



**Development** CITY OF AUSTIN  
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

*Building a Better and Safer Austin Together*

# **Safe Fencing Regulations**

## **Resolution No. 20211104-039**

### **May 4, 2022**



# Resolution No. 20211104-39

- Initiated code amendments to address dangerous fence design including spiked elements that protrude above the top horizontal bar of a fence
- Directed the City Manager to evaluate:
  - Requiring flat top styles on new fences of all lengths
  - Applying flat top fence requirements to all new fences of six feet tall or lower
  - Applying flat top fence requirements to substantial fence repairs or remodeling of 50% or more of an existing fence

# Resolution Findings

- City Code currently allows some spiked fence styles that can pose significant risk to humans and animals, including:
  - Entrapment and impalement of children
  - Workers performing roof and gutter maintenance
  - Pets or wildlife that jump over fences
- Purpose of the meeting is to obtain commission feedback on proposed amendments





# Options

- Requiring flat top styles on new fences of all lengths
- Applying flat top fence requirements to all new fences of six feet tall or lower
- Applying flat top fence requirements to substantial fence repairs or remodeling of 50% or more of an existing fence
- Other considerations





# Engagement

## Internal Engagement Series:

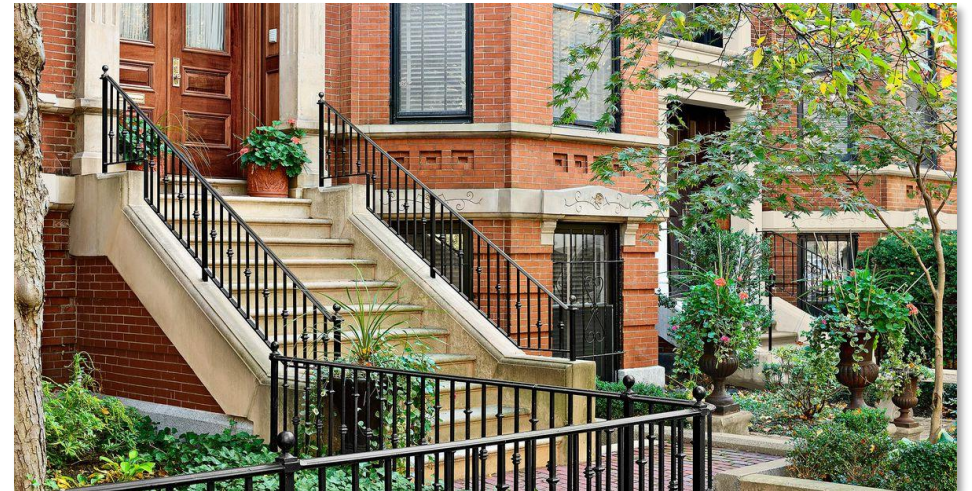
04.26.22	DSD Divisions
04.27.22	Partner Departments
04.27.22	Building and Standards Commission
05.04.22	Historic Landmark Commission

## External Engagement Series:

04.25.22 – 06.05.22	SpeakUp Austin Platform
05.07.22/ 05.26.22	In-Person Public Engagements
05.10.22 / 05.16.22	Virtual Public Engagements

Once engagement concludes:

- Develop recommendations based on stakeholder feedback
- Move amendments forward for Board/ Commission/ Council review



# Outreach

## Broad Outreach

- Boosted Social Media
- NextDoor
- El Mundo
- Austin American Statesman
- Austin Chronicle
- DSD Newsletter

## Targeted Outreach

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• American Fence Association</li><li>• American Institute of Architects</li><li>• American Society of Landscape Architects</li><li>• Asian Contractor's Association</li><li>• Associated General Contractors</li><li>• Austin Apartment Association</li><li>• Austin Association of Builders</li><li>• Austin Board of Realtors</li><li>• Austin Contractors and Engineers Association</li><li>• Austin Home Builders Association</li><li>• Austin Hotel and Lodging Association</li><li>• Austin Infill Coalition</li><li>• Austin Tenant's Association</li><li>• Black Contractor's Association</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capital Metro</li><li>• Certified Building Designers</li><li>• Community Registry</li><li>• Fence Contractors/ Companies</li><li>• Fence/ Pool permit applicants</li><li>• Hispanic Contractor's Association</li><li>• Historic Preservation stakeholders</li><li>• Habitat for Humanity</li><li>• Housing Authority of the City of Austin</li><li>• National Association of Remodeling Industry Pool Contractors/ Companies</li><li>• Pool and Hot Tub Alliance</li><li>• Real Estate Council of Austin</li><li>• School Districts</li><li>• Texas Hotel and Lodging Association</li></ul> |
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# Thank you!