

**City Council Regular Meeting**

**DEPARTMENT:** Development Services


**FROM:** Tony D. McIlwain, Development Services Director

**MEETING:** May 4, 2026

**SUBJECT:**

Consider and take possible action on an ordinance amending the City's zoning ordinance codified in Appendix B of the City of Burleson Code of Ordinances relating to a Heavy & High Energy industrial district. *(Final Reading) (Staff Contact: Tony D. McIlwain, Development Services Director)*

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND GOAL(S):**

Strategic Priority	Strategic Goal
 <p><b>Dynamic &amp; Preferred City</b> Through Managed Growth</p>	<p>2.2 Promote sustainable residential and commercial development through strategic and long-term planning.</p>

**SUMMARY:**

The proposed HI, Heavy & High Energy industrial district is established to accommodate industrial development, which represents a type of economic development appropriate for the diversification of the employment base of the city. The range of industry which may be classified as industrial is rapidly expanding as a result of developments in modern technology. To take full advantage of new industrial potential for clean compatible types of industry, performance standards are specified covering noise, smoke, and particulate matter, other air contaminants, hazardous materials, fire and explosive hazard, glare, and vibration.

This zoning district also incorporates certain businesses, with operations and facilities that may create energy, or require high energy consumption compared to other businesses in other districts, and, if not properly regulated, may create high-noise levels and other negative impacts

The ordinance contains “by-right” primary land use categories as well as categories requiring approval of a specific use permit (SUP) and site plan. The city council shall consider whether additional landscaping, buffering, screening, noise and glare mitigation, or other general

performance standards are required to mitigate noise and/or visual impacts to the community and surrounding neighborhood and properties. Additionally, there is a buffer requirement that is specific to high energy uses.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance.

**PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):**

January 20, 2026: Staff provided a briefing to the Council on data centers. Staff received direction to begin drafting a Heavy Industrial Zoning District to account for high energy uses.

February 24, 2026: Staff provided a briefing to the Planning and Zoning Commission on data centers.

March 24, 2026: The Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing and recommended approval of the ordinance.

April 20, 2026: The City Council conducted a public hearing of the first reading of the ordinance.

**REFERENCE:**

Insert CSO# if applicable  
Insert resolution or ordinance change

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Proposed Expenditure/Revenue: n/a  
Account Number(s): n/a  
Fund: n/a  
Account Description: n/a  
Procurement Method: n/a

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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