

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 12/15/20

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 20-0921

LOG NAME: 062020 NATIONAL ELECTRIC CODE

SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt Ordinance Adopting the 2020 National Electrical Code with City of Fort Worth Electrical Amendments to be Effective January 1, 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the ordinance amending the Fort Worth Electrical Code to adopt the 2020 National Electrical Code, with local amendments, to be effective January 1, 2021.

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 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 June 30, 2020, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation published in the Texas Register their intent to adopt the 2020 NEC as the minimum standard for all electrical work in Texas. The effective date for the State will be November 1, 2020 (delayed from the proposed date of September 1, 2020 due to COVID-19). Electrical work in Texas started on or after November 1, 2020 must be installed in accordance with the 2020 NEC. Adopting the 2020 NEC as the Fort Worth Electrical Code aligns City and State requirements for electrical work.

The Construction and Fire Prevention Board of Appeals reviewed the approval and adoption of the 2020 NEC and the local amendments at its meeting on November 12, 2020. The local electrical industry, the Development Advisory Committee and TEXO have been notified with no opposing comments. The 2020 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.

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