

**CITY OF KEARNS**

**Ordinance No. 2026-O-07**

**Date: June 8, 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEARNS COUNCIL AMENDING  
SECTION 19.50.020 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY THE  
EXEMPTIONS FROM LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS THAT APPLY TO  
SINGLE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS NOT WITHIN A PLANNED UNIT  
DEVELOPMENT OR PLANNED COMMUNITY**

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kearns is a municipality and has authority to adopt land use regulations pursuant to Utah Code § 10-20-101 in accordance with the Municipal Land Use, Development, and Management Act, Title 10, Chapter 20, Utah Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary to amend its land use ordinances to clarify that single and two family dwellings are subject to minimum front yard landscaping requirements but are exempt from irrigation system and detailed landscape design requirements, and for the protection and preservation of the public health, safety and general welfare;

**WHEREAS**, the Kearns Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 1, 2026 to consider amending 19.50.020.D to clarify the single and two family dwelling exemptions to landscaping requirements in accordance with Utah Code §§ 10-20-302 and 10-20-503; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has recommended that the Council (approve/deny) the ordinance amendment as drafted.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF KEARNS COUNCIL** as follows:

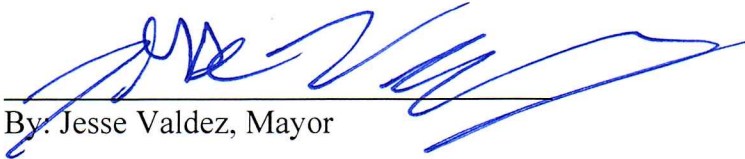
1. Section 19.50.020 is hereby amended as set forth in Exhibit A.
2. Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any part of this Ordinance is unconstitutional or invalid, then such portion of this Ordinance, or specific application of this Ordinance, shall be severed from the remainder, which shall continue in full force and effect.
3. Direction to Staff. Staff are authorized and directed to take such steps as may be needed:  
(a) for this ordinance to become effective under Utah law, including but not limited to compliance with the requirements of Utah Code § 10-3-711; and (b) to finalize and post

the ordinance to Municode, including but not limited to making non-substantive edits to correct any scrivener's, formatting, and numbering errors.

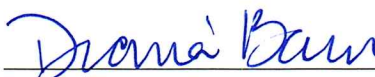
4. Effective Date. This Ordinance will take effect immediately pursuant to Utah Code § 10-3-712.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 8th day of June 2026.

KEARNS CITY COUNCIL

  
By: Jesse Valdez, Mayor

ATTEST

  
Diana Baun, City Recorder

Voting:

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Council Member Butterfield | voting <u>aye</u>     |
| Council Member Colby       | voting <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
| Council Member Longtin     | voting <u>aye</u>     |
| Council Member Schaeffer   | voting <u>aye</u>     |
| Mayor Valdez               | voting <u>aye</u>     |

(Complete as Applicable)

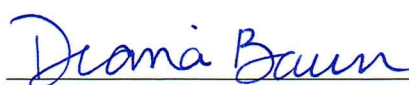
Date ordinance summary was posted to the Kearns website, the Utah Public Notice website, and in a public place within Kearns per Utah Code §10-3-711: June 9, 2026  
Effective date of ordinance: June 9, 2026

**SUMMARY OF**  
**CITY OF KEARNS**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-O-07**

On June 8, 2026, the City of Kearns Council enacted Ordinance No. 2026-O-07 amending section 19.50.020 of the zoning ordinance to clarify the exemptions from landscaping requirements that apply to single and two family dwellings not within a planned unit development or planned community.

  
By: Jesse Valdez, Mayor

ATTEST

  
Diana Baun, Recorder

Voting:

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Council Member Butterfield | voting <u>aye</u>             |
| Council Member Colby       | voting <del>aye</del> ABSTAIN |
| Council Member Longtin     | voting <u>aye</u>             |
| Council Member Schaeffer   | voting <u>aye</u>             |
| Mayor Valdez               | voting <u>aye</u>             |

A complete copy of Ordinance No. 2026-O-07 is available in the office of the City of Kearns Recorder, 860 West Levoy Drive, Suite 300, Taylorsville, Utah.

## EXHIBIT A

### 19.50.020 Scope And Applicability

The standards of this Chapter apply to:

- A. New Development. Any new development and/or off-street parking facilities shall comply with the provisions of this Chapter. Existing landscaping must be made to conform to the provisions of this ordinance when landscaping for public agency projects, or private commercial, industrial, or multifamily projects are modified or rehabilitated. Routine maintenance does not qualify as a modification or rehabilitation.
- B. Building Additions. Building additions which increase building coverage by twenty percent (20%) or more require the entire property to fully comply with this Chapter. Single- and Two-Family Dwellings are subject to this part only if more than fifty percent (50%) of the front or side yard area is disturbed. The Director or designee may grant relief from full compliance based on exemption factors cited in Subsection 19.50.020(F).
- C. Building Renovations. Building renovations, whether involving interior or exterior work, do not trigger a requirement for the property to fully comply with this ordinance. However, if such work involves the removal of existing plants, new plants shall be installed that create comparable landscape design value.
- D. Residential Properties:
  - 1. Single and Two Family Dwellings. Single and Two-Family dwellings, except where located within a planned unit development or master planned community, shall comply with Section 19.50.050.A(1), but are exempt from ~~(all other)~~ sections **19.50.030 and 19.50.040** of this Chapter.
  - 2. Fewer than Five (5) Units. Residential properties with fewer than five (5) units shall comply with the provisions of this Chapter for front yards and side yards ~~(only)~~. The rear yard is not subject to the requirements of **sections 19.50.030 and 19.50.040** of this Chapter.
  - 3. Five (5) or More Units. Residential properties or developments with five (5) or more units are subject to all provisions of this Chapter, including rear yards. This includes all Single and Two-Family dwellings located within a planned unit development or master planned community.
- E. Off-Street Parking Expansions.
  - 1. Fifty Percent (50%) or less. A parking expansion which increases the number of parking stalls by fifty percent (50%) or less requires that the newly established expansion area be brought into compliance with both the interior and exterior/perimeter landscape requirements of this Chapter.
  - 2. Fifty Percent (50%) or more. A parking expansion which increases the number of parking stalls by fifty percent (50%) or more requires that the entire expansion area be brought into compliance with both the interior and exterior/perimeter landscape requirements of this Chapter. The pre-existing parking area, while not required to be retroactively brought into compliance with this Chapter's interior parking area landscape requirements, shall conform to exterior/perimeter area landscape standards.

3. Repeated Expansions. Repeated expansions of parking facilities over time are combined in determining whether the fifty percent (50%) threshold has been reached.

F. Exemptions. The provisions of this Chapter do not apply to the following:

1. Exemption for Historic District Contributing Buildings. Properties listed on either the State of Utah or National Historic Registers may be exempt from these regulations, subject to review by the Director or designee.
2. Exemptions from Water Allowance Limitations. Areas dedicated and used for the following specific purposes are exempt from the landscape water allowance limitations of this Chapter:
  - a. Sports fields;
  - b. Turf areas within public parks;
  - c. Golf courses; and
  - d. Cemeteries.
3. Limits to Exemptions. Although exempt from landscape water allowance limitations, all other provisions of this Chapter apply. In particular, landscaping shall be provided in the interior and perimeter areas of off-street parking facilities, adjacent to buildings, and along walkways.