

STAFF MEMO

To: Lakewood Board of Appeals

From: Anne Heine, City Engineer

Date: January 18, 2021

Subject: Update to the Lakewood Building Code – Adoption of the 2020 National Electrical Code

At the February 2, 2021 meeting, the Board of Appeals will be reviewing an update to a portion of the Lakewood Building Code to adopt the 2020 National Electrical Code. This code addresses all electrical wiring and equipment in commercial and residential buildings. The 2020 edition of the code will be adopted as required by state law and the State of Colorado Electrical Board.

Lakewood Building Code

The Lakewood Building Code is contained within Title 14 of the Lakewood Municipal Code and comprises a series of published building codes and local amendments to the published codes. The ordinance City Council will be considering will adopt the 2020 National Electrical Code, including Annex C and Annex H, published by the National Fire Protection Association, with local amendments.

Board of Appeals Review and Recommendation

The Municipal Code requires the Board of Appeals review adoption and amendments to the Lakewood Building Code and provide a recommendation to City Council. Public Works is recommending the Board approve a resolution recommending City Council adopt the 2020 edition of the National Electrical Code, as amended.

Draft Ordinance

A draft version of the ordinance, in redlined and clean formats, is attached for your review. The ordinance repeals and reenacts the chapter in Title 14 of the Municipal Code related to the National Electrical Code.

A public access version of the published code is available at <https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=70>. The published code and Annex C: Tables and Annex H: Administration are proposed to be adopted.

The proposed local amendments only affect the administrative provisions in Annex H. The local amendments are proposed to remain the same as those currently in effect. A brief explanation of the local amendments follows:

Subsection 80.15 is deleted. This section creates an Electrical Board, appointed by the Governor of the state. This section is enforced by the State of Colorado and is deleted from the local code.

Subsection 80.19 (D) is deleted. This section allows an electrical contractor to apply for an annual permit. Lakewood deletes this section because the city reviews, approves and tracks each electrical permit by address for each specific project, and the city does not offer an annual permit.

Subsection 80.19 (E) regarding fees is replaced with a section referencing fees established by Lakewood and found in other chapters of the Lakewood Building Code.

Subsection 80.23 (B) is deleted. This section establishes penalties and is deleted because a specific City of Lakewood penalty section (ordinance section 14.06.070) is included in the ordinance.

Subsection 80.27 is deleted. This section establishes qualifications for electrical inspectors. The State of Colorado Electrical Board establishes qualifications for electrical inspectors.

Other changes to Municipal Code sections 14.06.020 and 14.06.070 (A) have been made by the City Attorney's Office to improve readability and to be consistent with other sections of the Municipal Code.

Summary

Public Works staff recommends the Board of Appeals approve a resolution recommending City Council adopt the National Electric Code, 2020 Edition, including Annex C and Annex H, with local amendments, as part of the Lakewood Building Code.

Please contact Anne Heine with questions regarding this memo, the draft ordinance or the draft Board of Appeals resolution.