

AGENDA



Thursday, September 27, 2007

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**Item No. 67**

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 25-12, Article 6 of the City Code (Plumbing Code) to amend regulations relating to water conservation, permitting, reclaimed water systems and gas piping. (Suggested date and time: October 18, 2007, 6:00 p.m., at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Leon Barba 974-7254; Dan McNabb, 974-2752

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Mechanical, Plumbing and Solar Board.

Prior Council Action: Adoption of the 2003 Uniform Plumbing Code and local amendments on December 15, 2005.

The proposed amendments to Chapter 25-12, Article 6 of the City Code (Plumbing Code) amend regulations related to water conservation, permitting, reclaimed water systems and gas piping. The proposed amendments also implement water conservation initiatives recommended by the Water Conservation Task Force.

Substantive changes include:

1. Recommendations issued by the Water Conservation Task Force which include:
 - a) New water saving requirements for residential and commercial uses with landscape irrigation systems; and
 - b) New "Reclaimed Water" regulations proposed to accommodate the need for regulations for the "Mueller" revitalization project and other projects where reclaimed water will be utilized in the future.
2. Addition of a Special Inspections Programs which the building official may establish, by rule, for the installation of certain plumbing components in one and two family dwellings within the zoning jurisdiction of the City. Under the program, the building official shall inspect work performed under one out of five of the applications submitted. The special inspection program may apply to hot water heaters not exceeding 100 gallons or 75,000 BTUs; and backflow devices.
3. Revisions to Homestead Permit requirements which include a clarification of who can apply for a homestead permit and the type of work that can be authorized under the permit. For instance, natural gas piping installations, which are life/safety in nature, can only be installed by a licensed plumber.