

PUBLIC NOTICE
ORDINANCE NO. 1843, SERIES 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Louisville, Colorado, held on November 1, 2022 at the hour of 6:00 p.m., at 749 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado, the City Council held a Public Hearing on the passage and adoption of a proposed emergency Ordinance No. 1843, Series 2022.

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM
ON THE SUBMISSION, ACCEPTANCE, PROCESSING, OR APPROVAL OF ANY
LAND USE APPLICATION, OR ISSUANCE OF ANY SPECIAL USE PERMIT,
RELATED TO THE USE OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY AS A GASOLINE
SERVICE STATION OR AN AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATION**

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED AS AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this 1st day of November, 2022.

Ashley Stolzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:
Meredyth Muth, City Clerk

Published with full ordinance in the *Daily Camera* 11/6/22.

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WHEREAS, the City of Louisville is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, and safeguarding the environment and wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes it has not only the authority but the responsibility to plan for and regulate the use of land within the City in order to best protect and promote the health, safety, and welfare of present and future inhabitants and residents of the City, and to guide future growth, development, and distribution of land uses within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City regulates the use of land by those ordinances codified in Title 17 of the Louisville Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the City regulates the construction of buildings and other structures within the City by those codes adopted in Title 15 of the Louisville Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2022, the City Clerk approved the form of an initiative petition for an Initiative Ordinance that, if approved by the City Council or the City's electors, would prohibit gasoline service stations and automobile service stations in all zone districts within the City and prohibit issuance of a building permit for construction of a gasoline service station within 2.5 miles of an existing gasoline service station; and

WHEREAS, as of October 1, 2022, the Colorado Energy Office reports there are 66,599 electric vehicles (EVs) registered in Colorado, 11.71 per 1,000 people, and 9,198 EVs in Boulder County, 27.1 EV's per 1,000 people; and

WHEREAS, according to the Colorado Energy Office, EV ownership is currently increasing both statewide and in Boulder County, and in the past six months 8.62% of new vehicle registrations in Boulder County were for EVs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes this trend in EV sales will likely impact the continued viability of gasoline service stations within the City, and thus impact the appropriate mix of land uses within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines it is of critical importance to the City and its residents that the City Council examine the important policy considerations presented by gasoline service stations and automobile service stations in the overall mix of land uses within the City, and that any decisions made be applied to applications that may be filed in the future to develop or construct gasoline service stations or automobile service stations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Louisville remains committed to its adopted goals to reduce energy consumption, increase clean energy sources, and support the transition to a low-carbon community as outlined in the Sustainability Action Plan and Resolution 25, Series 2019, "A Resolution Setting Clean Energy and Carbon Reduction Goals"; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds and determines it is equally important for the Initiative Ordinance, should the petition be signed by the required number of registered electors and ultimately approved by the City Council or the City's voters, to be applied to applications that may be filed in the future to develop or construct gasoline service stations or automobile service stations; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has estimated that, should the petition proposing the Initiative Ordinance be signed by the required number of registered electors and the same is submitted to the City's registered electors at a special election, such process could take until the end of September of 2023; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of a temporary moratorium as set forth herein is reasonable, necessary, and no longer in duration than is needed to allow the City Council and staff to investigate whether new regulations concerning gasoline service stations or automobile service

stations should be enacted to protect and preserve the public health, safety, and welfare, or in the alternative, for the City's registered electors to have the opportunity to vote on the Initiated Ordinance contained in the initiative petition; and

WHEREAS, property owners within the City will not be unfairly prejudiced by the imposition of the temporary moratorium imposed by this ordinance, as gasoline service stations and automobile service stations are not uses by right within any zone district within the City; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court and the Colorado Supreme Court recognize that, in the field of land use regulation, temporary moratoria of reasonable duration are often employed to preserve the status quo in a particular area while developing a long-term plan for development and while evaluating the sufficiency of current regulations; indeed, in countering the incentive of property owners to develop their property quickly to avoid the consequences of an impending land use plan for the jurisdiction, moratoria are a crucial tool for local governments and, therefore, pursuant to express and implied authority granted by the Colorado Revised Statutes and multiple Colorado and federal appellate decisions upholding temporary moratoria on land use applications while amendments are considered, the City Council has the legal authority to adopt the temporary moratorium set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and declares it has the power and authority to adopt this ordinance pursuant to Amendment 64, C.R.S. § 29-20-101, *et seq.* (the Local Government Land Use Control Enabling Act), C.R.S. § 31-23-301, *et seq.* (concerning municipal zoning powers), C.R.S. § 31-15-103 (concerning municipal police powers), C.R.S. § 31-15-401 (concerning municipal police powers), C.R.S. § 31-15-501 (concerning municipal authority to regulate businesses), Article XX of the Colorado Constitution (concerning municipal home rule), and the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists because the City Council finds and determines that, in light of the foregoing recitals and findings, circumstances warrant the immediate enactment of this ordinance and imposition of the moratorium set forth herein to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and to avoid development that may contravene the City's efforts to protect the health, safety, and welfare or the registered electors' efforts to utilize the initiative process to enact legislation, and it is of critical importance to the City and its residents that any regulations adopted by the City Council or approved by the City's registered electors concerning gasoline service stations or automobile service stations be applied to all future applications for such uses within the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE, COLORADO:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are hereby affirmed and incorporated herein by this reference as findings of the City Council.

Section 2. Upon the effective date of this ordinance, and until **September 30, 2023**, no application for land use approval, including but not limited to any zoning, subdivision, or site plan application, filed by or on behalf of any landowner the purpose of which includes

development, construction, expansion, reconstruction, or relocation of a gasoline service station or automobile service station shall be received, reviewed, approved or otherwise acted upon, unless otherwise provided in this ordinance. For purposes of this moratorium, an automobile service station shall be considered synonymous with gasoline service station as defined in Section 17.08.200 of the Louisville Municipal Code.

Section 3. The restrictions contained in this ordinance shall not be construed to affect any applications for a use by special review, or other land use approval for a gasoline service station or automobile service station for which complete applications were filed prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

Section 4. Any person who submitted a complete application for a use by special review, or other land use approval for a gasoline service station or automobile service station prior to the effective date of this ordinance, and who believes that application of the temporary moratorium to such application would be legally invalid, may file with the City Council a request for an exemption from the moratorium. The request shall be in writing and fully set forth the reasons why the exemption should be granted. The City Council may grant the exemption if it finds that application of the moratorium would be legally invalid under the facts presented.

Section 5. The temporary moratorium imposed upon receipt of applications as set forth in this ordinance is temporary in nature and may be repealed by subsequent legislative enactment. The temporary moratorium established by this ordinance shall terminate on **September 30, 2023**, unless sooner repealed.

Section 6. If any portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part be declared invalid.

Section 7. The repeal or modification of any provision of the Municipal Code of the City of Louisville by this ordinance shall not release, extinguish, alter, modify, or change in whole or in part any penalty, forfeiture, or liability, either civil or criminal, which shall have been incurred under such provision, and each provision shall be treated and held as still remaining in force for the purpose of sustaining any and all proper actions, suits, proceedings, and prosecutions for the enforcement of the penalty, forfeiture, or liability, as well as for the purpose of sustaining any judgment, decree, or order which can or may be rendered, entered, or made in such actions, suits, proceedings, or prosecutions.

Section 8. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this ordinance or any portion hereof are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

Section 9. The City Council herewith finds, determines and declares that this ordinance is genuinely and urgently necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare in order to avoid development that may contravene the City's efforts to protect the health, safety, and welfare or the registered electors' efforts to utilize the initiative process to enact legislation, and it is thus of critical importance to the City and its residents that any

regulations adopted by the City Council or approved by the City's registered electors concerning gasoline service stations or automobile service stations be applied to all future applications for such uses within the City. Therefore, City Council herewith further finds, determines and declares that it is necessary for this ordinance to take effect immediately upon adoption, provided the same has been adopted and signed by the Mayor and approved by two-thirds of the entire City Council.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED AS AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this 1st day of November, 2022.

Ashley Stolzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

Meredyth Muth, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kelly PC, City Attorney