


## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>20-503</b>	Meeting:	<b>November 23, 2020</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>51</b>	Roll Call:	<b>20-1919</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Erin Olson-Douglas, Development Services Department Director</b>		

### AGENDA HEADING:

Amending Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code relating to the Electrical Code.

### SYNOPSIS:

Approval of this action amends Chapter 26 of the Municipal Ordinance by amending and adopting the most recently published electrical code, the 2020 National Electrical Code.

### FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The changes to the electrical code mirror the changes to the State of Iowa electrical code adoption that will occur on January 1, 2021. The State Electrical Code sets the minimum electrical work standards for local ordinances.
- Highlights of this code adoption include increased residential electrical service safeguards and increased ground-fault and arc-fault protection. There are only two (2) amendments to the text of the National Code. These deal with ground-fault circuit protection and they mirror the State of Iowa's amendments.
- The City of Des Moines will also maintain its current requirements on electrical services that are above what is required by the National Electric Code, but are consistent with other cities in the Metro and Mid-American Energy's installation requirements.
- Development Services Director asks that the second and third reading of the ordinance be waived to allow adoption to take place in the time frame specified by Iowa Code 380.10.

### PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 10, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0265](#) and [20-0266](#)

Action: [Amending](#) Sections 26-136, 26-138, 26-142, 26-150, and by repealing and replacing Article III. Building Code of Chapter 26, Buildings and Building Regulations, relating to adopting the 2018 editions of the International Building Code; International Residential Code and International Existing Building Code. ([Council Communication No. 20-049](#)) Moved by Gatto that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Motion Carried 7-0.

(A) [Final](#) consideration of ordinance above (waiver requested by Cody Christensen, Permit and Development Administrator), requires six votes. Moved by Gatto that the rule requiring that an ordinance must be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, that the ordinance be placed upon its final passage and that the ordinance do now pass, [#15,861](#). Motion Carried 7-0.

### **BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):**

Board: Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals

Date: October 8, 2020

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: The adoption of the 2020 National Electrical Code with amendments was moved by Chad Layland. The motion was seconded by Randy Tinker. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

New editions of the construction codes are published every three (3) years. Keeping current editions of the codes adopted allows City regulations to keep up with the latest construction methods and technologies.

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