

TOWNSHIP OF ROSS
COUNTY OF KALAMAZOO, STATE OF MICHIGAN

ROSS TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 244

ADOPTED: MAY 19, 2026

EFFECTIVE: JUNE 10, 2026

ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS

An Ordinance to adopt amendments to the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance concerning sidewalks and outdoor lighting; to provide for severability; and to provide an effective date and to repeal all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith.

TOWNSHIP OF ROSS
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ORDAINS:

SECTION I
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 10, SECTION 10.6 TITLED
“SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS”.

Article 10, Section 10.6 D.1. of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Where they do not exist, sidewalks may be required by the Planning Commission to provide desired linkage along the abutting road and may be within the public right-of-way.”

SECTION II
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 18, SECTION 18.3 C TITLED
“OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS”

Article 18, Section 18.3 C. of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance titled “Outdoor Lighting Standards” is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

“C. Outdoor Lighting Standards. All outdoor lighting upon any premises, regardless of zoning classification, shall be subject to the following conditions and limitations:

1. Site and area lighting. Site and area lighting shall be designed such that light levels do not exceed 0.5 footcandles at any point along the perimeter of the property where adjacent to residential zones or residential uses. Light levels

shall not exceed 1.0 footcandle at any point along the perimeter of the property where adjacent to commercial or industrial zones or uses, where the Planning Commission determines during site plan review that the higher light levels are consistent with the purpose and intent of this section.

2. Pole mounted lighting. Pole mounted luminaires used for site and area lighting shall be subject to the following requirements:
 - a. Pole mounted luminaires shall not exceed the recommended footcandle levels set forth by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IES), based on location, and shall not be directed upon adjacent properties or the public streets or create glare.
 - b. Pole mounted luminaires with a pole height exceeding 25 feet shall include only sharp cutoff fixtures and shall be subject to site plan approval.
 - c. Public and private street lighting shall be reviewed by the Zoning Administrator for compliance with the purpose of Section 18.3 and shall be consistent with the lighting permitted by subsections a., b. above.
3. Building mounted luminaires. Building mounted lighting shall include only sharp cutoff fixtures and shall not exceed the recommended footcandle levels set forth by the Illumination Engineering Society of North America (IES) based on the location, and shall not be directed upon adjacent properties or the public streets or create glare. Said lighting shall not exceed a 20-foot mounting height, as measured from the average grade at the building foundation.
4. Building exterior lighting. The illumination of building exteriors shall not exceed the recommended footcandle levels set forth by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IES), not to exceed 20 footcandles. Luminaires used for the sole purpose of illuminating a building façade shall not exceed a mounting height of 15 feet, as measured from the average grade at the building foundation. Light generated from said luminaires shall be appropriately shaded, shielded or directed so that no light is emitted beyond the building façade.
5. Landscaping lighting. Landscape luminaires, including ground lighting for signs, flag poles and statues, shall be appropriately shaded, shielded or directed to eliminate glare onto any portion of any adjacent highway or premises, and may not spillover into the night sky. National and State flag illumination is

exempted but encouraged to use lighting designed consistent with the purpose of Section 18.3.

6. Blinking, flashing, and temporary lighting. There shall be no lighting of a blinking, flashing, rotating or fluttering nature, including changes in light intensity, brightness or color except for public safety purposes. Beacon and/or search lights shall not be permitted except for public safety purposes. Temporary seasonal/ holiday lighting is not prohibited by this subsection.
7. Site lighting plan. A site lighting plan shall be submitted for uses requiring site plan review and shall provide the following information:
 - a. proposed location on premises of all outdoor luminaires;
 - b. description of illumination devices, luminaires, lamps, supports, reflectors and other devices (e.g. luminaires type, mounting height, wattage);
 - c. a photometric plan;
 - d. illumination level data for all building, vertical architectural and landscape lighting proposed.
8. Reduced lighting. For uses requiring site plan review, lighting shall be significantly reduced during non-operational building hours, allowing only lighting necessary for security purposes. The lighting plan submitted for review shall note where this distinction occurs.”

SECTION III
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 18, SECTION 18.3 D TITLED
“EXISTING OUTDOOR LIGHTING”

Article 18, Section 18.3 D. of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance titled “Existing Outdoor Lighting” is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

Existing Outdoor Lighting. All outdoor lighting established prior to and existing on September 2, 2008 shall comply with, at minimum, the following (pursuant to former Section 7.2 D): The illumination of any buildings or uses of land shall be designed and operated so that the source of light shall not be directed upon adjacent properties or the public streets. In no event shall the illumination of a building or use of land be permitted to flood light upon adjacent residential structures. Replacement luminaires shall comply with the conditions and limitations established in this Section.

SECTION IV
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 2, SECTION 2.2 “DEFINITIONS OF TERMS”

Article 2, Section 2.2 of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance titled “Definitions of Terms” is hereby amended to strike the definition of “Isofootcandle plan” from the list of definitions.

SECTION V
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 2, SECTION 2.2 “DEFINITIONS OF TERMS”

Article 2, Section 2.2 of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance titled “Definitions of Terms” is hereby amended to add a definition for “Photometric Plan” to be inserted alphabetically into the list of terms and to read in its entirety as follows:

“Photometric Plan: a site plan of a proposed development showing proposed outdoor illuminance that uses photometric data to map out lighting distribution. The photometric plan includes luminaire types, specifications, heights and locations and light levels in footcandles.”

SECTION VI
SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any clause, sentence, word, section or provision hereof is declared void or unenforceable for any reason, by any court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any portion of the Ordinance other than said part or portion thereof.

SECTION VII
EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL

This Ordinance shall take effect eight (8) days after publication after adoption. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Mary Stage, Clerk
Ross Township

**TOWNSHIP OF ROSS
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

**TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROSS,
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED
PERSONS:**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at a regular meeting of the Ross Township Board held on May 19, 2026, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 244 amending Zoning Ordinance text regarding sidewalks and street lighting. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

**TOWNSHIP OF ROSS
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDAINS:

SECTION I

**AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 10, SECTION 10.6 TITLED
“SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS”.**

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SECTION II

**AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 18, SECTION 18.3 C TITLED
“OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS”**

Article 18, Section 18.3 C. of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance titled “Outdoor Lighting Standards” is hereby amended to update outdoor lighting standards with current terminology.

SECTION III

**AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 18, SECTION 18.3 D TITLED
“EXISTING OUTDOOR LIGHTING”**

Article 18, Section 18.3 D. of the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance titled “Existing Outdoor Lighting” is hereby amended to update existing outdoor lighting standards with current terminology.

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SECTION VII
EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL

This Ordinance shall take effect eight (8) days after publication after adoption. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the full text of this Ordinance has been posted in the Office of the Ross Township Clerk at the address set forth below; on the Ross Township website at <https://rosstownshipmi.gov>; and that a copy of the Ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the office of the Ross Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular working days (Mondays through Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) following the date of this publication.

ROSS TOWNSHIP
Mary Stage, Clerk
Township of Ross
12086 M-89, Richland, MI 49083
269-731-4888
clerk@rosstownshipmi.gov

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I, Mary Stage, Township Clerk of the Township of Ross, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, do hereby certify that in pursuance of law and statute provided, at a regular meeting of the Ross Township Board held on May 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., at the Ross Township Hall, located at 12086 M-89, Richland, Michigan, at which the following members were present, the Board enacted and passed Ordinance No. 244, hereinbefore recorded, to become effective on June 10, 2026, and that the members of said Board present at said meeting voted on the adoption of said Ordinance as follows:

Christina Hutchings	Aye
Mary Stage	Aye
Amanda Wiersma	Aye
Michael Bekes	Aye
Diana Langshaw	Aye
Lynn Harmon	Aye
Todd White	Aye

I do further certify that all in accordance with Township Board direction, the Ordinance as adopted was published in the Kalamazoo Gazette, a newspaper printed in Kalamazoo, and circulated in Ross Township on June 2, 2026; a copy of Ordinance No. 244 was posted on the Township's website on June 4, 2026; and that said Ordinance No. 244 was recorded in the official Ordinance Book on June 4, 2026.

Dated: June 4, 2026

Mary Stage
Mary Stage, Clerk

ATTEST:

Christina M. Hutchings
Christina Hutchings, Supervisor