



Technical Memo

To City of Ruston Planning Commission

From: Zoë Tapert, Consultant Planner

Date: September 3rd, 2025 PC Meeting

Subject Reorganization of Ruston Development Code – Title 25 Review and Discussion

SUMMARY

The City of Ruston initiated a reorganization of its Development Code (Title 25) to improve clarity, usability, and consistency with a preferred code outline. SCJ Alliance supported this effort by preparing a crosswalk document (**Exhibit #1**) that maps existing code sections into the new framework as well as a draft document showing the reorganized code structure (**Exhibit #2**). The crosswalk displays the original numbering system, current code titles, revised titles under the new outline, and a description of where each section was relocated or consolidated. The draft code document illustrates how Title 25 is proposed to be reorganized.

As part of this work, SCJ identified gaps between the existing code and the City's ideal outline. These missing items were flagged in red within the crosswalk, with recommended placement noted for ease of integration. In addition, new sections have been added with "reserved" placeholder language to support future work the City intends to pursue.

During this process, co-living housing was also identified as a required use under Engrossed 2nd Substitute House Bill 1998 to be addressed by December 31st, 2025. An initial draft of incorporating this use has been prepared and included in the recommendations for Title 25 updates.

The result of this effort is an organized framework that retains all existing provisions, highlights where content has been moved and identifies areas where new language will be developed. This structure provides a roadmap for completing the code update while minimizing confusion and ensuring that no regulatory topics are overlooked. Next steps include review and discussion of the initial draft, with further edits to follow.

Attachments:

Exhibit #1 – Code Reorganization Crosswalk

Exhibit #2 – DRAFT Title 25 Reorganized Code