

STATE OF TEXAS

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SEGUIN, TEXAS AMENDING THE SEGUIN CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 14, ANIMALS, ADDING A NEW ARTICLE VII, ORGANIZED EQUINE TRAIL RIDES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO PREPARE THIS ORDINANCE FOR SUBMISSION AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, organized equine trail rides have passed through the city limits of Seguin, Texas for many years on public streets, rights-of-way, and public property making their way to various stock shows and rodeos across the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, given the growth of the City of Seguin recently and increased vehicular traffic, concerns have been raised regarding the overall safety of trail riders, their animals, and the public as trail rides pass through Seguin; and

WHEREAS, at a City Council meeting on January 20, 2026, the Seguin Police Department requested input and direction from City Council regarding regulating organized equine trail rides through the Seguin city limits for public safety purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that organized equine trail rides conducted on public streets, rights-of-way, and public property may impact traffic flow and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Seguin Police Department recommends that the City Council adopts an addition to the City Code of Ordinances that allows, but regulates organized equine trail rides to help protect the safety of trail riders, their animals, and the public as trail rides pass through the Seguin city limits while minimizing the disruption of vehicular traffic.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEGUIN:

SECTION ONE. The Seguin Code of Ordinances Chapter 14, Animals is amended by the addition of a new Article VII, to read as follows (underlining indicates added text):

ARTICLE VII. – ORGANIZED EQUINE TRAIL RIDES

Sec. 14-270. Permit required.

(a) A group or organization may not conduct an organized equine trail ride within the Seguin city limits without first obtaining a Special Event Permit issued by the City.

(b) A permit shall be required when an organized equine trail ride includes:

(1) Four (4) or more single riders, or

(2) One (1) or more equine-drawn wagons traveling with any amount of trail riders, or

(3) Any organized trail rider group or organization that may impact traffic flow or public safety.

(c) An application for a Special Event Permit for an organized equine trail ride must be submitted to the City no less than thirty (30) days prior to the proposed trail ride through the Seguin city limits for City review, unless waived by the City Manager or designee for good cause shown.

(d) The Special Event Permit application shall include such information as the City may require, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Name, address, and contact information of the equine trail ride organizer.
- (2) The proposed date and time of the equine trail ride through the Seguin city limits.
- (3) The estimated number of equine riders and equine-drawn wagons.
- (4) Proposed staging or overnight location(s) within the Seguin city limits, if applicable.
- (5) Waste management and cleanup plan along public streets, rights-of-way, and public property.
- (6) Proof of commercial general liability insurance in the limits and conditions as required by the City.

(e) The City Manager or designee may impose additional reasonable conditions on the permit to ensure compliance with this ordinance and to help protect the safety of trail riders, their animals, and the public as equine trail riders pass through the Seguin city limits while minimizing the disruption of vehicular traffic.

Sec. 14-271. Police escort required.

(a) Any organized equine trail ride utilizing public streets or rights-of-way shall be required to have a police escort provided and approved by the Seguin Police Department.

(b) The Seguin Chief of Police or designee shall determine:

- (1) The number of officers required.
- (2) Any traffic control measures necessary.
- (3) Operational safety requirements for the trail ride.

(c) The Special Event Permit applicant shall be responsible for payment of all costs associated with Seguin Police Department services required for the equine trail ride in accordance with the City's adopted fee schedule and/or the department's approved hourly off-duty officer rate.

Sec 14-272. Route through the Seguin city limits.

(a) The Special Event Permit applicant should include in their application the proposed route through the Seguin city limits including the entry and exit points of the City.

(b) As a condition of City approval of the equine trail ride through the Seguin city limits, the Seguin Police Department may dictate a safer trail ride route than proposed by the applicant.

(c) As a condition of the permit, equine trail riders shall remain on the City approved route unless otherwise directed by law enforcement.

(d) The Seguin Police Department may establish one permanent equine trail ride route through the Seguin city limits that would be applicable to all organized equine trail rides for public safety and route consistency purposes.

Sec. 14-273. Fees.

(a) The Special Event Permit applicant shall be responsible for the payment of all applicable fees, in accordance with City payment policies, associated with the organized equine trail ride including, but not limited to the following:

- (1) Special Event Permit fees.
- (2) Seguin Police Department escort fees.
- (3) Seguin Events Complex staging area fees.
- (4) Overnight camping fees at the Seguin Events Complex.
- (5) RV site rental fees at the Seguin Events Complex.
- (6) Cleanup/restoration fees at the Seguin Events Complex or along the equine trail ride route.

Sec. 14-274. Insurance.

(a) As a condition of permit approval, the Special Event Permit applicant shall provide proof of commercial general liability insurance in the limits and conditions as required by the City.

Sec. 14-275. Staging and overnight activities on public property.

(a) Organized equine trail rides intending to stage, rest, or camp overnight within the Seguin city limits must utilize the Seguin Events Complex, unless approved by the City otherwise.

(b) The City may establish requirements relating to the following:

- (1) Animal containment.
- (2) Sanitation facilities.
- (3) Animal and trail rider waste disposal.
- (4) Parking and RV accommodations.
- (5) Fire safety and security.

(c) Additional permits or fees may be required for overnight activities.

Sec. 14-276. Animal waste and debris removal.

(a) The permit holder shall be responsible for the prompt removal and proper disposal of all animal waste and other debris generated by the organized equine trail ride from public streets, rights-of-way, parks, and other public areas impacted by the trail ride.

(b) If the permit holder fails to adequately remove such waste or debris, the City may perform the necessary cleanup and recover all associated costs from the permit holder.

Sec. 14-277 Permit revocation.

(a) The City Manager, Chief of Police, or their designee(s) may suspend or revoke a permit if:

- (1) Permit conditions are violated.
- (2) Required fees are not paid in accordance with City policies.
- (3) False information was provided in the Special Event Permit application.
- (4) Public safety is threatened or compromised.

SECTION TWO. In accordance with Section 3.10 of the Seguin City Charter, this Ordinance shall become effective upon ten (10) days following passage on second reading and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

SECTION THREE. If any clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be unenforceable for any reason, such unenforceable clause or provision shall be severed from the remaining portion of the Ordinance, which shall continue to have full force and effect.

PASSED AND APPROVED on first reading this 5th day of May 2026.

PASSED AND APPROVED on second reading this 19th day of May 2026.

DONNA DODGEN, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristin Mueller, City Secretary