

ORDINANCE NO. 15,944

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, by amending Sections 26-400, 26-405, and 26-409, and by adding and enacting Section 46-413, relating to Article IV of the Electrical Code.

Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa:

Section 1. That the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, by amending Sections 26-400, 26-405, and 26-409, and by adding and enacting Section 46-413, relating to Article IV of the Electrical Code, as follows:

**Sec. 26-400. Adoption of the National Electrical Code.**

- (a) This article shall consist of the National Electrical Code, 2020 edition, published by the National Fire Protection Association, commonly known as and referred to in this article as the "National Electrical Code" or "NEC", a copy of which is on file in the office of the city clerk and which is incorporated by this reference in its entirety, except as otherwise indicated in this article.
- (b) This article and all provisions incorporated in this article, by reference or otherwise, shall be known as the electrical code. References to section numbers not preceded by "26-" will be to articles in the National Electrical Code.

**Sec. 26-405 Deletions.**

The following are deleted from the NEC and are of no force or effect in this article:  
(1) Article 210.8 (F).

**Sec. 26-409. Service entrance requirements.**

- (a) All service entrances in and upon buildings and structures within the city shall be of the class known as "rigid metal conduit (RMC), intermediate metallic conduit (IMC), or electrical metallic tubing (EMT)," except as provided in this section.
- (b) Underground service entrances for all buildings except in single-family, two-family, and row dwellings shall be of moisture resistant wire installed in rigid metal conduit or approved non-metallic raceway such as schedule 40 polyvinylchloride (PVC) or its equivalent.
- (c) Other provisions of this section to the contrary notwithstanding, that portion of an underground service lateral that is installed by an electrical contractor, but is owned and maintained by a business licensed by law to engage in the business of supplying and distributing electricity, may be of a type used by such a business for such an installation.

- (d) All direct burial cable used by the utility company for the purpose of distributing electrical current within the city, shall be placed and located in the ground a minimum depth of 30” below the proposed final grade. No separation shall be required between electrical conductors and communications conductors when laid in a common trench.
- (e) Underground service entrance risers, to the meter, may be schedule 40 PVC, when not subject to physical damage.

**Sec. 26-413. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter Protection in Dwelling Units.**

Delete section 210.8(A) and insert in lieu therefore the following new section:

210.8(A) Dwelling Units.

All 125-volt receptacles installed in locations specified in 210.8(A)(1) through 210.9(A) (11) shall ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for personnel.

(1) Bathrooms.

(2) Garages and also accessory buildings that have a floor located at or below grade level not intended to be habitable rooms and limited to storage areas, work areas or similar use.

(3) Outdoors.

Exception to (3): Receptacles that are not readily accessible and are supplied branch circuit dedicated to electrical snow-melting, deicing, or pipeline and vessel heating equipment shall be permitted to be installed in accordance with 426.28 or 427.22, as applicable.

(4) Crawl spaces—at or below ground level.

(5) Basements.

Exception to (5): A receptacle supplying only a permanently installed fire alarm or burglar alarm system shall not be required to have ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection.

Informational Note: See 760.41B and 760.121(B) for power supply requirements for fire alarms systems.

Receptacles installed under the exception to 210.8(A)(5) shall not be considered as meeting the requirements of 210.52(G).

(6) Kitchens – where the receptacles are installed to serve the countertop surfaces.

(7) Sinks – where receptacles are installed within 1.8 m (6 ft) from the top inside edge of the bowl of the sink.

(8) Boathouses.

(9) Bathtubs or shower stalls –where receptacles are installed within 1.8 m (6 ft) of the outside edge of the bathtub or shower stall.

(10) Laundry areas.

Exception to (1) through (3), (5) through (8), and (10): Listed locking support and mounting receptacles utilized in combination with compatible attachment fittings installed for the purpose of serving a ceiling luminaire or ceiling fan shall not be required to be ground-fault circuit-interrupter protected. If a general-purpose convenience receptacle is integral to the ceiling luminaire or ceiling fan, GFCI protection shall be provided.

(11) Indoor damp and wet locations.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law.

FORM APPROVED:

Judy K. Parks-Kruse, Assistant City Attorney

T. M. Franklin Cownie, Mayor

Attest: I, P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of an ordinance (Roll Call No. 20-1959), passed by the City Council of said City at a meeting held on November 23, 2020 and signed by the Mayor on November 23, 2020 and published and provided by law in the Business Record on December 11, 2020. Authorized by Publication Order No. 11326.

P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk