



CITY OF OWENS CROSS ROADS

ORDINANCE NO. 25-013

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY AND VANDALISM AT CITY UTILITY SEWER PUMP STATIONS IN THE CITY OF OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the City of Owens Cross Roads owns and operates vital wastewater infrastructure, including sewer pump stations, essential for public health and environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, unauthorized entry into or tampering with such facilities poses significant risks to public safety, environmental integrity, and the continuous operation of city services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it necessary to establish clear prohibitions and penalties to safeguard these critical assets;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Owens Cross Roads, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. Definitions

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

- **Sewer Pump Station:** Any facility, structure, or equipment owned or operated by the City of Owens Cross Roads that is used for the collection, conveyance, or pumping of wastewater, including but not limited to, the enclosed area, machinery, control panels, and associated infrastructure.
- **Authorized Personnel:** Individuals explicitly permitted by the City of Owens Cross Roads, or its designated contractors, to enter a Sewer Pump Station for official duties, including maintenance, inspection, repair, or emergency response.

Section 2. Prohibited Acts

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- **Unauthorized Entry:** Enter or attempt to enter, or remain within, any fenced or otherwise enclosed area of a City Utility Sewer Pump Station without being Authorized Personnel.
- **Destruction or Tampering:** Damage, destroy, deface, tamper with, remove, or otherwise interfere with any part of a City Utility Sewer Pump Station, its equipment, signage, or any associated infrastructure.

Section 3. Warning and Notice

Signs indicating "**DANGER**," "**CITY UTILITY SEWER PUMP STATION**," "**NO PUBLIC ENTRANCE**," and "**AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY**" shall be conspicuously posted at all entrances to City Utility Sewer Pump Stations. Such signs shall also state that "**UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY OR**

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY WILL RESULT IN FINES, ARREST, OR BOTH." Unauthorized entry or destruction of property at such facilities may also constitute a violation of federal law.

Section 4. Penalties for Violation

Any violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished as follows:

- **First Offense:** A fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$100.00.
- **Second Offense:** A fine of not less than \$200.00 and not more than \$400.00.
- **Third and Subsequent Offenses:** A fine of not less than \$300.00 and not more than \$500.00, or imprisonment for up to 30 days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

All fines imposed hereunder are exclusive of court costs, or other charges that may be lawfully assessed.

Section 5. Enforcement

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be enforced by the Police Department of the City of Owens Cross Roads and other authorized personnel.

Section 6. Severability

If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, clauses, provisions, or portions of this Ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED THIS 27th DAY OF MAY 2025.

Approved By:



Tony Craig, Mayor

Attest By:



Christie D. Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer

City of Owens Cross Roads, Alabama, certificate of publication.

This is to certify that Ordinance No. 25-013, City of Owens Cross Roads, Alabama, was published by posting on the City website, and on at least four (4) bulletin boards within the City.

