



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY FORM

MEETING DATE: July 14, 2026

PREPARED BY: Otis T. Spriggs, AICP, Development Services Director

AGENDA CONTENT: Conduct a public hearing, discussion and take possible action on Ordinance No. 20260714-006, amending Chapter 5, buildings and Chapter 7, "fire prevention and protection", of the code of ordinances to adopt and upgrade existing codes to the 2024 international building code, the 2024 international swimming pool and spa code, the 2024 international residential code, the 2024 international plumbing code, the 2024 international mechanical code, the 2024 international fuel gas code, the 2024 international energy conservation code, the 2024 international existing building code, and the 2024 international property maintenance code, each as published by the international code council, inc.; providing certain amendments and deletions to said standard codes.

AGENDA ITEM SECTION: Public Hearing and Action Item

BUDGETED AMOUNT: None

FUNDS REQUESTED: None

FUND: None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Purpose

The proposed ordinance updates the City's construction and fire safety regulations by replacing the currently adopted 2015 International Codes with the 2024 editions published by the International Code Council (ICC), along with the 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC). The ordinance also incorporates several locally adopted amendments that reflect the City's existing development practices while improving administrative efficiency and consistency.

The update ensures that Angleton continues to regulate development using the most current nationally recognized construction and life safety standards while remaining consistent with current State of Texas requirements.

Background

The City's current building regulations were adopted in 2019 and are primarily based on the 2015 International Codes. Since that time, significant changes have been made to national building

standards, construction methods, energy efficiency requirements, resiliency standards, and life safety provisions.

City Staff organized a Builder's Forum event to gather insight from local area builders regarding the proposed ICC Codes. The event was available to participants to attend in person or online via a Teams call to participate. Adurra and SAFEbuilt presented attendees with a summary of the 2024 ICC Codes and 2023 NEC Code, respectively. SAFEbuilt discussed that aside from the update of industry standards, the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA) requires structures to be built to the 2024 ICC Standards in order to be insured. The Forum was a successful outreach event and received positive feedback from the contractors and builders that were present.

Major Components of the Ordinance

The ordinance adopts the following code editions:

- 2024 International Building Code (IBC)
- 2024 International Residential Code (IRC)
- 2024 International Existing Building Code (IEBC)
- 2024 International Fire Code (IFC)
- 2024 International Plumbing Code (IPC)
- 2024 International Mechanical Code (IMC)
- 2024 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)
- 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)
- 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC)
- 2024 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC)
- 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC)

Significant Local Amendments

While the ordinance largely adopts the ICC model codes, several local amendments have been retained or added to address Angleton's operational needs.

Administrative Consistency

The ordinance standardizes:

- Building Official authority
- Development Services Department enforcement responsibilities
- Permit valuation procedures
- Appeals procedures
- Fee administration

- Violation and penalty language

These provisions create consistent administrative procedures across all adopted codes, simplifying enforcement and improving customer service.

Benefits to the Community

Adoption of the 2024 Codes provides several benefits:

- Improved life safety through updated building and fire protection standards.
- Enhanced storm resilience and structural performance using current engineering practices.
- Greater energy efficiency for new construction.
- Better consistency with current State of Texas laws.
- Increased predictability for builders working throughout the region that have already adopted newer code editions.
- Reduced need for future ordinance revisions by updating obsolete code references.
- More efficient permit administration through standardized procedures across all adopted codes.

Impact on Builders and Developers

The ordinance is not intended to significantly alter the City's development process.

Instead, it:

- modernizes the technical construction standards;
- provides clearer administrative procedures;
- removes outdated code references;
- aligns permit administration across all disciplines; and
- provides builders with current nationally recognized construction standards already widely used throughout Texas.

Most local amendments retained in the ordinance reflect existing City practices that builders and design professionals are already familiar with.

Fiscal Impact

The ordinance is not expected to create a significant fiscal impact on the City's operating budget. Existing staffing and administrative processes will continue to administer the adopted codes.

Long-term benefits include reduced ambiguity during plan review and inspections, more consistent enforcement, and improved administrative efficiency.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance adopting the 2024 International Codes and 2023 National Electrical Code and associated local amendments.

The proposed ordinance modernizes the City's building and fire regulations, improves consistency across all adopted codes, incorporates stakeholder feedback, preserves appropriate local amendments, and positions the City to continue supporting safe, resilient, and high-quality development while remaining aligned with current industry standards and State of Texas requirements.