

ORDINANCE NO. C-26-

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 24 – SOLID WASTE, SECTION 24-27(b) - CONTAINERS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, BY ESTABLISHING A CIVIL CITATION FOR IMPROPER SOLID WASTE CONTAINER PLACEMENT AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 11; REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCE PROVISIONS, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale has determined that proper placement and storage of solid waste containers is essential to maintaining neighborhood aesthetics, pedestrian safety, and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Section 24-27(b) of the Code of Ordinances establishes standards requiring solid waste containers to be removed from the roadside following collection and stored on the property behind the building line facing the street, unless screened from public view; and

WHEREAS, the existing enforcement mechanism directs City staff to relocate improperly placed containers and assess an administrative fee, which has proven ineffective in achieving sustained compliance and does not provide a meaningful deterrent; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances provides a consistent civil citation framework for addressing recurring nuisance and quality-of-life violations through the Chart of Civil Penalties set forth in Section 11-25; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that enforcing improper solid waste container placement through Chapter 11 will promote accountability, encourage voluntary compliance, and reduce the need for ongoing City intervention;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 24-27. - Containers, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 24-27. - Containers.

CODING: Words, symbols, and letters ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words, symbols, and letters underlined are additions.

- (a) City solid waste containers shall be issued to an address and are not to be removed from the premises. If a dwelling is to be unoccupied for any length of time, the city shall be notified to pick up the container. Upon reoccupancy, a container shall be issued.
- (b) Containers shall be placed and removed from roadside on the day of collection by the customer. After collection, all containers, whether city or privately owned, on the property shall be returned to a secure location on the property. With the exception of being stored within a carport or garage, containers shall not be stored anywhere closer to the street than the extension of any existing building line that faces any street unless the container is screened from public view by shrubbery, foliage, a fence or wall. Such containers shall not be left roadside overnight. ~~If a container is found roadside or forward of any existing building line that faces any street, on the day following a scheduled collection, and is not screened from public view as required, then the city, for a fee as established in Section 24-47, shall place the container in an appropriate location.~~ Any container found roadside or forward of the building line facing any street on the day following a scheduled collection, and not screened from public view as required, shall constitute a violation subject to enforcement pursuant to Chapter 11 of this Code.
- (c) It is the responsibility of each person issued a City container to maintain the container in good working condition.
- (d) Each person issued a city container shall notify the City in the event that the City container is stolen, lost or damaged.
- (e) The City shall be notified of any defects or malfunctions of City containers.
- (f) Solid waste containers with lids shall, at all times, have their lids attached and closed.
- (g) Only acceptable solid waste shall be placed in a container. Acceptable waste is limited to garbage, household trash, litter, and refuse. Only acceptable recyclables shall be placed in the City provided recycling container. Only acceptable yard waste shall be placed in the City provided yard waste container. Only acceptable bulk trash shall be placed in the swale area for collection.
- (h) The users or owners of any containers placed for collection shall keep such containers free of water or other excessive liquids.

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SECTION 2. At the direction of the City Attorney, the publisher of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is authorized to conform chapter, article, section, subsection, and clause numbers and letters, and capitalization, set forth in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and to correct any non-substantive scrivener’s errors in the codification of this Ordinance without the need for a public hearing.

SECTION 3. That if any clause, section or other part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage.

PASSED FIRST READING this ____ day of _____, 2026.

PASSED SECOND READING this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor
DEAN TRANTALIS

ATTEST:

City Clerk
DAVID R. SOLOMAN

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