

2026 National Electrical Code



Austin Development Services
4/23/26

Proposed Adoption

- City of Austin is on track to implement the 2026 National Electrical Code on September 1, 2026.
- Primary goal is to reduce amendments and remove redundant language .



Purpose for Adoption

- The National Electrical Code provides a national standard for electrical installations associated with residential, commercial, and industrial buildings and structures.
- The proposed ordinance establishes amendments to address local installations, complies with state law, and is consistent with the State Electrical Law and the State's adopted National Electrical Code.




Summary of Local Amendments

- Removal of the term “specification” from plan review requirements.
- Modification of two permit exemptions.
 - One clarifying and adjusting the exemption requirements for temporary wiring in laboratories
 - Another updating low-voltage installations to reflect current practices and safety standards.





Summary of Local Amendments

 Removal of Homestead requirements and referencing back to the Building Criteria

 Manual for the requirements.

 Removal of “registered industrial plant program” from the annual permit section.

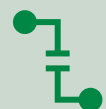
 Addition of the Fire Code reference for fire pump disconnect requirements.

 Return to model code for main electrical service disconnect requirements.

Significant Changes to the 2026 NEC Model Code



The 2026 National Electrical Code will introduce reformatting in preparation for a major structural shift planned for the 2029 National Electrical Code, including reorganization of medium voltage and limited-energy systems.



Separation of Power Control Systems from Energy Management Systems, which will clarify the responsibilities and installation requirements of both.



Expanded worker safety requirements. Reinforcing listing requirements and clarifying equipment labeling, maintenance, and safe operation.

Thank you!
Any questions?