

ORDINANCE NO. 16,568

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 Section 26-301, relating to building permit requirements, and by amending Sections 26-407 and 26-408, and repealing Sections 26-406 and 26-409, relating to 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, heretofore amended, by amending Section 26-301, relating to building permit requirements, and by amending Sections 26-407 and 26-408, and repealing Sections 26-406 and 26-409, relating to the electrical code, as follows:

Sec. 26-301. Building permit required.

- (a) Building permits are required as identified in IBC chapter 1, part 2; IRC chapter 1, part 2; and IEBC Chapter 1, part 2, ISPS Chapter 1
- (b) A fee for each building permit shall be paid to the building official in the amount set in the Schedule of Fees adopted by the city council by resolution. The fee for a permit to construct only a foundation for a future building shall be 150 percent of the fee specified in the Schedule of Fees, with the value of the foundation for such purpose being ten percent of the total valuation of the future building and foundation.
- (c) Beginning January 1, 2027 replacement of roof coverings will require a building permit.

Sec. 26-406. Repealed by Ord. No. 16,568.

Sec. 26-407. Scope.

- (a) The provisions of this article shall apply to the following:
 - (1) The inspection of electrical installations as covered by article 90.2 of the State Electrical Code.
- (b) If the classification of a building has been changed due to a change in occupancy, the wiring in the entire building shall comply with all the electrical standards applicable to the new classification. If the occupancy of a building has been changed to a mixed occupancy, with the required fire separation between the mixed occupancy, each occupancy shall comply with its own particular classification and shall be wired in compliance with the electrical standards of its particular classification.
- (c) No permits are required for electrical wiring of 50 volts or less. Such systems shall comply with the State Electrical Code.
- (d) The provisions of sections 26-135 through 26-143 and 26-450 through 26-451, inclusive, of this article shall not apply in any respect to persons who are licensed by law to engage in the business of supplying and distributing electricity or the transmission of communication, when the person is installing, operating or maintaining electrical equipment or doing electrical work as an integral part of such business.

Sec. 26-408. Applicability

- (a) **New Installations.** The State Electrical Code applies to new installations. Buildings with construction permits dated after adoption of the State Electrical Code shall comply with its requirements.
- (b) **Existing Installations.** Existing electrical installations that do not comply with the provisions of the State Electrical Code shall be permitted to be continued in use unless the Building Official determines that the lack of conformity with the State Electrical Code presents an imminent danger to occupants. Where changes are required for corrections of hazards, a reasonable amount of time shall be given for compliance, depending on the degree of hazard.
- (c) **Additions, Alterations, or Repairs.** Additions, alterations or repairs to any building, structure, or premises shall conform to that required of a new building without requiring the existing building to comply with all of the requirements of the State Electrical Code. Additions, alterations, installations, or repairs shall not cause an existing building to become unsafe or to adversely affect the performance of the building as determined by the Building Official. Electrical wiring added to an existing service, feeder, or branch circuit shall not result in an installation that violates the provisions of the State Electrical Code at the time the additions are made.

Sec. 26-409. Repealed by Ord. No. 16,568.

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

FORM APPROVED: Gary D. Goudelock Jr., Assistant City Attorney

Connie Boesen, Mayor

Attest: I, Laura Baumgartner, 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. 26-0852), passed by the City Council of said City at the meeting held on July 13, 2026 and signed by the Mayor on July 13, 2026 and published and provided by law in the Business Record on July 31, 2026. Authorized by Publication Order No. 13333.

Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk