

**Code Revision
Section 8-144 – General
Electrical Code**

DATE: September 16, 2020

CODE SECTION: Section 8-144 - General: to adopt the 2020 Edition of the National Electrical Code

STAFF REVIEW AND ANALYSIS:

This ordinance adopts the 2020 edition of the National Electrical Code. The State of Texas adopts a new electrical code every three years. This code amendment makes the City's code compliant with State code.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommendation of approval for the amendments to Section 8-144 - General: to adopt the 2020 Edition of the National Electrical Code.

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15 **CHAPTER 8. ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS.**

16 **DIVISION 9. ELECTRICAL CODE**

17 **Sec. 8-144. - General.**
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- 23 (a) *National Electrical Code, NFPA 70.* The National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, ~~2017-2020~~ edition
24 (hereinafter referred to as "NEC"), as amended herein, is hereby adopted as part of this division to
25 the same effect as if it were copied verbatim herein and shall be in effect except as it may be in
26 conflict with the provisions of this Code ~~or V.T.C.A., Local Government Code § 214.214.~~
- 27 (b) *Scope.* This code shall govern all installations of electrical conductors, raceway fittings, and/or
28 equipment hereafter made, and all existing installations which are altered, or for which the use has
29 changed. Repair and maintenance work shall be such that if any electrical conductor, raceway
30 fittings, and/or equipment is removed and later replaced, same shall be replaced in accordance with
31 the provisions of this division.
- 32 (c) *Responsibility for safe work.* This code shall not be construed to relieve or lessen the responsibility
33 or liability of any person owning, operating, or installing electrical conductor devices, appliances,
34 fixtures, apparatus, motors or equipment, for damages to persons or buildings caused by any defect
35 therein nor shall the city be held liable for any damages by reason of enforcement or non-
36 enforcement of this division.
- 37 (d) *Purpose.*
38 (1) To safeguard persons and property from electrical hazards; and
39 (2) To establish licensing, permit and inspection procedures to ensure quality electrical work. To
40 accomplish this, the requirements set forth herein are intended to be minimum standards for
41 electrical work.
- 42 (e) *Unlawful acts prohibited.*
43 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, as owner, agent, lessee, renter or otherwise to violate,
44 disobey, refuse to comply with, resist or oppose the execution of this division.

1 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to occupy or maintain any building or structure in which the
2 electrical work, wiring or appliances are in violation of this division.

3 (3) Any person who commits any acts declared to be unlawful, or fails to perform an act required by
4 this division, shall be subject to any and all penalties as provided herein. Any electrical
5 installations erected or altered in violation of this Code shall be summarily condemned and
6 removed at the expense of the person erecting or altering or allowing the same.

7 (f) *Amendments to the National Electrical Code, ~~2017~~2020 edition.*

8 (1) Article 300, National Electrical Code, ~~2017~~2020 edition, is hereby amended by adding Section
9 24 which shall read as follows:

10 300.24. Special Safety Measures.

11 (a) Except upon written permission of the building official, no electrical conductor of any nature
12 shall be installed nearer than three (3) inches to any metal pipe or duct which could
13 operate at a temperature in excess of one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit.

14 (b) Thermostat, low voltage control wiring and communications cables in dwellings shall be
15 protected from mechanical damage and shall maintain two (2) inches clearance from all
16 other wiring and pipes. Thermostat, low voltage control wiring and communications cables
17 shall be well strapped or supported with insulated staples or supports not to exceed four
18 (4) feet spacing.