

## **BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

# Joint Sustainability Committee

## Recommendation 20220223-2E on Electric Readiness and EV-Ready

**WHEREAS**, the Austin City Council approved the Austin Climate Equity Plan on September 30, 2021, which commits the city to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 75% by 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, the Austin Climate Equity Plan calls for code amendments, incentives and education to enable electrification of buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Climate Equity Plan calls for codes that address future EV charging needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of the public comments submitted during the 2021 Austin Energy Conservation Code adoption process were supporting adoption of Electric Readiness and EV-Ready code amendments; and

**WHEREAS,** Austin Energy committed to initiating a public process to consider adoption of Electric Readiness and EV-Ready code amendments, as well as other solutions to encourage electrification, before the end of 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, it is more affordable to do electric wiring and install and an appropriately sized electric panel at the time of construction than to retrofit buildings later; and

**WHEREAS,** Electric Readiness and EV-Ready code provisions have already been drafted by the International Code Council and came very close to being included in the Energy Conservation Code, **NOW, THEREFORE,** 

#### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMISION OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Joint Sustainability Commission supports adoption of Electric Readiness and EV-Ready amendments to the Austin Energy Conservation Code and recommends that the Austin City Council direct that the City Manager initiate a formal process to make these code updates immediately.

#### **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:**

The Commission supports staff plans to conduct stakeholder meetings on electrification and recommends that the Austin City Council request regular updates on this work to ensure that it is completed on a timeline that will allow for implementation of the Electric Readiness and EV-Ready code amendments by September 1, 2022.

Date of Approval:	February	23, 2022

Motion to approve (Commissioner DePalma), second (Commissioner Phillips). Record of the vote: 9 approved, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

Attest:

Zach Baumer, Staff Liaison

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