

## City Code – Title 9, Chapter 5, Electrical Code

### Proposed Amendments (DRAFT 8/26/24)

- Amend City Code, Title 9, Chapter 5, Electrical Code, Section Table of Contents (portion altered), as follows:

SECTION:

#### 9-5-41: Criminal Penalties and Noncompliance

- Amend City Code 9-5-9, ~~Interpretations~~ Deputies, as follows:

The code official shall have the authority to designate deputy code officials, ~~or~~ assistant electrical inspectors/plans examiners, and code compliance officers as necessary. Such employees shall have such powers and authority as delegated by the Director and/or code official. The chief electrical inspector, deputies, or assistant electrical inspectors/plans examiners shall be knowledgeable in electrical installations and hold a valid Journeyman license or Master Electrician license issued by the State of Idaho. All inspectors shall be skilled in electrical installations with not less than four (4) years of experience as a journeyman electrician and shall be familiar with the provisions of this Chapter. ~~Such~~ The Electrical Section ~~deputies~~ shall also have powers as delegated by the code official including adhere to the following:

A. All electrical ~~i~~inspectors employed by the department shall take and pass exams to obtain IAEI/ICC electrical inspector certifications as Master/Residential or Commercial/Residential, before the end of their probationary period, ~~the Electrical General Inspector's exam, designated and selected by the State of Idaho Division of Building and Safety.~~

B. No chief inspector, deputy, ~~or~~ inspector/plans examiner employed by the City shall be permitted to be engaged in or possess a financial interest in an electrical business, trade, practice, or work related to this Chapter, or to sell any supplies in conjunction with an electrical business, or act as an agent, directly or indirectly, for any person, firm, co-partnership, association, or corporation engaged in an electrical business within the jurisdiction of Boise City.

C. All ~~E~~electrical Inspectors/plans examiners are hereby authorized to administer provisions of this Chapter and it shall be their duty to provide plan

review and inspect the installations and alterations of electrical wiring, equipment, apparatus, and fixtures covered by this Chapter.

➤ Amend City Code 9-5-19, Permits Required, as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to install, remove, demolish, deconstruct, alter, repair, replace, or cause to be installed, removed, demolished, deconstructed, altered, repaired, or replaced any electrical system or equipment regulated by this Chapter, except where exempted from this Chapter, in any building or premises without first obtaining a permit to perform such work. A separate permit shall be obtained for each separate building or structure.

Exception: Emergency Work: If immediate alteration or installation of electrical wiring, equipment, apparatus, or fixtures is necessary for reasons of public safety or welfare and an electrical permit cannot first be obtained without further endangering the public safety or welfare, such alteration or installation may be made without first obtaining the electrical permit therefore but the required electrical permit shall be obtained during the next business day, or a time as required by the code official, after such alteration or installation has been made.

➤ Amend City Code 9-5-20, Work Exempt From Permit, as follows:

Exemption from permit requirements of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this code or any other laws or ordinances of the jurisdiction.

A. In one- and two-family dwellings, permits shall not be required for the following:

1. Listed cord-and-plug connected temporary decorative lighting or the plug-in connection of approved portable electrical equipment.
2. Replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices of the required capacity, matching manufacturer, or approved listing, in the same location.
3. Electrical wiring, devices, appliances, apparatus, or equipment operating at less than twenty-five (25) volts and not capable of supplying more than fifty (50) watts of energy.
4. Minor repair work such as the replacement of same or similar, code compliant, receptacles, switches, lamps, luminaires, and overcurrent devices without alteration or relocation.

B. In other than one- and two-family dwellings, permits shall not be required for the following:

1. Listed cord-and-plug connected temporary decorative lighting or the plug-in connection of approved portable electrical equipment.

2. Repairs And Maintenance: Minor repair work such as the replacement of same or similar, code compliant, receptacles, switches, lamps, luminaires, and overcurrent devices without alteration or relocation.

3. Electrical wiring, devices, appliances, apparatus, or equipment operating at less than twenty-five (25) volts and not capable of supplying more than fifty (50) watts of energy.

~~3.~~ 4. Radio And Television Transmitting Stations: The provisions of this code shall not apply to electrical equipment used for radio and television transmissions, excluding the equipment and wiring for a power supply and the installations of towers and antennas which does require a permit.

4. ~~5.~~ Temporary Testing Systems: A permit shall not be required for the installation of any temporary system required for the testing or servicing of electrical equipment or apparatus.

➤ Amend City Code 9-5-35, Inspections and Testing, as follows:

The code official is authorized to conduct such inspections as are deemed necessary to determine compliance with the provisions of this Chapter. Construction or work for which a permit is required shall be subject to inspection by the code official or designees, and such construction or work shall remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes until approved. Approval as a result of an inspection shall not be construed to be an approval of a violation of the provisions of this Chapter or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction. Inspections presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this Chapter or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction shall not be valid.

The code official, upon notification from the permit holder or the permit holder's agent, shall make the following inspections and other such inspections as necessary, and shall either release that portion of the construction or shall notify the permit holder or permit holder's agent of violations that must be corrected. The holder of the permit shall be responsible for requesting and scheduling of such inspections. It shall be the duty of the permit holder to provide access to and means for inspection of such work required under this Chapter. As applicable to the permitted scope of work, inspections required include:

A. Temporary service inspection. (Separate permit is required. Approval to connect temporary utility power for construction site service.)

B. Conference inspection. .(For code clarifications and required for residential homeowner permits.)

C. Rough-in inspection. ~~s~~ (S shall be made after trenches or ditches are excavated and bedded, conduit installed, and before acceptable backfill is put in place or after the roof, framing, fireblocking, and bracing are in place and all rough-in electrical components to be concealed are complete, and prior to the installation of the wall or ceiling membranes.)

~~D.~~ Permanent service inspection. (For approval of permanent utility connection.)

~~D.~~ E. Rough-in permanent service. (For approval to cover and of permanent utility connection.)

~~E.~~ F. Elevator/Escalator or other inspections (For residential Elevator, escalator, dumbwaiter, moving walk, platform lift and stairway chairlift inspection.)

~~F.~~ G. Temporary Occupancy inspection. (For approval to allow equipment to be moved in and/or start personnel training, temporary occupancy of specified areas.)

~~G.~~ H. Final inspection. s (S shall be made upon completion of the electrical system to complete the permit(s) and/or allow permanent occupancy.)

~~H.~~ Permanent service inspection.

~~I.~~ Aging or other inspections. a (A s required by the code official, to ascertain compliance with the provisions of this Chapter.)

Work shall not be done beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the approval of the code official. The code official, upon notification, shall make the requested inspections and shall either indicate the portion of the construction that is satisfactory as completed, or notify the permit holder or permit holder's agent wherein the same fails to comply with this code. Any portions that do not comply shall be corrected and such portion shall not be covered or concealed until authorized by the code official. It shall be unlawful to cover up or in any way conceal any electrical work until inspection and approval has occurred by the code official or designee. Covered or concealed work without inspection approval may be required to be exposed, to the extent determined by the code official or designee, in order to inspect and verify compliance with the provisions of this Chapter. A reinspection fee, as specified in the fee schedule, may be assessed at the discretion of the code official or designee, under circumstances such as where no access is provided, for covered or concealed work, where such portion of the work called for reinspection is not complete or where required corrections have not been made upon reinspection.

The code official may require testing of the electrical system or equipment to ascertain compliance with the provisions of this Chapter. Tests shall be made by the permit holder and observed by the code official. The code official may also accept tests or inspections from an approved third-party agency.

- Amend City Code 9-5-41, Criminal Penalties and Noncompliance, as follows:

Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this Chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), by imprisonment for not more than one hundred eighty (180) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each separate day or any portion thereof during which any violation of this code occurs or continues shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense, and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable as herein provided.

A. ~~In~~ At the discretion of the Division Manager of the Building Division, the City may charge the offender with an infraction in lieu of a misdemeanor. The infraction shall be payable by a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00). There shall be no right to a trial by jury for an infraction citation or complaint.

B. For purposes of trial by court or jury, the infraction described within this section shall not constitute a lesser included offense for any misdemeanor citation or complaint.

C. A prosecuting attorney may reduce a misdemeanor charge under this Chapter to an infraction as described herein, payable by a \$300 fine, if the defendant engages in corrective actions resulting in fully completed and permitted work.

The Building Division may request assistance from code compliance officers, as designated authorized agents of the Planning & Development Services Director and code official, to gain compliance with this Chapter of City Code for noncompliant cases.

For unaddressed noncompliant items at a building or site, the code official may record a Notice of Noncompliance against the property with the Ada County Recorder's office. When compliance is later gained at the building or site through an approval, permitting, and inspection process, the code official shall then record a Notice of Compliance against the property with the Ada County Recorder's office indicating the building or site is now in compliance with this Chapter of City Code for the subject items.

- Amend City Code 9-5-50, Special Code Requirements, as follows:

Add additional item G. to the Section as noted below.

G. Commercial parking garages open to the elements shall be considered as a damp location throughout.

Exception: The ceiling areas shall be considered protected from weather, except around exterior openings. Areas up to 10 feet measured horizontally in all directions from an exterior opening shall be considered a damp location.