

ORDINANCE NO. 25-10

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 3.60 OF THE MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO FEES FOR USE OF PRESERVING THE MURRAY CITY THEATER AND MURRAY PARK AMPHITHEATER.

PREAMBLE

Cultural Arts provide means for exploring self-expression, cultural identity, and promoting unity, diversity, and social change. Preserving and promoting art within the community helps maintain a cultural heritage and historical narratives. Murray City prides itself on its many programs and facilities which provide community members with means to experience the cultural arts.

The Murray City Theater was originally built in 1938 by Tony Duvall and Joseph L. Lawrence. It was run as a first-run and second-run venue for motion pictures, as well as a venue for live entertainment. In 2015, Murray City purchased the Theater and engaged in extensive renovations. The renovated theater will contribute to Murray City's identity and cultural history and will provide a space for promoting the cultural arts. However, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan notes that there "is a need to consider revenue-generating opportunities" to support the maintenance and future repairs for the theater.

The Murray Park Amphitheater was built by 1985. The Amphitheater underwent a remodel in 2016-2017 which included the addition of a roof over the stage, changing rooms and a green room. Each year it acts as a venue for an array of theater productions, concerts, and live entertainment events. In regard to the Amphitheater, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan contemplates the need for funding for "continued reinvestment in ongoing repair and replacement."

Restoring and maintaining the Murray City Theater and the Murray Park Amphitheater has been a major focus for Murray City to promote and preserve cultural arts. However, historic buildings come with unique challenges, and as their stewards, Murray City has a responsibility to preserve them for future generations. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan indicates that admission fees help generate some revenue for this preservation, however, "[t]he revenues collected have been insufficient to offset the facility impacts." The Master Plan later states that add-on charges may be needed "to obtain funding that is set aside for future asset management, repair and replacement."

By adding a preservation fee to each ticket purchased, a dedicated fund for major capital expenses can be created, to help with the cost of maintenance and repair, as well as reducing the risk of future emergencies. This is particularly crucial during economic downturns when budgeting for such expenses becomes more difficult. Additionally, this approach ensures that all facility users—residents and non-residents alike—contribute to its ongoing maintenance and improvement of the venue to ensure the benefits to the community can continue long into the future.

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to enact chapter 3.60 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to fees for use in repair, maintenance, and preservation of the Murray City Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater.

Section 2. Enactment of Section 3.60 of the Murray City Municipal Code. Chapter 3.60 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to Cultural Arts Preservation Fund Fee shall be enacted to read as follows:

Chapter 3.60
CULTURAL ARTS PRESERVATION FUND FEE

3.60.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to create a preservation fund and establish authority to collect a preservation fund fee in connection with ticket sales at the Murray Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater.

3.60.020 Preservation Fund Fee.

A. The Parks and Recreation Department, as part of its ticketing fees for its venues, specifically the Murray City Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater, is authorized to charge and collect a preservation fund fee on all paid admissions except as otherwise provided in this section.

B. The preservation fund fee for the Murray Theater shall be as follows:

Single Ticket Price	Preservation Fee Per Ticket
\$0.01 - \$15.00	\$1.00
\$15.01 or higher	\$2.00

C. The preservation fund fee for the Murray Park Amphitheater shall be as follows:

Single Ticket Price	Preservation Fee Per Ticket
All ticket prices	\$1.00

D. Fees for private rentals, shall be established by the Parks and Recreation Director pursuant to a written schedule, provided, however, that such fees shall not be more than necessary to preserve the condition and character of the Murray City Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater.

E. The preservation fund fee shall not be charged with complimentary tickets, or tickets for educational performances or free rehearsals.

F. All fees shall not be more than necessary to recoup the City's cost for repair, maintenance and necessary updates to preserve the condition and character of the Murray City Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater.

G. From time to time, the City is authorized to offer discounts and promotions as long as the discounts and promotions are first approved in writing by the Parks and Recreation Director, the Mayor and the Director of Finance; provided, however, that no such discounts or promotions shall be in violation of section 10-8-2 of the Utah Code, and that, at a minimum, all such discounts or promotions shall cover the costs of running the discounts or promotions.

3.60.030 Preservation Fund.

A. Preservation fund fees collected shall be deposited into a special preservation fund and used with other funding annually budgeted and appropriated, to enhance and accelerate capital maintenance and improvement projects at these venues.

B. The preservation fund shall be used solely and exclusively for capital equipment and capital improvements for the preservation of the Murray City Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater.

C. Expenditures from the preservation fund shall require written approval from the Mayor, the Finance Director, and the Parks and Recreation Director.

Section 3. Effective date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon first publication.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Murray City Municipal Council on this 18th day of March 2025.

MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL



Pam Cotter, Chair

ATTEST:


Brooke Smith, City Recorder

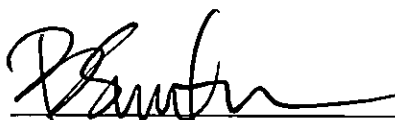
Transmitted to the Office of the Mayor of Murray City on this 20th day of March, 2025.

MAYOR'S ACTION: Approved

DATED this 29th day of March, 2025.


Brett A. Hales, Mayor

ATTEST:


Brooke Smith, City Recorder

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

I hereby certify that this Ordinance, or a summary hereof, was published
according to law on the 29th day of March, 2025.


Brooke Smith, City Recorder