



Weatherford City Council

AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 24, 2025
Item Number: 2025-261-AR

Staff Contact: Chad Marbut, Assistant City Manager
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SUBJECT: Hold a PUBLIC HEARING and consider adoption of Ordinance O2025-22 amending Title IV, "Building and Property Maintenance Regulations and Historic Preservation" ordinance by adopting the 2021 editions of the international codes and the 2020 National Electrical Code with amendments.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The City of Weatherford is currently operating under the 2009 editions of the International Codes and the 2008 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC). These codes are now significantly outdated, and staff recommends updating to the newer 2021 and 2020 editions respectively, to ensure the city remains current with Texas Local Government Code, modern safety practices and construction standards. Adopting updated building codes provides several important benefits for our community:

Safety and Code Compliance: The newer codes incorporate the latest safety standards, construction techniques, and materials that have been developed over the past decade. This helps ensure that new construction and renovations in Weatherford meet current best practices for protecting public health and safety.

Insurance Benefits: Updated building codes are a major factor in maintaining favorable Insurance Services Office (ISO) ratings. ISO ratings directly affect homeowners' insurance costs throughout our community. Cities with current building codes typically receive better ISO ratings, which can lead to lower insurance premiums for residents.

Economic Development: Current building codes make it easier for developers and contractors to work in Weatherford, as they can use the same modern standards they use in other communities. This helps attract quality development and reduces confusion for the construction industry.

Recommended Codes for Adoption

Staff recommends adopting the following updated codes:

- 2021 International Building Code
- 2021 International Residential Code

- 2021 International Plumbing Code
- 2021 International Mechanical Code
- 2020 National Electrical Code
- 2021 International Energy Conservation Code
- 2021 International Fuel Gas Code
- 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code
- 2021 International Existing Building Code
- 2021 International Fire Code
- 2021 International Property Maintenance Code

Impact on Residents and Builders

Staff have consulted with local contractors and our internal building inspection staff regarding these code updates. The feedback indicates that:

Minimal Impact on Residents: Most homeowners will not be affected by the code updates unless they are undertaking major renovations or new construction. Minor repairs and maintenance will continue under existing standards.

Builder Familiarity: Many contractors and builders in our area are already familiar with the 2021 codes, as these standards are used in surrounding communities. This should make the transition smooth for the construction industry.

Gradual Implementation: Staff recommends the updated codes take effect immediately, while providing for a grace period for plans to be submitted until December 31, 2025 to allow contractors time to adjust their current projects and familiarize themselves with any local amendments.

Local Amendments

As part of adopting the updated codes, staff recommends the inclusion of some minor local amendments as outlined in the ordinance that reflect Weatherford's specific needs and preferences. These amendments are based on recommendations from regional planning organizations and our building inspection professionals. The amendments address local conditions and help ensure the codes work effectively for our community's unique characteristics while reducing the overall need for amendments to the International codes.

New Codes for Weatherford

A new international code will be added to Weatherford's adopted codes: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC): Prior to 2015 International codes were published, swimming pool regulations were included within other codes. The ISPSC is now a separate, comprehensive document that provides clear standards for pool and spa

construction and safety.

Public Notice and Legal Requirements

This ordinance has been properly noticed for public hearing as required by Texas Local Government Code Chapter 214. The public hearing provides an opportunity for community input before final adoption of the updated codes.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

SUGGESTED ACTION

Staff recommendation is approval.

ATTACHMENTS

- [Presentation](#)
- [Fire Sprinkler Requirements](#)
- [O2025-22](#)