

## ORDINANCE 26-\_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES BY CREATING DIVISION 2-3-22, ARTICLE 2-3, CHAPTER 2, LAWTON CITY CODE, 2025 AND CREATING SECTION 2-3-22-400, DIVISION 2-3-22, ARTICLE 2-3, CHAPTER 2, LAWTON CITY CODE, 2025, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE STREETS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### ORDINANCE

*BE IT ORDAINED* by the Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, that:

**SECTION 1. Division 2-3-22 is hereby created to read as follows:**

**Division 2-3-22 STREETS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**SECTION 2. Section 2-3-22-400 is hereby created to read as follows:**

**2-3-21-400 Creation, composition, meetings, purpose, and scope**

1. Creation, Composition, Appointment, Terms, Chair, and Administrative Support.
    - a. There is hereby established a council/citizen committee to be known as the Streets and Development Committee, which shall replace the former Streets, Bridges, and Building Development Council Committee, the Engineering Selection Committee, and the Traffic Commission. The mission statement of the Streets and Development Committee shall be “to plan, prioritize, and enable sustainable improvements to Lawton’s streets, bridges, and building infrastructure; ensuring safety, functionality, efficient use of resources, and long-term value for our community.”
    - b. The Streets and Development Committee shall consist of four (4) City Council members and one (1) citizen with practical experience or demonstrated knowledge related to streets, traffic control, or engineering. Committee members shall be nominated by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. The term of office for each elected official shall run concurrently with the member’s elected term on the city council. The term of office for the citizen member shall be for three (3) years with a limit of three (3) consecutive terms. A committee member’s service shall automatically terminate upon:
      - i. Resignation from the City Council;
      - ii. Removal from office;
      - iii. A decision to not seek re-election; or
      - iv. Failure to be re-elected or otherwise re-obtain office.
      - v. Nine (9) years of continuous service on the Streets and Development Committee.
- Upon the occurrence of a vacancy, a new nomination shall be made by the mayor and submitted to the city council for confirmation.

- c. The mayor shall appoint the Chair of the Streets and Development Committee on an annual basis.
- d. The City Manager, or designee, shall provide information and administrative support as reasonably necessary to support the Committee in fulfilling its role. The City Manager shall also ensure that appropriate staff are present at meetings to allow the Committee to effectively conduct meetings.

2. Meetings.

- a. The Streets and Development Committee Chair, in consultation with the City Manager or designee, shall determine the agenda and frequency of Committee meetings as necessary to effectively carry out the Committee's responsibilities.
- b. No meeting shall be called unless a quorum of the voting committee members are present. For purposes of the Streets and Development Committee, a quorum shall be constituted by a majority of the currently appointed and serving voting members of the committee, calculated as fifty (50) percent of the active membership plus one (1), regardless of the maximum authorized committee size. The city manager, or his designee will serve as ex-officio members of this committee and provide technical expertise as needed.
- c. The committee shall comply with the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act.
- d. The city clerk or their designee will attend meetings and publish the minutes.

3. Purpose.

- a. The purpose of the Streets and Development Committee is to strengthen City Council's oversight duties of public infrastructure, development-related matters, and the selection of engineering and architectural professional services by providing a structured forum for review, discussion, and recommendations concerning street projects, bridge infrastructure, traffic conditions, and building development as they relate to public safety, accessibility, and coordination with City infrastructure. This advisory role is intended to support the City Council's Charter-vested legislative and oversight responsibilities
- b. In carrying out this purpose, the Committee shall focus its work on reviewing proposed or ongoing street and bridge projects, traffic-related issues, and development impacts affecting City streets and public infrastructure. The Committee shall also review and make recommendations related to the selection of engineering and architectural firms in accordance with applicable Council policies, state law, and professional procurement requirements. The Committee may receive traffic reports, consider citizen complaints related to traffic and infrastructure matters, and evaluate development-related concerns. The Committee shall make recommendations to the City Council, and as appropriate to the City Traffic Engineer, Chief of Police, and other City officials, regarding ways and means to improve traffic conditions, infrastructure coordination, and the administration and enforcement of traffic regulations.

The Committee may identify and review specific infrastructure or development topics for focused discussion, including time-sensitive or emerging issues brought forward by the Committee Chair, the Mayor, the City Manager, or citizens, when such matters implicate public safety, traffic flow, infrastructure performance, or development coordination. Through this focused approach, the Committee is intended to support informed decision-

making, improve coordination across City functions, and enhance the effectiveness of infrastructure-related recommendations presented to the City Council

- d. The Committee is also responsible for engineer and architect selection oversight including:
  1. reviewing qualifications, proposals, and evaluation criteria for engineering and architectural services when a formal selection process is required;
  2. participating in interviews of firms, when directed by the City Council or required by policy;
  3. recommending ranked firms or a most-qualified firm to the City Council for final consideration;
  4. ensuring that professional service selection selections emphasize qualifications, experience, and technical competence, consistent with state law and Council policy;
  5. supporting transparency, fairness, and consistency in the professional services procurement process.

Final selection and contract approval authority shall remain solely with the City Council.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

1. Grant the Committee authority over contract negotiation, administration, or execution;
  2. Limit the City Manager's authority to direct staff, manage procurement processes, or negotiate professional service agreements as permitted by law and Council policy;
  3. Supersede or conflict with Council Policy governing engineering and architectural selection.
- e. The Committee is established in furtherance of the City of Lawton's True North Culture Statement, which affirms that the City exists solely to serve the citizen, prioritizes public safety and accessibility, and promotes planning, accountability, and continuous improvement in the delivery of public infrastructure and development-related services.
  - f. The Committee exists to support the City Council's Charter appointed role in policy direction and priorities related to streets, bridges, traffic, and building development, while recognizing that the responsibility for implementing Council-approved policies and projects rests with the City Manager and the City's professional administration.
4. Role and Scope.
    - a. The Streets and Development Committee shall serve in an oversight and advisory capacity to the City Council.
    - b. The oversight and advisory role of the Streets and Development Committee is exercised pursuant to the City of Lawton Charter, which vests legislative authority, policy determination, and oversight of City functions in the City Council. The Committee's role in professional service selection is intended solely to assist the City Council in carrying out its Charter-assigned responsibilities and to provide recommendations for Council consideration.

- c. Nothing in this section shall be construed to grant the Committee authority over day-to-day operations or administrative functions, which remain the responsibility of the City Manager and City administration.

**SECTION 3. Codification.** Division 2-3-22 shall be codified in Article 2-3, Chapter 2, Lawton City Code, 2025. Section 2-3-22-400 shall be codified in Division 2-3-22, Article 2-3, Chapter 2, Lawton City Code, 2025.

**SECTION 4. Severability Clause.** If any section, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, said portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance.

**SECTION 5. Effective Date.** The provisions of his ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of the ordinance’s passage

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, that: SAID ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

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STANLEY BOOKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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DONALYNN BLAZEK-SCHERLER, CITY CLERK

APPROVED as to form and legality this \_\_\_\_ day of February, 2026.

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JARI ASKINS, INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY

**ORDINANCE NO. 26- \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES BY CREATING DIVISION 2-3-21, ARTICLE 2-3, CHAPTER 2, LAWTON CITY CODE, 2025 AND CREATING SECTION 2-3-21-400, DIVISION 2-3-21, ARTICLE 2-3, CHAPTER 2, LAWTON CITY CODE, 2025, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE STREETS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**BRIEF GIST**

This ordinance establishes the Streets and Development Committee to advise the City Council on street projects, traffic matters, and development impacts. The Committee replaces the former Streets, Bridges, Building Development Council Committee, Engineering Selection Council Committee, and Traffic Commission and serves in a strictly oversight and advisory role per City Charter, with implementation authority remaining with City administration.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2026.

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STANLEY BOOKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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DONALYNN BLAZEK-SCHERLER, CITY CLERK

(Published in the Lawton Constitution this \_\_\_\_ day of January, 2026.)