

STATE OF GEORGIA
FULTON COUNTY

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS' CODE OF ORDINANCES,
SUBPART A, CHAPTER 38, ARTICLE III, DIVISION I BY CREATING SECTION _____
ENTITLED "BUFFER ZONE: INGRESS AND EGRESS"; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE
DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council for the City of Sandy Springs (the "City") are charged with providing for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City amends its Code of Ordinances from time to time to keep abreast of the best public policy practices; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council identified as a priority the necessity of a required 'buffer zone' as it relates to protection for patrons of educational institutions or facilities, the premises of public facilities, a parking lot serving public facilities, places of worship, and/or parking lots serving places of worship ; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia that Subpart A, entitled '*General Ordinances*', Chapter 38, entitled '*Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions*', Article III entitled '*Offenses Involving Public Peace, Order and Safety*', Division I entitled '*Generally*' of the City of Sandy Springs Code of Ordinances is amended to include and create the following:

SECTION I: The City of Sandy Springs' Code of Ordinances "Section _____. Buffer Zone: Ingress and Egress" is hereby created.

SECTION II: The City of Sandy Springs' Code of Ordinances Section _____. Buffer Zone: Ingress and Egress is created to read as follows:

Section _____. Buffer Zone: Ingress and Egress.

(a) *Definitions.* Whenever used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings indicated, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- (1) "Interfere with" shall mean to stop or to restrict a person's freedom of movement. or to stop, obstruct, or prevent, through deceptive means or otherwise.
- (2) "Person" shall mean an individual, corporation, non-for-profit organization, partnership, association, group, or any other entity.
- (3) "Place of worship" shall mean a building or property wherein persons regularly assemble for religious worship, and which is maintained and controlled by a religious body organized to sustain public worship, including but not limited to: churches, synagogues, temples, mosques, cemeteries, burial grounds, or other such places of worship.
- (4) "Premises of a public facility" shall include the driveway, entrance, entryway, or exit of the public facility, the building in which such facility is located, and any parking lot in which the facility has an ownership or leasehold interest.
- (5) "Public parking lot serving a public facility or place of worship" shall mean any public parking lot that serves a public facility or place of worship and that has an entrance or exit

located within one hundred (100) feet of any door to that public facility.

(6) "Public facility" shall mean any building, structure, or place, or any portion thereof, owned and operated by a public entity.

(b) *Prohibited Conduct.* It shall be unlawful for any person to do the following:

- (1) Knowingly physically obstruct or block another person from entering into or exiting from the premises of a public facility, or private property (as defined by Georgia law) when the owner has indicated such person may not enter the property, including a place of worship, or a parking lot serving a public facility or place of worship within; or
- (2) By force or threat of force, or by physically obstructing or blocking, knowingly injure, or interfere with, or attempt to injure or interfere with, another person in order to discourage such person or any other person or persons from entering or exiting a public facility or place of worship or a public parking lot serving a public facility or place of worship.

(c) *Penalty.* All penalties related to violations of this ordinance shall be punishable pursuant to Sect. 38-68 entitled "Penalties".

SECTION III: It is the intention of the City Council and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the City Council that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of The Code of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, and the codifier is authorized to make the specified deletions, insertions, additions, and to insert headings, article numbers and section numbers as and where appropriate.

SECTION IV: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION V: If any section, subsection, provisions, or clause of any part of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, or, if the provisions of any part of this Ordinance as applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to affect the portions of this Ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this Ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared as the intent of the City Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted in its current form without the invalid or unconstitutional provision contained therein.

SECTION VI: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the ____ day of _____, 2025.

Approved:

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:

Raquel D. González, City Clerk

{SEAL}

STATE OF GEORGIA
FULTON COUNTY

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS' CODE OF ORDINANCES, SUBPART A, CHAPTER 38, ARTICLE III, DIVISION I BY CREATING SECTION 38-74 ENTITLED "BUFFER ZONE: INGRESS AND EGRESS"; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council for the City of Sandy Springs (the "City") are charged with providing for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City amends its Code of Ordinances from time to time to keep abreast of the best public policy practices; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council identified as a priority the necessity of a required 'buffer zone' as it relates to protection for patrons of educational institutions or facilities, the premises of public facilities, a parking lot serving public facilities, places of worship, and/or parking lots serving places of worship; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia that Subpart A, entitled '*General Ordinances*', Chapter 38, entitled '*Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions*', Article III entitled '*Offenses Involving Public Peace, Order and Safety*', Division I entitled '*Generally*' of the City of Sandy Springs Code of Ordinances is amended to include and create the following:

SECTION I: The City of Sandy Springs' Code of Ordinances "Section 38-74 Buffer Zone: Ingress and Egress" is hereby created.

SECTION II: The City of Sandy Springs' Code of Ordinances Section 38-74. Buffer Zone: Ingress and Egress is created to read as follows:

Section 38-74. Buffer Zone: Ingress and Egress.

(a) *Definitions.* Whenever used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings indicated, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- (1) "Interfere with" shall mean to stop or to restrict a person's freedom of movement. or to stop, obstruct, or prevent, through deceptive means or otherwise.
- (2) "Person" shall mean an individual, corporation, non-for-profit organization, partnership, association, group, or any other entity.
- (3) "Place of worship" shall mean a building or property wherein persons regularly assemble for religious worship, and which is maintained and controlled by a religious body organized to sustain public worship, including but not limited to: churches, synagogues, temples, mosques, cemeteries, burial grounds, or other such places of worship.
- (4) "Premises of a public facility" shall include the driveway, entrance, entryway, or exit of the public facility, the building in which such facility is located, and any parking lot in which the facility has an ownership or leasehold interest.
- (5) "Public parking lot serving a public facility or place of worship" shall mean any public parking lot that serves a public facility or place of worship and that has an entrance or exit

located within one hundred (100) feet of any door to that public facility.

(6) "Public facility" shall mean any building, structure, or place, or any portion thereof, owned and operated by a public entity.

(b) *Prohibited Conduct.* It shall be unlawful for any person to do the following:

(1) Knowingly physically obstruct or block another person from entering into or exiting from the premises of a public facility, or private property (as defined by Georgia law) when the owner has indicated such person may not enter the property, including a place of worship, or a parking lot serving a public facility or place of worship within; or

(2) By force or threat of force, or by physically obstructing or blocking, knowingly injure, or interfere with, or attempt to injure or interfere with, another person in order to discourage such person or any other person or persons from entering or exiting a public facility or place of worship or a public parking lot serving a public facility or place of worship.

(c) *Penalty.* All penalties related to violations of this ordinance shall be punishable pursuant to Sect. 38-68 entitled "Penalties".

SECTION III: It is the intention of the City Council and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the City Council that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of The Code of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, and the codifier is authorized to make the specified deletions, insertions, additions, and to insert headings, article numbers and section numbers as and where appropriate.

SECTION IV: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION V: If any section, subsection, provisions, or clause of any part of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, or, if the provisions of any part of this Ordinance as applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to affect the portions of this Ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this Ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared as the intent of the City Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted in its current form without the invalid or unconstitutional provision contained therein.

SECTION VI: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the 1st day of April, 2025.

Attest:

Raquel D. González, City Clerk

(Seal)

Approved:

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

