

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 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 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. Temperature of 85 or 92 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 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 temperature registers 92 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 temperature registers 92 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: _____

Van R. Johnson II, Mayor

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council