

*Dedicated to Outstanding Customer Service for a Better Community*

**SERVICE SOLUTIONS SUCCESS**

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



**DEPARTMENT:** ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

**AGENDA DATE:** INTRODUCTION: OCT 4, 2011  
PUBLIC HEARING: OCT 18, 2011

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** R. ALAN  
SHUBERT, (915) 541-4428

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** ALL

**SUBJECT:**

An ordinance amending Title 18 (Building and Construction), Chapter 18.20 (Plumbing Code), of the El Paso City Code, by adding Section 18.20.240 (Protection of Water Service Entrance) and Section 18.20.250 (Plumbing within exterior walls) to help prevent pipes from freezing during severe weather, the penalty being as provided in Section 18.02.107 (Violations and Penalties) of the El Paso City Code.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Discussion and action on development of code amendments to the International Plumbing Code (IPC), International Residential Code (IRC) and International Existing Building Code (IEBC) to further protect plumbing systems from freezing temperatures.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**Mayor**  
John F. Cook

**City Council**

*District 1*  
Ann Morgan Lilly

*District 2*  
Susie Byrd

*District 3*  
Emma Acosta

*District 4*  
Carl L. Robinson

*District 5*  
Dr. Michiel R. Noe

*District 6*  
Eddie Holguin Jr.

*District 7*  
Steve Ortega

*District 8*  
Cortney Carlisle Niland

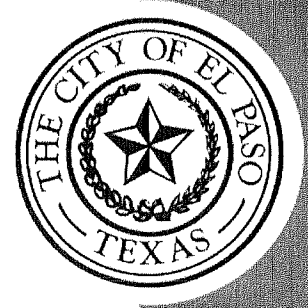
**City Manager**  
Joyce A. Wilson



**Engineering & Construction Management**  
Two Civic Center Plaza – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor · El Paso, Texas 79901  
Phone (915) 541-4622 · Fax (915) 541-4799

*Dedicated to Outstanding Customer Service for a Better Community*

**SERVICE SOLUTIONS SUCCESS**



**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*

**Mayor**

John F. Cook

**City Council**

*District 1*

Ann Morgan Lilly

*District 2*

Susie Byrd

*District 3*

Emma Acosta

*District 4*

Carl L. Robinson

*District 5*

Dr. Michiel R. Noe

*District 6*

Eddie Holguin Jr.

*District 7*

Steve Ortega

*District 8*

Cortney Carlisle Niland

**City Manager**

Joyce A. Wilson



**Engineering & Construction Management**  
Two Civic Center Plaza – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor · El Paso, Texas 79901  
Phone (915) 541-4622 · Fax (915) 541-4799

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 18 (BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION), CHAPTER 18.20 (PLUMBING CODE), OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE, BY ADDING SECTION 18.20.240 (PROTECTION OF WATER SERVICE ENTRANCE) AND SECTION 18.20.250 (PLUMBING WITHIN EXTERIOR WALLS) TO HELP PREVENT PIPES FROM FREEZING DURING SEVERE WEATHER, THE PENALTY BEING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 18.02.107 (VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES) OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE.

WHEREAS, the 2009 edition of the International Plumbing Code has been published; and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2010, the City Council for the City of El Paso through Ordinance No. 017418, adopted the 2009 International Plumbing Code together with the local amendments appropriate for the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of El Paso desires to further amend the 2009 International Plumbing Code by adding additional 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 18.20 (Plumbing Code), Section 18.20.240 (Section 603.1.1 Protection of Water Service Entrance) of the El Paso City Code, be added to read as follows:

**18.20.240 Section 603.1.1 Protection of Water Service Entrance, added.**

International Plumbing Code, 2009 Edition, Section 603.1.1 Protection of Water Service Entrance is hereby added to read as follows:

**603.1.1 Protection of Water Service Entrance.**

Water service entrance and risers to all structures shall be on the heated side of a conditioned space.

**Section 2.** That Title 18 (Building and Construction), Chapter 18.20 (Plumbing Code), Section 18.20.250 (Section 603.1.2 Plumbing within exterior walls) of the El Paso City Code, be added to read as follows:

**18.20.250 Section 603.1.2 Plumbing within exterior walls, added.**

International Plumbing Code, 2009 Edition, Section 603.1.2 Plumbing within exterior walls is hereby added to read as follows:

**603.1.2 Plumbing within exterior walls.**

Placement of plumbing within exterior walls is prohibited unless the walls are at minimum, 2 by 6 walls and adequate provision is made to protect such pipes from freezing in accordance with Section 305.6 of the International Plumbing Code. Placement of water lines in ceiling areas is prohibited unless the water lines are placed on the warm side with a minimum of 10 inch insulation on the exterior/roof side of the structure.

**Exceptions:**

- a. A service entrance may enter a non-conditioned space provided that the riser/service entrance is within an approved, heated valve protective enclosure also know as a "hot box", or
- b. Cross linked polyethylene, also known as PEX, or approved equal, is used as the service entrance material, and
- c. Any hose bibs installed shall be freeze proof.

**Section 3.** The effective date of this ordinance shall be the date signed by the Mayor for the City of El Paso. This ordinance shall be applicable to all permit applications received on or after that date.

**Section 4.** Except as herein provided, Title 18 (Building and Construction) shall remain in full force and effect.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

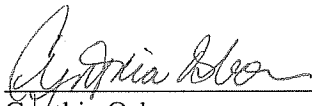
THE CITY OF EL PASO

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Cook  
Mayor

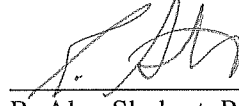
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richarda Duffy Momsen  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Osborn  
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
R. Alan Shubert, P.E.  
City Engineer