O-20-54

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT TO BE KNOWN AS THE ARGENTA OUTDOOR DINING DISTRICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Act 812 of 2019 authorizes cities collecting a gross receipts tax on prepared food or hotel and motel accommodations under Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-75-602, et. seq., and located in a county authorized to sell alcoholic beverages to create a designated entertainment district and to set reasonable standards for the regulation of alcohol possession within the boundaries of the district; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that creation of an entertainment district in the Argenta area will help promote an atmosphere that highlights restaurant, entertainment, and hospitality options; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to create a permanent designated entertainment district to be known as the "Argenta Outdoor Dining District," subject to the regulations set forth in this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That pursuant to the authority granted by Act 812 of 2019, an entertainment district to be known as the Argenta Outdoor Dining District ("District") is hereby created and established within the boundaries as set forth and designated on the map that is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

SECTION 2: That the following regulations shall apply to the Argenta Outdoor Dining District:

(a) Restaurants, bars, and breweries, within the District boundaries, as well as vendors at special events within the District boundaries, may serve alcoholic beverages that may be carried out of the establishment and consumed within the boundaries of the District between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily.

(b) The North Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau ("NLRCVB") shall have the right, at its discretion, to exclude the Argenta Plaza during specified times.

(c) The boundaries of the District will be designated by signage placed on the sidewalk within the District.

(d) Trash and recycling receptacles will be placed at the boundaries of the District.

(e) A document will be prepared showing the boundaries of the District, participating bars and restaurants, information regarding the regulations of the District, and frequently asked questions. The document will be available on NLRCVB and Argenta Arts District digital platforms. Participating restaurants and bars are required to post this document.

(f) Participating restaurants and bars may not allow alcoholic beverages to be removed from the premises in glass containers and it shall be unlawful for any person to possess alcoholic beverages in glass containers at Argenta Plaza and on the streets, sidewalks, rights-of-way, and parking lots located within the District.

(g) No alcoholic beverages purchased outside the District shall be allowed in open containers in the District.

(h) Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to allow any person to possess open containers of alcohol beverages or to consume alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle.

(i) No person shall be permitted to remove an open alcoholic beverage container from the District. All unfinished quantities of alcoholic beverages must be properly disposed of prior to the individual leaving the District.

SECTION 3: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 5: It is hereby found and determined that the establishment of an entertainment district in the downtown Argenta area will promote hospitality and tourism by highlighting restaurant, entertainment, and hospitality options, and will provide economic benefit to the City and its residents and business owners; thus the immediate passage of this Ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare; THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

APPROVED:

Mayor Joe A. Smith

SPONSOR:

Mayor Joe A. Smith

ATTEST:

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/ABF

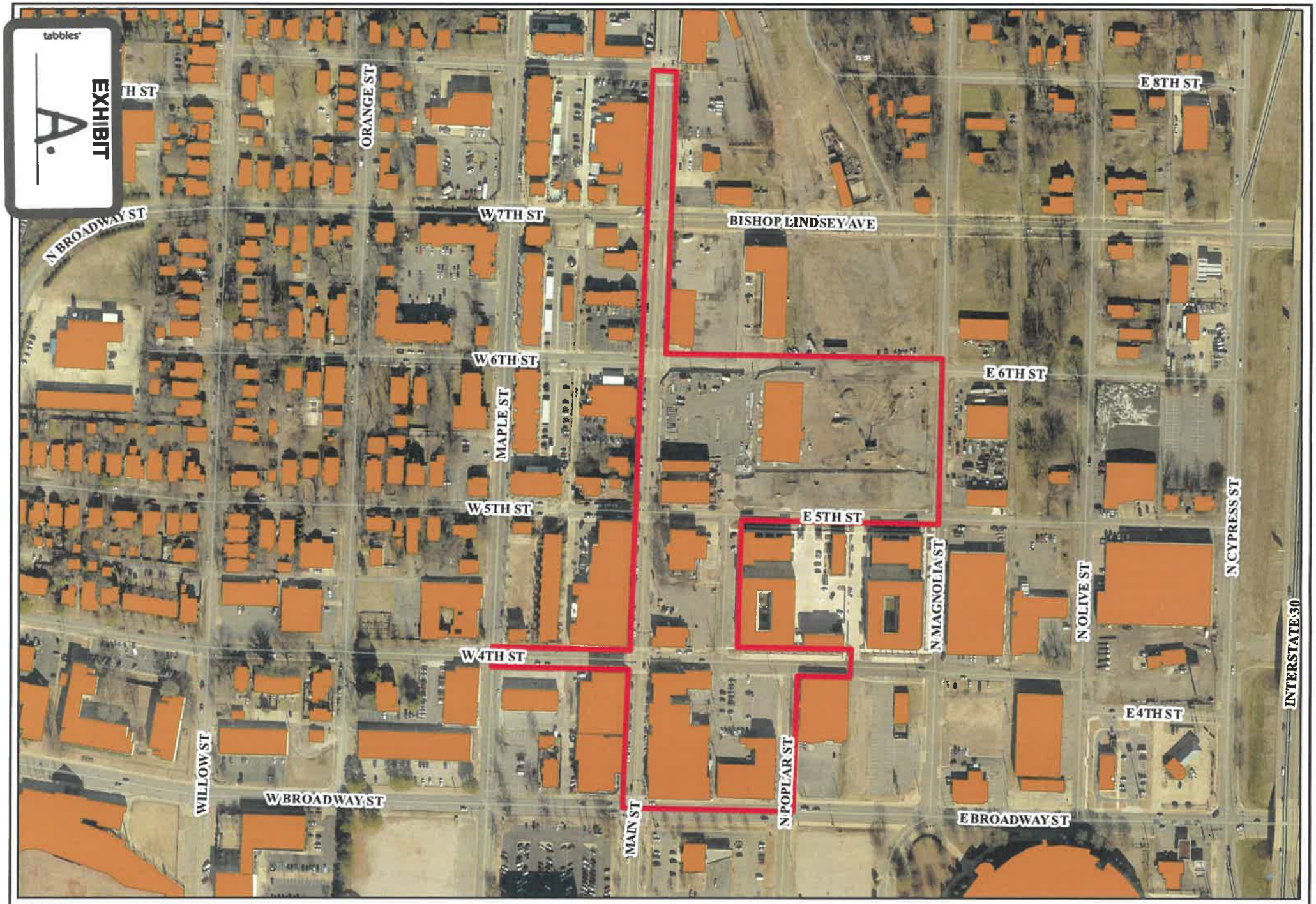
FILED 10:55 A.M. ___ P.M.

By Amy Fields, CA

DATE 6-3-20

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector
North Little Rock, Arkansas

RECEIVED BY



Argenta Entertainment District

Date: 6/1/2020

0 150 300 600 Feet

This map is not survey accurate.

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