1   **ORDINANCE NO. _____**

2

3   **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 36**

4   **OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK TO**

5   **ALLOW THE USE OF LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID); AND,**

6   **FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

7

8   **WHEREAS,** the City of Little Rock is committed to reducing the volume of nonpoint source runoff,

9 including stormwater, flowing into its storm sewer system, improving the water quality of its surface

10 waters, and decreasing underground stormwater conveyance that may ultimately runoff into the Arkansas

11 River; and,

12   **WHEREAS,** Unlike traditional stormwater management, which collects and conveys stormwater

13 runoff through storm drains, pipes, or other conveyances to a centralized stormwater facility, Low Impact

14 Development (LID) takes a different approach. It utilizes design techniques to maintain as closely as

15 practical the site's pre-development runoff rates and volumes for the required rainfall event. The goal of

16 LID is to mimic a site's pre-development hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store,

17 evaporate, and detain runoff close to the source; and,

18   **WHEREAS,** the current City of Little Rock Zoning Ordinance does not currently allow the

19 utilization of LID techniques as an option for stormwater management requirements in land development

20 projects without first having to obtain a variance from the City of Little Rock Planning Commission or

21 Board of Adjustment; and,

22   **WHEREAS,** it is the intent of the City of Little Rock to amend its current zoning ordinance to allow

23 Low Impact Development (LID); and,

24   **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY**

25 **OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:**

26   **Section 1**. Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 36-508 (1988) is hereby amended to add a second

27 paragraph to read as follows:

28   Low Impact Development (LID) facilities and techniques are allowed to be used for

29   parking lot design and construction, unless conditions make LID infeasible as determined

30   by the Director of Public Works or his/her designee. LID techniques for parking lot

31   design include, but are not limited to, pervious surfacing and bioretention swales.

32   Pervious surfacing may be an option for all or a portion of the vehicular use area

33   depending on the use, soil conditions and associated vehicular traffic. Pervious surfacing

1 includes, but is not limited to, paving blocks, pervious concrete and porous asphalt. The

2 surface of the vehicular use area shall be maintained to comply with the approved plan.

3 **Section 2**. Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 36-510 (1988) is hereby amended to add a second

4 paragraph to read as follows:

5 Low Impact Development (LID) techniques are allowed when integrating stormwater

6 management facilities.

7 **Section 3.** Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 36-521(c)(1) (1988) is hereby amended to read as

8 follows::

9 (1) Plantings, trees, groundcover and ornamental or structural embellishments as

10 may be required by the landscape ordinance. Low Impact Development (LID) facilities

11 and techniques are permitted in the landscape design.

12 **Section 4.** *Severability*. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or

13 word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or

14 adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and

15 effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part

16 of the ordinance.

17 **Section 5.** *Repealer*. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same that are inconsistent with

18 the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

19 **PASSED: August 4, 2015**

20 **ATTEST:**   **APPROVED:**

21

22 _____   _____
23 **Susan Langley, City Clerk**   **Mark Stodola, Mayor**

24 **APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:**

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26 _____
27 **Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney**

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