

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council		Item ID	37113	Agenda Number	32.
Meeting Date:	10/23/2014		Department:	Planning and Development Review	
Subject					
Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance repealing and replacing City Code Chapter 25-12, Article 4 (<i>Electrial Code</i>) to adopt the 2014 National Electrical Code and adopting certain local amendments to the Electrical Code. (Suggested date and time: November 20, 2014, 4:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)					
Amount and Source of Funding					
Fiscal Note					
Purchasing Language:					
Prior Council Action:	October 20, 2011 - Council adopted the 2011 Electrical Code with local amendments, and adoption of revisions to that code on June 6, 2013.				
For More Information:	Carl Thompson, (512) 974-2887; Jose Roig, (512) 974-9754				
Boards and Commission Action:	July 20, 2014 - Approved by the Electric Board on a 6-0 vote.				
MBE / WBE:					
Related Items:					

Additional Backup Information

The National Electrical Code provides a national standard for electrical installations associated with residential, commercial, and industrial buildings and structures. The proposed ordinance establishes amendments to address local installations, and to comply with the State Electrical Law and the State's adopted National Electrical Code.

Highlights for the Adoption of the 2014 National Electrical Code include:

- Additional residential safety requirements for the use of ground-fault, and arc-fault protection.
- Residential garages will require one receptacle for each car space.
- New language specific to circuits when an outlet is installed for electric vehicle charging systems.
- An exception will allow lighting loads to be calculated per the adopted energy code.

Highlights of the local amendments include:

- Several Sections that were more stringent than the National Electrical Code, have been deleted.
- Currently the Special Inspection Program has a maximum job valuation of \$2,000.00. This value has been removed, allowing more projects to qualify for the Special Inspection Program.
- Language has been added or deleted in several Sections to clarify the Code's intent.

These changes in the Local Amendments have a positive impact on housing affordability by reducing construction costs. These changes result from adopting the 2014 National Electrical Code, as required under State law.