

CITY OF COLFAX

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF COLFAX AMENDING COLFAX MUNICIPAL CODE
CHAPTER 12 STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND RIGHT OF WAY TO
INCLUDE A NEW SECTION 12.28 ESTABLISHING AN
ENTERTAINMENT ZONE IN THE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

The City Council of the City of Colfax does ordain as follows:

Section 1: Findings and Purpose

The City Council finds that creating a designated Entertainment Zone in the Downtown Historic District will promote a lively, welcoming atmosphere, encourage public gathering and enhance economic activity while providing for the responsible consumption of alcohol in public areas. The Entertainment Zone shall be managed to ensure safety and compliance with all applicable laws.

Section 2. Code Amendment

Chapter 12 is hereby amended to read as follows adding Chapter 12.28:

12.28 Entertainment Zones

This chapter establishes entertainment zones within Downtown Historic District of Colfax to create managed, safe, and enjoyable public spaces where residents and visitors may gather, explore, and enjoy the districts. By authorizing the responsible consumption of specified alcoholic beverages on designated public streets, sidewalks, and rights-of-way, this chapter provides for orderly public enjoyment consistent with public safety. Entertainment zones must be operated in conjunction with City sponsored special events consistent with a permit application, such as 3rd of July, Railroad Days etc.

12.28.010 Location and Hours

- A. Downtown Historic District as defined.
- B. Hours of operation:

10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. with service stopping at 9:30 p.m. Extended hours may be allowed with prior approval from the City Manager or designee.

12.28.020 Conditions and Operating Standards

- A. Permitted alcoholic beverages within the entertainment zone

- i. Beer: 12 ounces or less
- ii. Wine: 5 ounces or less
- iii. Mixed drinks: 12 ounces or less, containing no more than 1 ounce of distilled spirits

- B. Alcoholic beverages may only be transported and consumed in City-approved non-glass and non-metal containers.

- C. Persons in possession of alcoholic beverages must be 21 or older and identifiable by wristband, stamp, or other City-approved method.

D. All businesses selling alcoholic beverages must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including all California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (“ABC”) licensing requirements, Business and Professions Code sections 23357, 23358, 23396, and the Colfax Municipal Code.

E. Open alcoholic beverages consumed within the entertainment zone must be purchased from authorized premises within the entertainment zone or organizations authorized under ABC permits or licenses.

F. Delivery of alcoholic beverages within the entertainment zone is prohibited, except to residential buildings or private businesses.

G. No alcoholic beverages purchased at licensed premises may leave in open glass or metal containers for consumption in the entertainment zone.

H. Participation in the program is voluntary; businesses are not required to sell alcohol for off-premises consumption.

I. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to permit the sale or purchase of any alcoholic beverage during the hours when sales of alcoholic beverages are prohibited under Business and Professions Code section 25631.

J. Alcoholic beverages may only be sold during the hours in which at least one licensee within the boundaries of the entertainment zone is permitted to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises.

12.28.030 Entertainment Zone Permit

A. No business shall sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on public streets, sidewalks, and rights-of-way in the entertainment zone without first applying for and obtaining a permit from the City Manager or designee. A business must have a valid permit in effect and not suspended to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on public streets, sidewalks, and right-of-way in the entertainment zone.

B. The permits issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for one year and shall automatically renew for additional one-year terms unless and until the permit is revoked, suspended, or modified by the City after providing notice to the business and the reasons therefore as provided in this section.

C. The issuance of a permit pursuant to this section does not excuse a person selling alcoholic beverages in the entertainment zone from complying with all applicable state and local laws and regulations

12.28.032 Implementation

A. The City Manager shall, in consultation with the Placer County Sheriff’s Office, provide the following information to ABC:

- i. A copy of the ordinance establishing or modifying the entertainment zone
- ii. Information as may be necessary to identify the boundaries of the entertainment zone.
- iii. The days and hours of operation of the entertainment zone entertainment zone

iv. The types of alcoholic beverages permitted within the entertainment zone entertainment zone

v. The approved non-glass and nonmetal containers in which alcoholic beverages may be authorized

12.28.034 Review, Modification, or Suspension

A. The City shall review entertainment zone operations every two years following the adoption of this chapter to ensure the entertainment zone is being maintained in a manner that protects the health and safety of the general public. Reviews shall involve local law enforcement, and reports shall be made available to ABC upon request. Participating businesses must respond promptly to requests for information; failure may result in modification or suspension of one or both entertainment zone.

B. The Placer County Sherrif or designee may request and perform a review of entertainment zone operations at any time to ensure the entertainment zone is being maintained in a manner that protects the health and safety of the general public. Participating businesses must respond promptly to requests for information; failure may result in modification or suspension of the entertainment zone. Any review initiated pursuant to this subsection is in addition to the review required in subsection A. above.

C. Following the review required or allowed pursuant to subsection A. or B. above, the City Council may adopt a resolution modifying or suspending the entertainment zone for a period of time or indefinitely to protect the health and safety of the general public.

12.28.036 Violations and Enforcement

A. Any violation of this chapter is a public nuisance.

B. Any violation of this chapter or any condition imposed on a permit pursuant to this chapter may be enforced by the City, the Placer County Sheriff or an enforcement officer in accordance with the procedures set forth in this code, relating to the issuance of citations, imposition of administrative fines, right to appeal, and the right to an administrative hearing, and shall be subject to the imposition and payment of administrative fines and penalties, in addition to any other legal or equitable enforcement remedy available under law, statute, regulation, and this code.

Section 3. Superceding Provisions

The provisions of this ordinance adopted pursuant hereto shall supersede any previous ordinance to the extent the same is in conflict herewith.

Section 4. Severability

If any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid or unconstitutional portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Section 5. California Environmental Quality Act Findings

The City of Colfax finds that adoption of this ordinance would be exempt from CEQA (*CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3) and Section 15305 Minor Alterations to Land Use*).

This ordinance shall, within 15 days after its adoption, be published or posted in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code of the State of California with the names of those City Council members voting for and against it.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a duly held regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Colfax on the ___ day of _____ 2026 and passed and adopted at a duly held regular meeting of the City Council on the ___ day of _____ 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

Caroline McCully
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

Conor Harkins
City Attorney

Ron Walker
City Manager