



The Punjab Gazette

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

LAHORE WEDNESDAY JUNE 24, 2026

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB NOTIFICATION

June 24, 2026

No. PAP/Legis-2(53)/2025/795. The Walled City of Lahore (Amendment) Bill 2025, having been passed by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab on June 10, 2026, and assented to by Governor of the Punjab on June 23, 2026, is hereby published as an Act of Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

THE WALLED CITY OF LAHORE (AMENDMENT) ACT 2026 ACT XLV OF 2026

[First published, after having received the assent of the Governor of the Punjab, in the Gazette of the Punjab (Extraordinary) dated June 24, 2026.]

An
Act

to amend the Walled City of Lahore Act 2012.

It is necessary to amend the Walled City of Lahore Act 2012 (XXXVI of 2012) for extending the scope; enhancing the jurisdiction; providing the comprehensive and integrated legal framework and specialized institutional arrangement for conservation of the walled cities, heritage areas and heritage properties in more effective and efficient manner and, for the matters ancillary thereto.

It is hereby enacted by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as follows:

1. **Short title and commencement.**— (1) This Act may be cited as the Walled City of Lahore (Amendment) Act 2026.
(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Amendment of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Walled City of Lahore Act 2012 (XXXVI of 2012), for brevity referred to as 'the Act':
 - (a) in the long title, for the words "Walled City of Lahore", the words "walled cities, heritage areas and heritage properties in the Punjab" shall be substituted;
 - (b) for the Preamble, the following shall be substituted:

"It is necessary in the public interest to ensure a holistic, comprehensive and integrated legal framework and specialized institutional arrangement for conservation of the walled cities, heritage areas and heritage properties; enhancing the quality of life of the people residing therein; providing for the planning, development, management and regulation of the infrastructure and services therein as well as conduct of business and commercial activity; and for the matters ancillary thereto.

It is hereby enacted by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as follows:"

- (c) in the heading of **CHAPTER II**, for the words "**WALLED CITY OF LAHORE AUTHORITY**", the words "**THE AUTHORITY**" shall be substituted;
 - (d) in the heading of **CHAPTER IV**, after the words "**WALLED CITY**", the words "**HERITAGE AREA AND HERITAGE PROPERTY**" shall be inserted; and
 - (e) in sections 8, 15, 16, 17, 18, 33, 39, 40, 48, 56 and 57, for the words "Walled City" wherever appearing, the words "walled cities, heritage areas and heritage properties" shall be substituted.
3. **Amendment of section 1 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**- In the Act, in section 1:
- (a) for sub-section (1), the following shall be substituted:
"(1) This Act may be cited as the Punjab Walled Cities and Heritage Areas Authority Act 2012."; and
 - (b) for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted:
"(2) This Act shall extend to the walled cities provided in the Schedule, heritage areas and heritage properties notified under the Act."
4. **Amendment of section 2 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**- In the Act, in section 2:
- (a) for clause (i), the following shall be substituted:
"(i) "Act" means the Punjab Walled Cities and Heritage Areas Authority Act 2012;"
 - (b) for clause (iii), the following shall be substituted:
"(iii) "Authority" means the Punjab Walled Cities and Heritage Areas Authority established under section 3 of the Act;"
 - (c) in clause (viii), after the expression "adaptation,", the expression " adaptive reuse," shall be inserted;
 - (d) after clause (viii), the following shall be inserted:
"(viii-a) "dangerous building" means a building, building fabric, group of buildings, heritage property, private building, public utility building, structure, or urban fabric in a ruinous condition or which is likely to fall or is in any way dangerous to its inhabitants or of any neighboring buildings or to any occupier thereof or to passers-by, and is declared dangerous under section 23-A of the Act;"
 - (e) in clause (xiv), in sub-clause (b), for the expression "Punjab Local Government Ordinance, 2001 (XIII of 2001)", the expression "Punjab Local Government Act 2025 (LXXX of 2025)" shall be substituted;
 - (f) in clause (xv), after the word "their", and before the word "homogeneity", the words "history and" shall be inserted;
 - (g) in clause (xvi), for the words "Walled City", the words "Walled City, heritage area and heritage property," shall be substituted;
 - (h) after clause (xvi), the following shall be inserted:
"(xvi-a) "heritage area" means such area as declared under section 23-A of the Act;"
 - (i) for clause (xvii), the following shall be substituted:
"(xvii) "heritage property" means such property as declared under section 23 of the Act;"
 - (j) after clause (xxxiv), the following shall be inserted:

"(xxxiv-a) "Schedule" means the Schedule appended to the Act"; and

- (k) in clause (xxxix):
- (i) after the expression "buildings," the expression "building facade," shall be inserted; and
 - (ii) after the expression "street furniture," the expression "streetscape," shall be inserted.

5. **Amendment of section 3 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 3, in sub-section (1), for the words "for the Walled City to be known as the Walled City of Lahore Authority", the words "to be known as the Punjab Walled Cities and Heritage Areas Authority" shall be substituted.

6. **Amendment of section 4 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 4:

- (a) in the heading, for the words "**Members of the Authority**", the words "**The Authority**" shall be substituted;

- (b) for sub-section (1), the following shall be substituted:

"(1) The Authority shall consist of the following:

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| (a) Chief Minister. | Chairperson |
| (b) A person to be nominated by the Chairperson as Vice Chairperson | Vice Chairperson |
| (c) Minister for Local Government and Community Development. | Member |
| (d) two members of Provincial Assembly of the Punjab to be nominated by the Chairperson, within whose constituencies the Walled City or heritage area, partly or wholly, situates. | Members |
| (e) Chief Secretary to the Government. | Member |
| (f) Chairman, Planning and Development Board. | Member |
| (g) Secretary to the Government, Finance Department. | Member |
| (h) Secretary to the Government, Local Government and Community Development Department. | Member |
| (i) Chairperson of the Heritage Conservation Board. | Member |
| (j) not more than two heads of the concerned local governments co-opted by the Chairperson for the purposes of conservation of heritage of respective Walled City or heritage area or heritage property. | Members |
| (k) four qualified persons to be nominated by the Chairperson. | Members |
| (l) Director General. | Member/
Secretary"; and |

- (c) in sub-section (2), for clause (ii), the following shall be substituted:

"(ii) shall be a prominent and well-reputed professional having expertise in the field of heritage or history or culture or archaeology or architecture or conservation of heritage or town planning or tourism or community development;"

7. **Amendment of section 7 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 7, in sub-section (2):

- (a) for clause (iv), the following shall be substituted:

- (iv) conserve heritage area, heritage property and heritage of the Walled City;"; and
- (b) after clause (xiii), the following new clause (xiii-a), shall be inserted:
 "(xiii-a) constitute a governing body or a Committee for the purposes of the Act;".
8. **Amendment of section 8 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 8, in sub-section 2:
- (a) in clause (ix), after the word "buildings", the expression ", public areas, public passages or public crossings" shall be inserted;
- (b) after clause (ix), the following shall be inserted:
 "(ix-a) eviction of owner or occupant from a dangerous building;"; and
- (c) after clause (xvi), the following shall be inserted:
 "(xvi-a) establish its offices in the areas where it deems appropriate;".
9. **Insertion of section 8-A in Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, after section 8, the following shall be inserted:
- "8-A. Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board.**— (1) The Government shall, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute the Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board, headed by a Chairman who shall also be the Patron-in-Chief of the Authority.
- (2) The Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board shall consist of such number of members as may be determined by its Chairman.
- (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board:
- (a) may declared an area as heritage area or a project as heritage area revival project;
- (b) shall advise the Authority and Government Departments, as the case may be, on the projects within heritage area and on heritage area revival projects relating to conception, planning, approval, design, review, execution, development, management, operation, maintenance and monitoring of the projects and such advice of the Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board shall be binding; and
- (c) may constitute a monitoring cell, having such composition as the Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board may determine, for monitoring the execution, development, operation, maintenance and impact of the projects."
10. **Amendment of section 11 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 11, for the expression "Punjab Local Government Ordinance 2001 (XIII of 2001)", the expression "Punjab Local Government Act 2025 (LXXX of 2025)" shall be substituted.
11. **Amendment of section 14 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 14, after the expression "Government Agency," the expression "a governing body, a Committee", shall be inserted.
12. **Amendment of section 23 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 23:
- (a) in sub-section (1), for the words "Walled City of heritage value", the words "walled cities and heritage areas" shall be substituted; and
- (b) in sub-section (2), after the word "land", the expression ", area" shall be inserted.
13. **Insertion of section 23-A of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, after section 23, the following shall be inserted:
- "23-A. Declaration of heritage area and dangerous building.**— (1) The Authority may, by notification in the official Gazette, declare any area as heritage area.
- (2) The Authority may declare a building, building fabric, group of buildings, heritage property, private building, public utility building, structure, or urban fabric as a dangerous building in such manner as may be prescribed."
14. **Amendment of section 25 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 25:

- (a) in the heading, for the words "heritage property", the words "heritage properties and heritage areas" shall be substituted; and
- (b) after the word "property", wherever appearing, the words "and heritage area" shall be inserted.
- 15. Amendment of section 29 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 29, for the expression "No building or structure, located within the Walled City", the following expression shall be substituted:
"No building, building fabric, group of buildings, heritage property, private building, public utility building, structure, urban fabric located in the Walled City and heritage area".
- 16. Amendment of section 30 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 30, for sub-section (1), the following shall be substituted:
"(1) No person shall make encroachment on a building, building fabric, group of buildings, heritage property, private building, public utility building, structure, or urban fabric or any part thereof vested in the Authority or in any Government Agency for purposes of the Act."
- 17. Insertion of section 31-A in Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, after section 31, the following section 31-A shall be inserted:
"31-A. Summary ejection of occupants of dangerous buildings.— (1) The Director General or an officer authorized by him may, for purposes of the Act, summarily eject any person in occupation of any dangerous building in the manners as may be prescribed.
(2) No action under sub-section (1) shall be taken without providing an opportunity of being heard to the person to be affected thereby.
(3) The person ejected under sub-section (1) shall have right to repossess the vacated property when such property is declared no more dangerous."
- 18. Amendment of sections 34, 36 and 37 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in sections 34, 36 and 37, for the words "Walled City", the words "Walled City and heritage area" shall be substituted.
- 19. Amendment of section 38 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 38:
(a) in sub-sections (1) and (2), after the words "Walled City", the words "and heritage area" shall be inserted; and
(b) in sub-section (4), in clause (iii), for the words "conservation of heritage of the Walled City", the words "conservation of the heritage area, heritage property and heritage of the Walled City" shall be substituted.
- 20. Amendment of section 45 of Act XXXVI of 2012.**— In the Act, in section 45:
(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "one million rupees", the words "two million rupees but not less than two hundred thousand rupees" shall be substituted;
(b) in sub-section (2), for the words "one hundred thousand rupees", the words "five hundred thousand rupees but not less than two hundred thousand rupees" shall be substituted;
(c) in sub-sections (3) and (4), after the words "one million rupees", the words "but not less than two hundred thousand rupees" shall be inserted;
(d) in sub-section (5), after the words "five hundred thousand rupees", the words "but not less than two hundred thousand rupees" shall be inserted;
(e) in sub-sections (6), (7) and (8), for the words "one hundred thousand rupees", the words "five hundred thousand rupees but not less than two hundred thousand rupees" shall be substituted;
(f) in sub-sections (9), after the words "five hundred thousand rupees", the words "but not less than two hundred thousand rupees" shall be inserted; and
(g) after sub-section (10), the following shall be added:
"(11) A person who commits an offence of littering, spitting, vandalism and violating the sanitation of the area inside the monuments, precincts

or spaces of Walled City, heritage area or heritage property, shall be punished with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees.”.

21. Substitution of section 46 of Act XXXVI of 2012.— In the Act, for section 46, the following shall be substituted:

“46. Cognizance.— (1) The Court of the Magistrate of First Class shall take cognizance of an offence under the Act on a complaint made in writing by the Director General or an officer authorised by him and try such offence under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (V of 1898).

(2) The Director General or an officer authorized by him may, on reasonable grounds, compound an offence or withdraw the complaint with or without any compensation.

(3) The offences or violations under the Act shall be non-bailable.”.

22. Insertion of section 52-A in the Act XXXVI of 2012.— In the Act, after section 52, the following shall be inserted:

“52-A. Amendment in the Schedule.— The Government may, on the recommendations of the Authority, by notification in the official Gazette, amend the Schedule.”.

23. Amendment of section 54 of the Act XXXVI of 2012.— In the Act, in section 54, after the expression “Authority,” appearing for the first time, the expression “the members of the Lahore Heritage Area Revival Board including its Chairman, the members of the Monitoring Cell,” shall be inserted.

**Ch Amer Habib
Secretary General**