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Planning & Inspections Department

Mayor
Oscar Leoser

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

City Council

District 1
Peter Svarzbein

District 2
Larry Romero

District 3
Emma Acosta

District 4
Carl L. Robinson

District 5
Dr. Michiel R. Noe

District 6
Claudia Ordaz

District 7
Lily Limón

District 8
Cortney C. Niland

City Manager
Tommy Gonzalez

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

**AGENDA DATE: INTRODUCTION: MAY 17, 2016
PUBLIC HEARING: MAY 31, 2016**

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

LARRY F. NICHOLS, (915) 212-1550, nicholslf@elpasotexas.gov

VICTOR MORRISON-VEGA, (915) 212-1553, Morrison-vegavx@elpasotexas.gov

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: ALL

SUBJECT:

An Ordinance amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.02 (Administrative Code), adding provisions for Demolition Permit, Certificates of Use, and Conditional Certificates of Occupancy, Chapter 18.08 (Building Code), 18.10 (Residential Code), 18.12 (Mechanical Code), 18.16 (Electrical Code), 18.20 (Plumbing Code), 18.24 (Gas Code), 18.28 (Existing Building Code), 18.30 (Swimming Pool and Spa Code), 18.50 (Property Maintenance Code), 18.70 (Energy Conservation Code), adopting the 2015 International Building Codes, and the 2014 National Electrical Code, and adopting appropriate local amendments, and amending Title 9, Chapter 9.52, adopting the 2015 International Fire Code, the penalty being as provided in 18.02.111 of the El Paso City Code.

Discussion and action on the following code changes to Title 18 (Building & Construction) of the City Code, as follows:

- a.) An Ordinance amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.02 (Building and Construction Administrative Code) of the El Paso City Code.
- b.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Building Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.08 (Building Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- c.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Residential Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.10 (Residential Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.

Larry F. Nichols – Department Head
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- d.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Mechanical Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.12 (Mechanical Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- e.) An Ordinance adopting the 2014 Edition of the National Electrical Code and amending the Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.16 (Electrical Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- f.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Plumbing Code and amending the Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.20 (Plumbing Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- g.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Fuel Gas Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.24 (Gas Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- h.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Existing Building Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.28 (Existing Building Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- i.) An Ordinance adopting Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.30 (Pool & Spa Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- j.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.50 (Property Maintenance Code) of the El Paso City Code to provide for local amendments.
- k.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Energy Conservation Code and amending Title 18 (Building & Construction), Chapter 18.70 (Energy Conservation Code) to the El Paso City Code and providing for local aments.
- l.) An Ordinance adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Fire Code and amending Title 9, Chapter 9.52 (Fire Prevention Code) of the El Paso City Code.

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BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The International Code Council has published the 2015 Edition of the International Code Family and local public input and industry input has been taken to assure that the current version of the codes are amended and adopted as appropriate for the City of El Paso. These codes are normally revised on a three-year cycle, and adoption is key to stay abreast of modern developments in building safety and to be consistent with adoption by the State of Texas of certain codes.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

N/A

*******REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*******

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

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ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 18 (BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION), CHAPTER 18.24 (GAS CODE), ADOPTING THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE , AND ADOPTING APPROPRIATE LOCAL AMENDMENTS, THE PENALTY BEING AS PROVIDED IN 18.02.111 OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE

WHEREAS, the 2015 Addition of the International Building Codes has been published and adoption of the 2015 International Building Codes are now proposed; and

WHEREAS, the Building Official for the City of El Paso has reviewed and favorably recommends the adoption of the 2015 International Building Codes; together with the local amendments appropriate for the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has deemed the proposed local amendments appropriate for the City of El Paso;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

SECTION 1. That Title 18 (Building and Construction) Chapter 18.24 (Gas Code) is hereby amended as follows:

This chapter may be cited as the "Gas Code."

18.24.020 Adoption.

The book entitled "International Fuel Gas Code," 2015 Edition, a copy of which authenticated by the city clerk is on file in the city clerk's office, is adopted as the Gas Code of the city, as fully as if copied at length in this chapter, but with the changes set forth in this chapter and Chapter 18.02, the Building and Administrative Code of the City of El Paso.

18.24.030 Section 305.3 Elevation of ignitions source,.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 305.3 Elevation of ignitions source, is hereby amended to delete in their entirety the following exceptions:

Exception: Elevation of the ignition source is not required for appliances that are listed as flammable vapor ignition resistant.

18.24.040 Section 311 Accessible and acceptable location, added.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 311 Accessible and Acceptable Location, is hereby added to read as follows:

311 Accessible and Acceptable Location. A meter location, when required, shall be provided for the building or premises to be served. The location shall be such that the meter and connections are accessible in order that they may be read or changed. Space requirements, dimensions, and type of installation shall be acceptable to the gas company. Meter location will be determined by the utility company in conformance with their service franchise.

18.24.050 Section 401.2 Liquefied petroleum gas storage, amended.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 401.2, Liquefied petroleum gas storage, is hereby amended to read as follows:

401.2 Liquefied petroleum gas. The storage system for liquefied petroleum gas shall be designed, installed and an operational permit obtained, in accordance with the Fire Code.

Exception: Liquefied petroleum gas system shall not be installed in Group R1, R2, R3 and R4 occupancies when a natural gas utility supply pipe is available within 1000 feet of the buildings.

18.24.060 Reserved

18.24.070 Section 406.4 Test pressure measurement, amended.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 406.4 Test pressure measurement, is hereby amended to read as follows:

406.4 Test pressure measurement. Test pressure shall be measured with a manometer or with a pressure-measuring device designed and calibrated to read, record, or indicate a pressure loss caused by leakage during the pressure test period. The source of pressure shall be isolated before the pressure tests are made. Mechanical gauges used to measure test pressures shall have a range such that the highest end of the scale is not greater than two (2) times the test pressure. Tests requiring a pressure of 10 psi or less shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 0.20 psi or less. Tests requiring a pressure greater than 10 psi but less than or equal to 100 psi shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 1 psi or less. Tests requiring a pressure of greater than 60 psi shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 2 psi or less.

18.24.080 Section 406.4.1 Test pressure, amended.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 406.4.1 Test pressure, is hereby amended to read as follows:

406.4.1 Test pressure. Low pressure gas piping shall withstand a pressure of at least 10 psi or 16 inches of mercury. Higher pressure gas piping shall withstand a pressure of at

least 60 psi on a clock gauge with a printed record chart. For the purposes of this section, "low pressure" shall mean pressure equal to or less than 0.5 psi.

18.24.090 Section 406.4.2 Test duration, amended.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2009 Edition, Section 406.4.2 Test duration, is hereby amended to read as follows:

406.4.2 Test duration. Test duration shall be not less than 15 minutes for low pressure gas piping and not less than 4 hours for higher pressure gas piping.

18.24.100 Section 406.4.3 Manufactured homes, added.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 406.4.3 Manufactured homes, is hereby added to read as follows:

406.4.3. Manufactured Homes. Appliance installations in manufactured housing meeting the requirements of the Texas Manufactured Housing Standards Act, or in industrialized housing or industrialized buildings meeting the requirements of the Texas Industrialized Housing and Building Act or bearing the Federal Compliance Plate (ANSI-A119.1), including the appliance connections and the fuel gas piping system, shall not be subject to the provisions of this Code except for the-test provisions of International Fuel Gas Code, Section 406.

18.24.110 Section 417 Over 1-psi gas piping, added.

International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, Section 417 Over 1-psi gas piping, is hereby added to read as follows:

Section 417

OVER 1-PSI GAS PIPING

417.1 Scope and Responsibility. Under this section appear additional fundamental requirements for the installation of consumer gas piping system using over 1-psi gas pressure. Responsibility for observing these requirements shall rest with the installing agency.

417.2 Requirements. The requirements of the Gas Code are applicable to over 1-psi gas piping installations except as such requirements are modified in this chapter. Over 1-psi gas piping systems designed in accordance with this chapter and other requirements of this Code are intended for use where the building service regulator has been set to deliver gas at over 1-psi.

417.3 Over 1-PSI Piping System. Systems designed for over 1-psi gas pressure downstream of the meter shall adhere to all requirements of this Code, of the Gas Utility, and as follows:

1. Drawings and calculations, including site plan and gas piping diagrams shall be submitted to the Gas Utility for approval.
2. The gas pressure shall be regulated to ounces before entering any building or structure, unless otherwise approved by the Gas Utility.
3. All underground lines and above-ground lines within six (6) inches of the ground shall be of wrapped steel. Joints in underground lines and above-ground lines within six (6) inches of the ground shall be welded. Approved plastic pipe may be installed underground, outside buildings, without wrapping.
4. All above-ground lines installed more than six (6) inches above the ground inside buildings shall be of wrapped or bare steel and shall use only welded pipe joints.
5. Gas lines, located outside buildings, and more than 6 inches above ground and operating at up to 5-psi pressure may be installed with approved threaded joints.

18.24.112 Appendix A is adopted in its entirety

18.24.114 Appendix B is adopted in its entirety

18.24.116 Appendix C is adopted in its entirety

18.24.118 Appendix D is adopted in its entirety

18.24.120 Conflicting ordinances

. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this chapter are hereby repealed as follows: Ordinance No. 014731 dated 12-12-2000 and Ordinance No. 15968 dated 12-14-2004.

SECTION 2. That except as herein amended, Title 18 (Building and Construction), Chapter 18.20 (Plumbing Code) of the El Paso City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2016.

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2016 MAY 11 PM 1:26

THE CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



John R. Batton
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Larry Nichols, Director
City Development Department