ORDINANCE NO. 2026-6

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 8 OF THE HUNTSVILLE VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC CODE OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Huntsville finds that parking within the downtown business district is a limited public resource during Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM.

WHEREAS, this Ordinance is intended to preserve parking for customers and visitors, support downtown businesses, and support the accessibility and economic vitality of the district.

WHEREAS, as a result of the foregoing and other matters, the City Council of Huntsville, Arkansas has determined that the Code should be amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: Title 8, Chapter 20 Parking Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 2: Section 8.20.06 Downtown Parking Restrictions. Parking spaces within the downtown business district, including but not limited to South Harris Street, South College Street, South Court Street, West War Eagle Avenue, West Main Street, and Church Avenue, shall be reserved primarily for patrons, customers, clients, and visitors of businesses located within and around the downtown square during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Designated downtown parking spaces shall be limited to people conducting business within the downtown district.

Because downtown parking is limited, business owners, operators, and employees are strongly encouraged to utilize public parking lots, designated employee parking areas, or parking spaces located in the interior portions of the downtown square whenever practical.

Nothing in this ordinance shall prohibit the temporary use of downtown parking spaces by business owners, employees, vendors, contractors, or delivery personnel for loading or unloading merchandise, supplies, equipment, materials, or other items necessary for business operations. Such use shall be limited to the time reasonably necessary to complete the activity and shall not constitute a violation of this ordinance.

The mayor shall direct the Public Works Department to install and maintain signs, markings, and other traffic-control devices necessary to implement this ordinance. When conditions warrant, the mayor may authorize additional signage or parking-control measures to address parking congestion, traffic flow, accessibility concerns, public safety, or other matters affecting the orderly operation of the downtown district.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle in violation of any parking restriction, designation, sign, marking, or other traffic-control device established pursuant to this ordinance. Any vehicle parked in a location contrary to such restrictions or designations shall be deemed to be parked in violation of this ordinance and subject to a fine described in Section 8.20.07.

SECTION 3: Section 8.20.07. Fine. Any person parking, driving, or stopping any vehicle along War Eagle Street and/or East Main Street as above set forth, except in cases of emergency, or any person who shall drive a motor vehicle in a clockwise direction on the public square in Huntsville, Arkansas, or any person who shall park a vehicle diagonally on the public square in Huntsville, Arkansas, or any person who parks in the downtown business district in violation of Section 8.20.06, shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-Five Dollars ($25.00) for each offense.

SECTION 4: Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the City Council of Huntsville, Arkansas, that there is an immediate need to approve this ordinance. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS, THIS 8th DAY OF June, 2026.

APPROVED _____
Mayor Travis Dotson

ATTEST _____
City Clerk Janice Smith