

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-O-018

**Amending Chapter 7-9 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo by adopting the 2015 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for publication and effective date. This will be effective for all residential, commercial and industrial construction that is not single family residential or a duplex in accordance with House Bill 1736.**

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2009 by Ordinance No 2009-O-159, the City Council adopted the 2009 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC); and

WHEREAS, the International Code Council (ICC) updates the building and related codes approximately every 3 years. They also publish standards, which if adopted, provide additional guidance in the regulation of structure and development. It is the city practice to review the newest edition of the International Codes and to update the adopted versions; and

WHEREAS, Internationally, code officials recognize the need for a modern, up-to-date energy conservation code addressing the design of energy-efficient building envelopes and installation of energy-efficient mechanical, lighting and power systems through requirements emphasizing performance. The International Energy Conservation Code, in this 2015 edition, is designed to meet these needs through model code regulations that will result in the optimal utilization of fossil fuel and non-depletable resources un all communities, large and small; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2015, HB 1736 was signed into law at the State of Texas Legislature. This bill sets a six (6) year minimum for Energy Code adoptions.

NOW THEREFORE BY IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Laredo that:

**Section 1.** Amending Chapter 7, as follows

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 7-9. - International Energy Conservation Code—Adopted.

There is hereby adopted by the city council the [2009] 2015 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code.

Section C403.2.11 is amended.

**C403.2.11 Mechanical systems commissioning and completion requirements.** Mechanical systems shall be commissioned and completed in accordance with Section C408.2. **(Optional)**

Section C403.3 is amended.

**C403.3 Economizers (Prescriptive).** Each cooling system that has a *unitary packed roof top unit* [~~fan~~] shall include either an air or water economizer complying with Sections C403.3.1 through C403.3.4

**Exceptions:** Economizers are not required for the systems listed below.

1. In cooling systems for buildings located in Climate Zones 1A and 1B.
2. In climate zones other than 1A and 1B, where individual cooling units have a capacity of less than 54,000 Btu/h (15.8 kW) and meet one of the following:
  - 2.1. Have direct expansion cooling coils.
  - 2.2. The total chilled water system capacity less the capacity of fan units with air economizers is less than the minimum specified in Table C403.3(1).

The total supply capacity of all fan-cooling units not provided with economizers shall not exceed 20 percent of the total supply capacity of all fan-cooling units in the building or 300,000 Btu/h (88 kW), whichever is greater.



3. Where more than 25 percent of the air designed to be supplied by the system is to spaces that are designed to be humidified above 35°F (1.7°C) dewpoint temperature to satisfy process needs.
4. Systems that serve residential spaces where the system capacity is less than five times the requirement listed in Table C403.3(1).
5. Systems expected to operate less than 20 hours per week.
6. Where the use of outdoor air for cooling will affect supermarket open refrigerated casework systems.
7. Where the cooling efficiency meets or exceeds the efficiency requirements in Table C403.3(2).
8. Chilled-water cooling systems that are passive (without a fan) or use induction where the total chilled water system capacity less the capacity of fan units with air economizers is less than the minimum specified in Table C403.3(1).
9. Systems that include a heat recovery system in accordance with Section C403.4.7.

Section C408 is amended.

**SECTION C408 SYSTEM COMMISSIONING (Optional)**

**Section 2.** That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional; such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council of the City of Laredo hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

**Section 3.** That the City Secretary is hereby ordered and directed to cause this Ordinance to be published in accordance with Section 2.09 (D) of the City Charter.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS

10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2017

BY:

PETE SAENZ

MAYOR

ATTEST:

HEBERTO "BETO" RAMIREZ

ACTING CITY SECRETARY



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: KRISTINA LAUREL HALE

ACTING CITY ATTORNEY



**City Council-Regular**

**Meeting Date:** 02/06/2017

**Initiated By:** Horacio De Leon, Assistant City Manager

**Staff Source:** Ramon E. Chavez, P.E. Building Development Services Director

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**SUBJECT**

**2017-O-018** Amending Chapter 7-9 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo by adopting the 2015 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for publication and effective date. This will be effective for all residential, commercial and industrial construction that is not single family residential or a duplex in accordance with House Bill 1736.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION**

City Council at its meeting of January 17th, 2017, approved the Public Hearing/ Introduction reading of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND**

The International Code Council (ICC) updates the building and related codes approximately every 3 years. They also publish standards, which if adopted, provide additional guidance in the regulation of structure and development. It is the city practice to review the newest edition of the International Codes and to update the adopted versions.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of this item.

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**Fiscal Impact**

**Fiscal Year:**

**Budgeted Y/N?:**

**Source of Funds:**

**Account #:**

**Change Order: Exceeds 25% Y/N:**

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A



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**Attachments**

Ordinance

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