

ORDINANCE NO. O-2024-116

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT CODE, CHAPTER 8, ARTICLE X, DIVISION 9, SECTIONS 8-144 AND 8-151 REGARDING ELECTRICAL CODE STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS, CODE OF ORDINANCES (2018 EDITION), CITY OF ROUND ROCK, TEXAS, REGARDING THE ELECTRICAL CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROUND ROCK, TEXAS:

I.

That Zoning and Development Code, Chapter 8, Article X, Division 9, Section 8-144, Code of Ordinances (2018 Edition), City of Round Rock, Texas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 8. ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

DIVISION 9. ELECTRICAL CODE

Sec. 8-144. - General.

- (a) *National Electrical Code, NFPA 70.* The National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, ~~2020-2023~~ edition (hereinafter referred to as "NEC"), as amended herein, is hereby adopted as part of this division to the same effect as if it were copied verbatim herein and shall be in effect except as it may be in conflict with the provisions of this Code.
- (b) *Scope.* This code shall govern all installations of electrical conductors, raceway fittings, and/or equipment hereafter made, and all existing installations which are altered, or for which the use has changed. Repair and maintenance work shall be such that if any electrical conductor, raceway fittings, and/or equipment is removed and later replaced, same shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of this division.
- (c) *Responsibility for safe work.* This code shall not be construed to relieve or lessen the responsibility or liability of any person owning, operating, or installing electrical conductor devices, appliances, fixtures, apparatus, motors or equipment, for damages to persons or buildings caused by any defect therein nor shall the city be held liable for any damages by reason of enforcement or non-enforcement of this division.
- (d) *Purpose.*
 - (1) To safeguard persons and property from electrical hazards; and
 - (2) To establish licensing, permit and inspection procedures to ensure quality electrical work. To accomplish this, the requirements set forth herein are intended to be minimum standards for electrical work.

(e) *Unlawful acts prohibited.*

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, as owner, agent, lessee, renter or otherwise to violate, disobey, refuse to comply with, resist or oppose the execution of this division.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to occupy or maintain any building or structure in which the electrical work, wiring or appliances are in violation of this division.
- (3) Any person who commits any acts declared to be unlawful, or fails to perform an act required by this division, shall be subject to any and all penalties as provided herein. Any electrical installations erected or altered in violation of this Code shall be summarily condemned and removed at the expense of the person erecting or altering or allowing the same.

(f) *Amendments to the National Electrical Code, 2020-2023 edition.*

- (1) Article 300, National Electrical Code, 2020-2023 edition, is hereby amended by adding Section 24 which shall read as follows:

300.24. Special Safety Measures.

- (a) Except upon written permission of the building official, no electrical conductor of any nature shall be installed nearer than three (3) inches to any metal pipe or duct which could operate at a temperature in excess of one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit.
- (b) Thermostat, low voltage control wiring and communications cables in dwellings shall be protected from mechanical damage and shall maintain two (2) inches clearance from all other wiring and pipes. Thermostat, low voltage control wiring and communications cables shall be well strapped or supported with insulated staples or supports not to exceed four (4) feet spacing.

II.

That Zoning and Development Code, Chapter 8, Article X, Division 9, Section 8-151(c), Code of Ordinances (2018 Edition), City of Round Rock, Texas, is hereby amended as follows:

CHAPTER 8. ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

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Sec. 8-151. Standards and specifications.

- (c) *Special electrical circuit requirements.* The following additional requirements shall be met for all new construction:

(1) All circuits shall have conductors sized in accordance with article 310 of the ~~National Electrical Code~~NEC. No conductor smaller than No. 12 copper American wire gauge size, shall be used in any electrical work as covered by this Code, except the following as approved by the ~~National Electrical Code~~NEC:

- a. Pendant and portable cords;
- b. No. 14 for control circuits, operating contractors, relays, etc.;
- c. Wiring within display cases;
- d. Wiring for system covered by chapter 7 of the ~~National Electrical Code~~NEC;

(2) All panels must be large enough to accommodate the present load requirements and have at least two spaces for future use.

1 (3) All 125 volt, single phase 15 or 20 ampere rated devices installed in commercial and industrial
2 installations shall be of the nonresidential type or shall be 20 ampere rated only.

3 (4) Temporary service for construction sites are required to have a driven ground rod.

4 (5) Flexible metal conduit smaller than one-half-inch electrical trade size shall not be permitted.

5 (6) Kerneys or split bolt connectors shall not be allowed for taps in electrical services and gutters.
6 Only blocks and couple taps are permitted.

7 (7) All building services shall have a UFER grounded and be grounded by Art. 250 of NEC.

8 (8) All closets and storage areas that are over 48 inches deep or more shall have a ~~light-switch~~
9 luminaire controlled by a switch that is readily accessible and complies with Section 410.16 of the
10 NEC.

11
12 **III.**
13

14 **A.** All ordinances, parts of ordinances, or resolutions in conflict herewith are
15 expressly repealed.

16 **B.** The invalidity of any section or provision of this ordinance shall not
17 invalidate other sections or provisions thereof.

18 **C.** The City Council hereby finds and declares that written notice of the date,
19 hour, place and subject of the meeting at which this Ordinance was adopted was posted
20 and that such meeting was open to the public as required by law at all times during
21 which this Ordinance and the subject matter hereof were discussed, considered and
22 formally acted upon, all as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas
23 Government Code, as amended.

24 Alternative 1.

25 By motion duly made, seconded and passed with an affirmative vote of all the
26 Council members present, the requirement for reading this ordinance on two separate
27 days was dispensed with.

28 **READ, PASSED, and ADOPTED** on first reading this _____ day of
29 _____, 2024.

Alternative 2.

READ and **APPROVED** on first reading this the ____ day of _____, 2024.

READ, APPROVED and **ADOPTED** on second reading this the ____ day of _____, 2024.

CRAIG MORGAN, Mayor
City of Round Rock, Texas

ATTEST:

MEAGAN SPINKS, City Clerk