

ORDINANCE 2025-6

REGULATIONS REGARDING AUTOMOBILE REPAIR WORK AND OIL CHANGES IN RESIDENTIAL AND SUBDIVISION AREAS and to Provide for Other Matters regarding to the same.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL of the City of Baker, Parish of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in regular session assembled, a proper quorum being there and then assembled on October 28, 2025 declared as follows, to-wit:

Regarding automobile motor oil changing and automobile repairs within residential areas and subdivisions, and especially to remain in compliance with and not violate the provisions of Ordinance 2025-3, Chapters 28 & 29 and EPA guidelines, relative to Storm Water Management in the City of Baker and Parish of East Baton Rouge, and to promote the safety and aesthetic wellbeing of the citizens of the City of Baker and the communities, this Ordinance is herein and hereby Enacted as follows:

SECTION 1. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the performance of automobile oil changes and repairs in residential areas, to protect public health, safety, and the environment, and to prevent environmental contamination from automotive fluids.

SECTION 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions apply:

1. Resident – Any person who resides at a dwelling within the City of Baker, whether as the legal property owner, a tenant, or other lawful occupant.
2. Owner of the Residence – The individual who holds legal title to the residential property.
3. Residential Premises – A private dwelling, including single-family homes, apartments, condominiums, and similar residential housing units and associated driveways or garages.
4. Oil Change – The draining and replacement of engine lubrication oil and/or the oil filter in an automobile.
5. Automobile Repair – Any mechanical work, replacement of parts, or other maintenance activity involving a motor vehicle, excluding routine cleaning and washing.

Section 3. Automobile Oil Changes in Residential Areas.

(a) Authorization.

It shall be lawful to conduct an automobile oil change at a residence, apartment complex, or other residential premises, provided that the work is performed:

1. On an automobile owned by the resident or owner of the residence; and
2. By the resident/owner personally or by another person who has been expressly authorized to perform the oil change on the residential premises by the resident or owner of the residence.

(b) Environmental Protection.

During or after such oil change, no person shall spill, discharge, pour, or otherwise deposit any used oil, automotive fluid, or related waste:

1. Onto the ground or paved surfaces;
2. Into a storm drain, ditch, waterway, or drainage system within the City of Baker; or
3. Into any location where the substance could reasonably be expected to enter the storm drainage system or natural environment.

(c) Disposal Requirements.

All used oil and related waste materials shall be collected in appropriate containers and disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal environmental regulations.

Section 4. Automobile Repairs in Residential Areas.

(a) Authorization.

It shall be lawful for automobile repairs to be conducted on residential premises, provided that the work is performed on an automobile owned by the resident, owner of the residence, or an individual given expressed consent to perform automobile repairs on the property.

(b) Time Limitation.

Such repairs shall not remain in progress, with the vehicle in an inoperative condition, for more than seven to ten (7-10) business days. All maintenance and repairs shall be performed between the hours of 7:00 am-7:00 pm.

(c) Prohibited Conduct.

1. All repairs must be performed in a manner that prevents environmental contamination, excessive noise, or obstruction of public rights-of-way.
2. Major automotive repairs, including engine, transmission, bodywork, painting, and dismantling.
3. Use of automotive hoists or related heavy equipment outside enclosed structures.

Section 5. Exemptions

This ordinance shall not apply to duly licensed automobile maintenance facilities, oil change businesses, or automotive repair shops operating in compliance with applicable City of Baker zoning, licensing, and environmental requirements

Section 6. Penalties.

Any person who violates this Ordinance shall pay a fine of Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) for a first violation; and a penalty of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each separate subsequent violation.

Failure to pay penalty fines will ultimately result in a Lien being filed and recorded in the East Baton Rouge Parish Tax Assessor's Office, in favor of the City of Baker for collection of the said penalty fine plus filing and recordation costs.

Section 7. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication in accordance with law.

All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith and the same are hereby Repealed.

All Ordinances not in conflict herewith and not affected by the amendment hereinabove set forth are hereby maintained in full force and effect as if re-enacted herein.

The Repeal of an Ordinance shall not affect any punishment or penalty incurred before the repeal took effect, or any suit, prosecution or proceedings pending at the time of the repeal, for an offense committed under the ordinance repealed.

SECTION 8: Severability

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, or sections of this ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without the incorporation in this ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrases, clauses, sentence, paragraph or section. If the provisions of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, fact, situation or circumstance are held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and the application of such provisions to the other persons, facts, situations or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 9: Invalidation

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect

without the invalid provisions or applications and, to that end, any and all provisions of this ordinance and applications thereof are declared to be severable.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

And the Ordinance was presented October 14, 2025 at the regular meeting of the Baker City Council held at the City Hall Building in Baker, Louisiana.

And the Ordinance was declared adopted on this, the 28th day of October, 2025 at the regular meeting of the Baker City Council held at the Baker City Hall Building in Baker, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

/s/Angela Canady Wall, LCMC, Clerk of Council

/s/Darnell Waites, Mayor