

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 02/13/24 M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0105

LOG NAME: 062023 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE

SUBJECT

(ALL) Conduct Public Hearing and Adopt Ordinance Amending the Fort Worth Electrical Code to Adopt the 2023 National Electrical Code, with Amendments, to be Effective March 1, 2024

(PUBLIC HEARING – a. Report of City Staff: Evan Roberts; b. Public Comment; c. Council Action: Close Public Hearing and Act on M&C)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Conduct a public hearing on the proposed adoption of the 2023 National Electrical Code and local amendments;
2. Close the public hearing and adopt the attached ordinance amending the Fort Worth Electrical Code to adopt the 2023 National Electrical Code, with local amendments, to be effective March 1, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

The Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act requires the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) to adopt the National Electrical Code (NEC) as the electrical code for the State of Texas. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70 (NEC) is revised and updated every three (3) years. The State of Texas adopts this revised NEC code every three (3) years as required by The Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act. On August 25, 2023, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation published in the Texas Register their intent to adopt the 2023 NEC as the minimum standard for all electrical work in Texas. The effective date for the State was September 1, 2023. Electrical work in Texas started on or after September 1, 2023 must be installed in accordance with the 2023 NEC. Adopting the 2023 NEC as the Fort Worth Electrical Code aligns City and State requirements for electrical work.

In accordance with state law, notice of the proposed action was published conspicuously on the City’s internet website on January 22, 2024. A reasonable effort to encourage public comments from persons affected by the proposed adoption of the 2023 National Electric Code and local amendments has been made, including, not limited to outreach to the local electrical industry, the Development Advisory Committee and TEXO with no opposing comments. The 2023 National Electrical Code continues the practice of recognizing new technologies and providing new devices for the safe installation of electrical systems. The City of Fort Worth local amendments are based on the amendments recommended for regional adoption by the North Central Texas Council of Governments and our local practices.

There is no fee increase proposed in this ordinance.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of this recommendation will have no material effect on City funds

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Dana Burghdoff 8018

Originating Business Unit Head: D.J. Harrell 8032

Additional Information Contact: Evan Roberts 7643