

ORDINANCE NO. _____ OF 2025

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 38-4 HOUSING AND
PROPERTY STANDARDS OF THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT,
LOUISIANA CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO DEFINITIONS
AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.**

BY:

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2019, this Council passed Ordinance 139 of 2019 establishing, in accordance with La. R.S. 13:2575, an administrative adjudication procedure (“Environmental Court”) for those charged with owning blighted or abandoned property or for other property standards violations; and

WHEREAS, Section 38-4 of Chapter 38 of the City of Shreveport Code of Ordinances provides definitions for Chapter 38; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Property Standards requests an amendment to this ordinance relating to definitions of “abandoned property” and “blighted property” in accordance with state law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Shreveport, in due, legal, and regular session convened, that Chapter 38 Section 4 be amended and read as follows:

Chapter 38 – HOUSING AND PROPERTY STANDARDS

ARTICLE I. – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 38-4. – Definitions.

Abandoned Property shall mean property that is vacant or not lawfully occupied. The terms "vacant" or "not lawfully occupied" shall include but shall not be limited to any premises which are not actually occupied by its owner, lessee, or other invitee or if occupied, without utilities, and which has been left unsecured or inadequately secured from unauthorized entry to the extent that the premises could be entered and utilized by vagrants or other uninvited persons as a place of harborage or any premises which by reason of dilapidation, deterioration, state of

disrepair, or other such status is otherwise detrimental to or endangers the public safety, health, or welfare.

* * *

Blighted Property shall mean commercial or residential premises, including lots, which are vacant, uninhabitable, and hazardous and because of their physical condition, are considered hazardous to persons or property, or have been declared or certified blighted, and have been declared to be a public nuisance by a court of competent jurisdiction or by an administrative hearing officer acting pursuant to competent jurisdiction or by an administrative hearing officer acting pursuant to R.S. 13:2575 et seq., or any other applicable law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision or item of this ordinance or application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or application, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office