

CITY OF LUDLOW ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE AND PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS RELATED TO I.T. INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES (INCLUDING DATA CENTERS)

WHEREAS, the current City of Ludlow Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan do not specifically address data center development, and clarification or amendment of existing regulations may be necessary to ensure such uses are properly located and regulated; and

WHEREAS, the Ludlow City Council finds it necessary and prudent to temporarily suspend the acceptance and processing of applications for zoning permits, conditional use permits, site plans, or building permits related to the construction of I.T. infrastructure facilities (including but not limited to data center) uses, within the City of Ludlow until Ludlow City Council can secure appropriate studies, and recommendations necessary to establish zoning or other ordinance governing such facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Ludlow City Council requires adequate time to review and update the Ludlow Zoning Ordinances to ensure future development aligns with the City's goals and sustainable growth and community welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUDLOW, COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I

TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ESTABLISHED: A temporary moratorium is hereby imposed on the acceptance, review, processing, or approval of any and all applications, permits, or requests related to the establishment, expansion, or construction of I.T. Infrastructure Facility, including but not limited to data centers, within the City of Ludlow, Kentucky.

SECTION II

DEFINITION: For purposes of this ordinance, an "I.T. Infrastructure Facility" or "data center" shall mean any facility designed, used, or intended primarily for the storage, management, processing, or transmission of digital data through computer servers and associated equipment, whether for private, commercial, or governmental use. This definition shall include, but not be limited to, server farms, cloud computing facilities, crypto processing, commercial cryptocurrency mining (bitcoin mining), artificial intelligence training and/or processing, and colocation data centers, but shall not include small-scale computer rooms or I.T. equipment necessary for business use.

SECTION III

DURATION OF MORATORIUM: This moratorium shall remain in effect for a period of twelve (12) months from the effective date of this ordinance, unless terminated earlier or extended by action of the Ludlow City Council.

SECTION IV

STUDY AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Utilizing competent authorities and agencies, during the moratorium period, the Ludlow City Council requests that the Kenton County Planning Commission to:

1. Review the impacts of data center uses on local infrastructure, environment, and land use compatibility;
2. Evaluate appropriate zoning districts and performance standards; and
3. Prepare recommended text amendments or regulations for consideration by the Ludlow City Council.

SECTION V

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication which may be in summary form according to law.

SECTION VI

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, if any, hereby repealed.

SECTION VII

If any portion of this ordinance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

CITY OF LUDLOW, KENTUCKY

By: _____
Sarah Thompson, Mayor

Attest: _____
Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

First Reading: _____ Second Reading: _____ Publication: _____