

AN ORDINANCE  
TO BE ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND DIVISION II, PART 6,  
LICENSING AND REGULATION, CHAPTER I, BUSINESS  
AND OCCUPATIONS, ARTICLE R, TOUR SERVICES FOR HIRE,  
DIVISION 3, HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES, OF THE CODE  
OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH TO PROVIDE FOR WET BULB GLOBE  
TEMPERATURE HEAT STRESS MEASUREMENTS;  
TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia, in regular meeting of Council assembled, and pursuant to lawful authority thereof:

SECTION 1: That Article R of Part 6 of the Code of the City of Savannah, Georgia be amended by deleting Section 6-1564 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 5-1564. – Equine heat.

a. Monitoring temperature and heat indices. The official thermometer used for determining the wet bulb globe temperature and heat index shall be permanently affixed and located at 248 West Bryan Street in Ellis Square. In the event the thermometer is out of service, as determined by the department of Code Compliance or the office of Special Events, Film, and Tourism, acting through their respective directors or their designees, measurements shall occur at 248 West Bryan Street utilizing a portable Questemp-32 Heat Stress Monitor during such time the affixed monitor is out of service. Such measurements shall be taken by the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee.

b. Heat guidelines. The following heat indices and air temperatures shall apply:

1. Wet bulb globe temperature of 86 degrees Fahrenheit or higher:

(A) Rectal temperature readings and respiratory rates shall be taken by the carriage driver upon the completion of every circuit of the tour route prior to hosing down the horse. This information shall be recorded in writing and maintained on the carriage or at the carriage stand, which shall be made available to the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee upon request.

(B) Upon request, horses shall be made available to the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee to evaluate factors suggestive of undue equine stress or heat exhaustion.

2. Wet bulb globe temperature of 88 degrees Fahrenheit or higher:

(A) Rectal temperature readings and respiratory rates shall be taken by the carriage driver upon the completion of every circuit of the tour route prior to hosing down the horse. This information shall be recorded in writing and maintained on the carriage or at the carriage stand, which shall be made available to the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee upon request.

(B) Horses shall be hosed down with cold water upon the completion of every tour route circuit. Sweat scrapers shall be used to remove excess water from the horse's body after it has been hosed down.

(C) Water stations shall contain fresh and cold water. Electrolytes are recommended as may be needed to avoid equine thirst.

(D) Detection of any sign of heat exhaustion or undue equine stress shall be addressed immediately and the horse returned to its stabling facility.

(E) Horses shall have no less than fifteen minutes of rest per every hour of working tour operations.

(F) Upon request, horses shall be made available to the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee to evaluate factors suggestive of undue equine stress or heat exhaustion.

3. Wet bulb globe temperature of 91 degrees Fahrenheit or higher:

(A) Horse drawn carriage tour operations shall not be allowed to operate on City streets..

(B) Horses on the street may return to the carriage stand to keep cool if returning to the stabling facility could cause undue stress or increase the risk of heat exhaustion. Appropriate emergent care shall be provided if needed.

(C) Upon request, horses at carriage stands shall be made available to the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee to evaluate factors suggestive of undue equine stress or heat exhaustion.

(c) Horse drawn carriage tour service owners and operators shall monitor the Ellis Square wet bulb globe temperature device to ensure ongoing compliance with this section. Designated City staff may monitor the device and transmit electronic communications to tour service owners and operators should this section be implicated; however, responsibility for monitoring and compliance remains the sole responsibility of horse drawn carriage tour service owners and operators.

(d) Inspections. The Code Compliance Director or his/her designee may request to inspect rectal temperature readings and respiratory rate records for any horse in circulation when the wet bulb globe temperature registers 86 degrees Fahrenheit or

higher, which shall be made available upon request. The Code Compliance Director or his/her designee may order the return of any horse to the carriage stand and require performance of a rectal temperature check in his/her presence for any horse in circulation when the wet bulb globe temperature registers 86 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Horse drawn carriage owners or operators failing to comply with either such request shall result in immediate removal of the horse from the street and return to its stabling facilities for the remainder of the calendar day.

(e) Elevated horse temperatures. If the temperature of any horse registers in excess of 101.9 degrees Fahrenheit as determined by a rectal temperature check, its carriage owner or operator shall recheck the temperature thirty minutes thereafter. If the horse's temperature remains in excess of 101.9 degrees, it shall immediately be returned to its stabling facility for the remainder of the calendar day and the Code Compliance Director or his/her designee shall be notified within thirty minutes of the second temperature reading. Appropriate emergent care shall be provided if needed.

SECTION 2: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3: This Section shall be effective when the Mayor affixes his signature below.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

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Van R. Johnson II, Mayor

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Mark Massey, Clerk of Council