

City of Colorado Springs

Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes – Excerpt

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

8.E. CODE-25-0002 - Battery-Charged Electric Fencing and Security Detection Fencing Systems Ordinance

An Ordinance amending Chapter 7 (the “Unified Development Code” or “UDC”) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, as related to battery-charged electric fencing and security detection fencing systems.

(Legislative)

Related Files: CODE-25-0002

Located in All Council Districts

Presenter:

Johnny Malpica, Senior Comprehensive Planner, City Planning Department

Kevin Walker, Planning Director, City Planning Department

Johnny Malpica, Senior Comprehensive Planner, said the ordinance is rectifying changes that were made from Chapter 7 of the Unified Development Code (UDC), incorporating information from HB25-1060 concerning security detection fencing systems. He said the previous UDC presumably permitted certain types of electric fences when associated with industrial and commercial uses. In June 2023, the UDC was updated to reference direct current electric shock fencing permitted only for agricultural uses. However, battery charge electric fencing was not mentioned and presumed not permitted for other uses than agriculture. Mr. Malpica said in 2024, the City received a letter from industry representatives asking to allow battery charge electric shock fencing in association with those uses. State legislation passed in 2025 concerning requirements for permitting battery-charged security detection systems and this draft considers both elements. He said the requirements for the battery-charged fence are to be surrounded by a non-electric fence of no less than five-feet high, a maximum height of 10 feet or two feet higher than the non-electric fence surrounding it. Mr. Malpica said it must comply with all UDC requirements, separated from the perimeter wall by four inches, and marked with warning signs every 30 feet. This ordinance meets the review criteria.

Commissioners' Questions

Commissioner Robbins said he would like clarification on the fencing and asked if there are two sets of fencing, one is the battery-operated fencing and inside there needs to be another non-electric fence. Mr. Malpica said the battery-charged electric fence, that can also include a security detection system and may also include a minimal electric shock component that is safe for humans with pacemakers, must be surrounded by a non-electric fence with warning signs every 30 feet.

Public Comment

None

Motion by Commissioner Hensler, seconded by Commissioner Sipilovic, to recommend approval to City Council the adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, as related to battery-charged electric fencing and security detection fencing systems.

The motion passed on a vote of 6-0-3.

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Foos, Commissioner Hensler, Chair Slattery, Commissioner Robbins, Commissioner Sipilovic and Commissioner Casey

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Cecil, Commissioner Rickett and Commissioner Gigiano