

**RULE NO.: R161-24.03**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE**

**POSTING DATE: 03/28/24**

The Director of the Department of Austin Water proposes to adopt the following rule after 04/29/24.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROPOSED RULE**

A rule proposed in this notice may not become effective before the effective date established by a separate notice of rule adoption. A notice of rule adoption may not be posted before 04/30/24 (the 33rd day after the date of this notice) or not after 06/06/24 (the 70th day after the date of this notice).

If a proposed rule is not adopted on or before 06/06/24, it is automatically withdrawn and cannot be adopted without first posting a new notice of a proposed rule.

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON PROPOSED RULES**

The City requests comments from the public with respect to the proposed rules included in this Notice. Comments must be received by writing to the contact person below no later than 04/29/24 (the first business day following the 31<sup>st</sup> day after the date of this notice).

**Contact Person:**

Eric Langhout  
Austin Water Department

**Email:**

eric.langhout@austintexas.gov  
512-972-0073

**TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE**

The text of the proposed rule, indicating changes from the current text, is attached to this notice.

**BRIEF EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED RULE**

R161-24.03: Proposed revision to Standard Specifications 510

**Rule 2 – Revisions to Standard Specifications 510**

1. ITEM 510 – Pipe – **Item 510.3(6)(a)1** – Remove the language in this section since it is in the UCM Section 2.9.2.B.4.
2. ITEM 510 – Pipe – **Item 510.3(6)(a)2** – Change the language to match the language in 2.9.2.B.4.

An affordability impact statement regarding the proposal is available by contacting Eric Langhout, [eric.langhout@austintexas.gov](mailto:eric.langhout@austintexas.gov) or 512-972-0073.

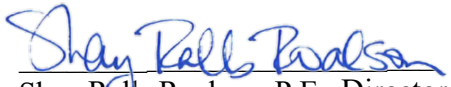
## **AUTHORITY FOR ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RULE**

The authority and procedure for adoption of a rule to assist in the implementation, administration, or enforcement of a provision of the City Code is provided in Chapter 1-2 of the City Code. The authority to adopt this rule is established in Section 552.001 of the Texas Local Government Code, Section 552.017 of the Texas Local Government Code, and Section 15-9-9 of the City Code.

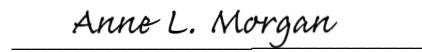
## **CERTIFICATION BY CITY ATTORNEY**

By signing this Notice of Proposed Rule R161-24.03, the City Attorney certifies the City Attorney has reviewed the rule and finds that adoption of the rule is a valid exercise of the Director's administrative authority.

## **REVIEWED AND APPROVED**

  
Shay Ralls Roalson, P.E., Director  
Austin Water

Date: 3/22/2024

  
Anne L. Morgan  
City Attorney

Date: 3/25/24

## **SUMMARY OF 1<sup>st</sup> CYCLE - 2024 STANDARD SPECIFICATION CHANGES**

### **Rule 2 – Revisions to Standard Specifications 510**

1. ITEM 510 – Pipe – **Item 510.3(6)(a)1** – Remove the language in this section since it is in the UCM Section 2.9.2.B.4.
2. ITEM 510 – Pipe – **Item 510.3(6)(a)2** – Change the language to match the language in 2.9.2.B.4.

## ITEM NO. 510 PIPE ~~11-7-22~~ **XX-XX-24**

### 510.3 Construction Methods

(6) Trench Depth and Depth of Cover

All pipe and in-line appurtenances shall be laid to the grades indicated. The depth of cover shall be measured from the established finish grade, natural ground surface, subgrade for staged construction, street or other permanent surface to the top or uppermost projection of the pipe.

- (a) Where not otherwise indicated, all potable/reclaimed water piping shall be laid to the following minimum depths:

- ~~1.~~ Potable/reclaimed water piping installed in undisturbed ground in easements of undeveloped areas, which are not within existing or planned streets, roads or other traffic areas shall be laid with at least 36 inches of cover.
- ~~2~~**1.** Potable/reclaimed water piping installed in existing streets, roads or other traffic areas shall be laid with at least 48 inches of cover below finish grade. **Minimum depth of cover over the uppermost projection of pipe shall be at least 48 inches below proposed ground elevation.**
- ~~3~~**2.** Unless approved by the E/A, installation of potable/reclaimed water piping in proposed new streets will not be permitted until paving and drainage plans have been approved and the roadway traffic areas excavated to the specified or standard paving subgrade, with all parkways and sidewalk areas graded according to any applicable provisions of the drainage plans or sloped upward from the curb line to the right-of-way line at a minimum slope of ¼ inch per foot. Piping and appurtenances installed in such proposed streets shall be laid with at least 36 inches of cover below the actual subgrade.

- (b) Where not otherwise indicated, all wastewater piping shall be laid to the following minimum depths:

1. Wastewater piping installed in natural ground in easements or other undeveloped areas, which are not within existing or planned streets, roads or other traffic areas shall be laid with at least 42 inches of cover.
2. Wastewater piping installed in proposed streets, existing streets, roads or other traffic areas shall be laid with at least 66 inches of cover.