenger vehicles, allowing vehicles to be registered without undergoing vehicle safety inspections, and thus potentially allowing the registration of vehicles that may have been previously classified as Junk Vehicles.

# Background

- The proposed amendments to Chapter 18 are intended to address the changes made to the Transportation Code during the 88<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature and allow the City to now identify and address the open storage of nuisance vehicles and provide a penalty for doing so.

# Definition Changes

- Staff is proposing the following amendments to Killeen Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Article V - Junk Vehicles:
  - ▣ Changing the definition of a Junk Vehicle by removing language relating to vehicle safety inspections.
  - ▣ Adding a definition of “Vehicle” to mean any passenger or cargo vehicle, including all-terrain vehicles, boats, or personal watercrafts.

# Definition Changes

- Adding a new definition of Nuisance Vehicle to mean any Vehicle that is:
  1. Wrecked, dismantled or partially dismantled, discarded, substantially disfigured, damaged, disintegrated, ruined, destroyed, or demolished, or
  2. Unattended on jack stands, blocks, or other means so that the vehicle is not supported by its wheels, or
  3. In a condition with one or more flat tires or is missing one or more wheels, or

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- Adding a new definition of Nuisance Vehicle to mean any Vehicle that is:
  4. Inoperable and has remained inoperable for more than:
    - A. Seventy-two (72) hours if on public property; or
    - B. Thirty (30) consecutive days if on private property.

# Nuisance Declaration

- Adding and declaring that the newly defined Nuisance Vehicles are detrimental to the safety and welfare of the public, tends to reduce the value of private property, invites vandalism, creates a fire hazard, is an attractive nuisance, creating a hazard to the health and safety of minors, produces urban blight adverse to the maintenance and continuing development of the city, and is a public nuisance.

# Abatement Requirements & Relocation

- Changing the abatement enforcement designee from the Building Official to the Executive Director of Development Services, or designee.
- Adding Nuisance Vehicles to the relocation regulations, ensuring that they remain as such regardless of their location in City limits.

# Staff Recommendation

- Staff finds that the proposed amendments to Chapter 18 are necessary to identify and address the open storage of nuisance vehicles.
- Therefore, staff recommends approval of the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 18 – Junk Vehicles as presented.