

Public Notice

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ORDINANCE NO 16, 2025

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS, BOWS, AND CROSSBOWS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, WITH EXCEPTIONS AND CIVIL PENALTIES
WHEREAS, the City Council and the Administration of the City of Russell recognize that due to the population concentration of the city, the discharge of firearms, bows, and crossbows within the City limits poses a risk and nuisance to other residents;

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Administration of the City of Russell wish to protect the residents of Russell and at the same time preserve the Constitutional right to bear arms;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF RUSSELL, KENTUCKY:

SECTION I - DEFINITIONS

1. "Firearm" means any weapon that will expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. The term includes but is not limited to rifles, shotguns, pistols, machine guns, or similar arms.

2. "Crossbow" means a device with a bow limb or band of flexible material that is attached horizontally to a stock and has a mechanism to hold the string in a cocked position.

3. "Bow" means any hunting instrument designed for the purpose of propelling arrows which is drawn and held by and through the efforts of the person releasing the string.

SECTION II - REGULATIONS

1. Prohibition. No person shall knowingly or intentionally discharge any firearm, crossbow, or bow of any nature within the city limits of Russell, including but not limited to while on any public street, public sidewalk, or in any public place, nor shall any person fire or discharge such firearm, bow, or crossbow into or across any public street, public sidewalk or public place. It shall be unlawful for a parent or guardian of a minor to knowingly permit a minor to violate this section.

2. Exceptions.

(A) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to any authorized law enforcement officer or agent acting in his or her official capacity or within the scope of his authority.

(B) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to the discharge of a firearm in an approved and certified indoor shooting range located within the City limits that has the ability to safely capture a projectile fired from a pistol or rifle. Any such indoor range must be equipped with a certified air filtration system and comply with all federal and state regulations pertaining to the operation of the facility. The prohibition shall not apply to any licensed gunsmith test firing firearms into a test

fire barrel that has the capability to safely "capture" a projectile fired from a pistol or rifle, provided that the test fire barrel is in an enclosed facility not accessible to the public and located in a commercially business-zoned area.

(C) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to any individual discharging an arrow from a bow or crossbow when such discharge meets all the following requirements:

1) When the individual discharging the projectile is either the owner of the property or has the written permission of the property owner(s) upon which the projectile is being discharged;

2) When the individual is discharging the projectile in a manner in which the projectile does not leave the property and does not create a risk of the projectile leaving the property from which the projectile is discharged, including entering upon or crossing public property or the property of others; and

3) When the discharge of the projectile does not create any risk of causing damage or harm to persons or property; and

4) When the discharge complies with any applicable federal or state laws and regulations not specifically addressed in this Ordinance, including, but not limited to, regulations of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(D) It shall be a complete defense to any charge under this Ordinance that any person in discharging a firearm, bow, or crossbow was engaged in a bona fide act or self-defense, defense of another, or defense of his home or property in such manner that the act would not constitute a criminal offense under the statutes or common law of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(E) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to any individual discharging a projectile as part of an educational program on property owned or controlled by the educational institution, specifically including, but not limited to, archery classes taught in a public or private school, that comply with any applicable state and federal regulations.

(F) The exceptions in this Ordinance shall not relieve any individual of complying with all federal and state laws and regulations, including but not limited to the regulations of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, that are not specifically governed by this Ordinance.

SECTION III - PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

Each violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a civil offense. Any person in violation of this Ordinance shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$100.00 for the first offense and \$200.00 for each subsequent offense, to be paid to the City within thirty (30) days of issuance of the citation. Pursuant to KRS 83A.065, the City Attorney shall be authorized to pursue legal action in the appropriate court to recover any unpaid civil penalties on behalf of the City. The City Attorney shall also be authorized to seek injunctive relief for any violations that are continuing and not abated. The penalties set forth in this Ordinance shall not preclude enforcement of or prosecution

for violations against any individual for violation of federal or state laws or regulations that include their own violations and penalties not governed by this Ordinance.

SECTION IV - SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provision of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in effect.

SECTION V - EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage with two reading and publication.

Dated on this 18th day of December, 2025.

Samuel R. Simpson IV, Mayor City of Russell, Kentucky
Attest:

Jennifer Williams,
City Clerk, City of Russell, Kentucky

First Reading and Adoption:
December 18, 2025
Second Reading and Adoption: January 22, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 15, 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL CITY ORDINANCE NO. 4, 1997, PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DISCHARGE OF HANDGUN AMMUNITION IN ANY APPROVED AND CERTIFIED INDOOR RANGE

WHEREAS, the City Council enacted Ordinance No. 4, 1997, Prohibiting The Discharge of Firearms Within the City Limits, With the Exception of Discharge of Handgun Ammunition in Any Approved and Certified Indoor Range;

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to enact a new Ordinance that will address the discharge of firearms, bows, and crossbows, with certain exceptions, within the City limits and that will supersede the prohibitions in Ordinance No. 4, 1997, and it is therefore necessary to repeal Ordinance No. 4, 1997;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF RUSSELL, KENTUCKY:

City Ordinance No. 4-1997, An Ordinance Prohibiting The Discharge of Firearms Within the City Limits, With the Exception of Discharge of Handgun Ammunition in Any Approved and Certified Indoor Range, be and is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provision of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage with two readings and publication.

Dated on this 18th day of December, 2025.

Samuel R. Simpson IV, Mayor City of Russell, Kentucky
Attest:

Jennifer Williams,
City Clerk, City of Russell, Kentucky

First Reading and Adoption:
December 18, 2025
Second Reading and Adoption: January 22, 2026
Published: January 29, 2026

Frontier opens units

MOREHEAD - Frontier Housing's newest multifamily rental development, the 40-unit Park View Apartments in Morehead, continues our commitment to affordable housing solutions in the communities the agency serves in its area, which includes Greenup County.

Principal construction was completed in October and in December partners, friends, and stakeholders gathered to cut the ribbon Park View, located 1 block from the Morehead City Park at 340 Triplett Street in Morehead. All 40 apartments were leased before the end of December.

Frontier's co-developer for Park View is the Housing Partnership, Inc., a fellow nonprofit housing developer based in Louisville, KY. Financing was provided by Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC), Marble Cliff Capital, HOPE of the Midwest, and the Housing Assistance Council (HAC). We also thank our many partners who were vital to the development's success: Heuser Hearing Institute, Jace Burris at JCB Architects, Nesbitt Engineering, Brett Construction Company, Winterwood, Inc., and the City of Morehead.

ORDINANCE NO. 17, 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 3-1991 RESTRICTING THE DISCHARGE OF SLINGSHOTS, B-B GUNS, AIR GUNS AND PELLET GUNS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, WITH EXCEPTIONS AND PENALTIES

WHEREAS, the City Council enacted Ordinance No. 3-1991 Restricting the Discharge of Slingshots, B-B Guns, Air Guns, and Pellet Guns within the City limits;

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Administration of the City of Russell desire to amend the Ordinance to provide certain exceptions to the prohibitions in the Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF RUSSELL, KENTUCKY:

SECTION I - DEFINITIONS

1. "Air gun" means any weapon that will expel a projectile by the action of a force created by compressed air or gas. The term includes but is not limited to B-B guns, air guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, or similar arms.

SECTION II - REGULATIONS

1. Prohibition. No person shall knowingly or intentionally discharge any air gun within the city limits of Russell, including but not limited to while on any public street, public sidewalk, or in any public place, nor shall any person fire or discharge such air gun across any public street, public sidewalk, or public place. It shall be unlawful for a parent or guardian of a minor to knowingly permit a minor to violate this section.

2. Exceptions.

(A) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to any authorized law enforcement officer or agent acting in his or her official capacity or within the scope of his authority.

(B) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to the discharge of an air gun in an approved and certified indoor shooting range located within the City limits.

(C) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to any individual discharging an air gun when such discharge meets all the following requirements:

1) When the individual discharging the air gun is either the owner of the property or has the written permission of the property owner(s) upon which the air gun is being discharged;

2) When the individual is discharging the air gun in a manner in which the projectile does not leave the property and does not create a risk of the projectile leaving the property from which the air gun is discharged, including entering upon or crossing public property or the property of others; and

3) When the discharge of the air gun does not create any risk of causing damage or harm to persons or property; and

4) When the discharge complies with any applicable federal or state laws and regulations not specifically addressed in this Ordinance.

(D) It shall be a complete defense to any charge under this Ordinance that any person in discharging an air gun was engaged in a bona fide act or self-defense, defense of another, or defense of his home or property in such manner that the act would not constitute a criminal offense under the statutes or common law of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(E) The prohibition of this section shall not apply to any individual discharging a projectile as part of an educational program on property owned or controlled by the educational institution, specifically including, but not limited to, classes taught in a public or private school, that comply with any applicable state and federal regulations.

(F) The exceptions in this Ordinance shall not relieve any individual of complying with all federal and state laws and regulations, including but not limited to the regulations of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, that are not specifically governed by this Ordinance.

SECTION III - PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

Each violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a civil offense. Any person in violation of this Ordinance shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$100.00 for the first offense and \$200.00 for each subsequent offense, to be paid to the City within thirty (30) days of issuance of the citation. Pursuant to KRS 83A.065, the City Attorney shall be authorized to pursue legal action in the appropriate court to recover any unpaid civil penalties on behalf of the City. The City Attorney shall also be authorized to seek injunctive relief for any violations that are continuing and not abated. The penalties set forth in this Ordinance shall not preclude enforcement of or prosecution for violations against any individual for violation of federal or state laws or regulations that include their own violations and penalties not governed by this Ordinance.

SECTION IV - SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provision of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in effect.

SECTION V - EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage with two reading and publication.

Dated on this 18th day of December, 2025.

Samuel R. Simpson IV, Mayor City of Russell, Kentucky
Attest:

Jennifer Williams,
City Clerk, City of Russell, Kentucky

First Reading and Adoption:
December 18, 2025
cond Reading and Adoption: January 22, 2026
Published: January 29, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 14, 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL CITY ORDINANCE NO. 10, 1998, PROHIBITING HUNTING WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF RUSSELL, KENTUCKY

WHEREAS, the City Council enacted Ordinance No. 10, 1998, Prohibiting Hunting within the corporate limits of the City of Russell;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 10, 1998, appears to be in conflict with Section 255A of Kentucky's Constitution, and the City Council desires to repeal Ordinance No. 10, 1998;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF RUSSELL, KENTUCKY:

Ordinance No. 10-1998, An Ordinance Prohibiting Hunting Within the Corporate Limits of the City and Russell, be and is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provision of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage with two readings and publication.

Dated on this 18th day of December, 2025.

Samuel R. Simpson IV, Mayor City of Russell, Kentucky
Attest:

Jennifer Williams,
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