

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-_____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 166-30-1 OF THE CITY CODE OF
THE CITY OF LATROBE, COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

WHEREAS, the City of Latrobe has sought recommendations from the City of Latrobe's Planning Commission and the Westmoreland County Planning Department with regards to amendments to the Code regarding fences; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it enacted and ordained by the Council of the City of Latrobe, and the City of Latrobe hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 166-30-1 – Fences shall be amended as follows:

A. Fences in Required Side or Rear Yards (Residential Use):

- (1) Fences must be placed at least one (1) foot from the property line, unless the abutting property owner provides written consent for placement on the common property line.
- (2) The finished side of the fence must face the neighboring property.
- (3) Fences shall not exceed six (6) feet in height.
- (4) Fences shall be constructed at the natural grade of the lot where the fence is located. Fences may not be placed on top of mounds, berms, retaining walls, or other artificial elevations to increase height.
- (5) Fences shall be constructed of durable materials customarily used for residential fencing, including, but not limited to metal, wood, stone, vinyl, brick, trees or shrubs. All fences shall be maintained in good repair and shall not contain broken, rotted, rusted, or deteriorated components.
- (6) Fences located in the side or rear yard shall not obstruct visibility for motorists or pedestrians and shall comply with all clear sight triangle requirements at street intersections and driveways as established by §166-36 of this Chapter.
- (7) Materials permitted other than those listed in this chapter as permitted shall be subject to review and approval prior to their use and the issuance of a permit by the Zoning Officer.

B. Fences in Front Yards (Residential Use):

- (1) Fences may be erected within the required front yard of a residential property, provided that such fences shall not exceed four (4) feet in height, measured from the natural grade at the base of the fence.
- (2) Fences shall be placed at least one (1) foot from the property line.
- (3) Front yard fences shall be constructed of durable materials as established by §166-30-1(A) and shall be maintained in good repair and shall not contain broken, rotted, rusted, or deteriorated components.
- (4) Fences located in the front yard shall not obstruct visibility for motorists or pedestrians and shall comply with all clear sight triangle requirements at street intersections and driveways as established by §166-36 of this Chapter.
- (5) The finished side of the fence shall face outward toward adjacent properties or public rights-of-way.

C. Chain Link Fences for Schools, Playgrounds, or Parks:

- (1) Chain link fences may be erected in any required yard, not exceeding eight (8) feet in height.
- (2) Such fences must be placed at least one (1) foot from the property line, unless the abutting property owner provides written consent for placement on the common property line.

D. Fences in Commercial or Industrial Use:

- (1) Chain link or solid fences may be erected in any required yard, not exceeding eight (8) feet in height.
- (2) Such fences must be placed at least one (1) foot from the property line, unless the abutting property owner provides written consent for placement on the common property line.

E. Permit Requirement:

- (1) No fence shall be constructed without first obtaining a permit from the City of Latrobe.

F. Banned Fence Types:

- (1) Electric or electrified fences are prohibited on all properties.
- (2) Barbed wire and razor wire are prohibited in residential and commercial zones.

SECTION 2. That all other provisions of Chapter 166, not repealed or amended herein, shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. That the within Ordinance shall take effect on the date of publication of the post-enactment notice of passage of the same.

SECTION 4. That the City Manager, the City Secretary, Mayor, and any other proper City officer is authorized and directed to execute any and all documents and to take any and all action necessary in order to carry in effect the within ordinance.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LATROBE

Janina Hall
Secretary

By:

Eric Bartels
Mayor

Amendments to
§166-88 Terms Defined
Fence

A man-made barrier or enclosure constructed of metal, wood, stone, vinyl, brick, trees or shrubs, or similar materials, intended to enclose, screen, or separate an area. This definition does not include retaining walls.