
Sec. 4-3-21. Mechanical Code adopted; amendments.

(a) *Code adopted.* There is hereby adopted by reference as is fully set out in the *International Mechanical Code*, 2021 edition, published by the International Code Council with the following amendments, copies of which shall be maintained by the Building Official:

Section 101.1. Amend to read as follows:

R101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the Fuel Gas Code of the City of Amarillo hereinafter referred to as "this code."

[Amend] section 102.8 to read as follows

102.8 Referenced Codes and Standards. The codes and standards referenced herein shall be those that are listed in Chapter 15 and such codes (when specifically adopted), and standards shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced codes and standards, each reference to said code and standard shall be considered to reference the adopted amendments. Any reference to NFPA 70 shall mean the Electrical Code as adopted.

[Strike] location change in the 2021 code

Section 106.5. Amend to read as follows:

Section 106.5.2 Fee schedule. The fees shall be as provided in Chapter 4-1 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances.

Section 106.5.3. Delete section.

Section 108.4. Delete section.

Section 108.5. Amend to read as follows:

108.5 Stop work orders. Upon notice from the code official that mechanical work that is being done contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe manner shall immediately cease. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property, or to the owner's agent, or to the person doing the work. The notice shall state the conditions under which work is authorized to resume. Where an emergency exists, the code official shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work. Any person who shall continue any work in or about the structure after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable for a fine as specified in the Municipal Code of Ordinances.

[Amend] [A] Section 109.2 to read as follows:

Section [A]109.2 Schedule of permit fees, a fee for each permit shall be paid as required, in accordance with the schedule as established by the applicable governing authority Chapter 4-1, Article I, Division 1, Section 4-1-1 thru 4-1-4 of the City of Amarillo Municipal Code.

[Amend] 109.4 to read as follows:

[A] 109.4 Work commencing before permit issuance. Any person who commences work on a mechanical system before obtaining the necessary permits shall be subject to a fee established by Chapter 4-1 of the City of Amarillo Municipal code that shall be in addition to the required permit fees.

[Amend] to read as follows:

[A] 109.6 Refunds. ~~The code official is authorized to establish a refund policy.~~ Refund Policy is as established in section 4-1 of The City of Amarillo Municipal code.

[Amend]

[A] 113.4 Failure to comply. Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be ~~subject to fines established by the authority having jurisdiction.~~ liable for a fine as specified in Section 4-1 City of Amarillo Municipal Code.

[Delete] section 114 delete entire section

114 Means of Appeals

[Insert] the following

Section 114 Means of Appeal

114.1 Application for appeal. Any person shall have the right to appeal a decision of the Code Official to the Construction Advisory and Appeals Commission established by Municipal ordinance. The Commission shall be governed by the enabling ordinance.

[Amend] to read as follows

306.3 Appliances in attics. Attics containing appliances shall be provided with an opening and unobstructed passageway large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. The passageway shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide and not more than 20 feet (6096 mm) in length measured along the centerline of the passageway from the opening to the appliance. The passageway shall have continuous solid flooring not less than 24 inches (610 mm) wide. A level service space not less than 30 inches (762 mm) deep and 30 inches (762 mm) wide shall be present at the front or service side of the appliance. The clear access opening dimensions shall be not less than 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), and large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. In new construction, access is required to be provided by one of the following methods.

1. A permanent stair.
2. A pull-down stair with a minimum 300 lb. (136 kg) capacity.
3. An access door from an upper floor level

Exceptions:

1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the appliance is capable of being serviced and removed through the required opening.
2. Where the passageway is unobstructed and not less than 6 feet (1829 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide for its entire length. ~~the passageway shall be not greater than 50 feet (15 250 mm) in length.~~

[Amend] to read as follows

306.3.1 Electrical requirements. A luminaire controlled by a switch located at the required passageway opening with additional luminaires placed every 20' and a receptacle outlet shall be installed at or near the appliance location in accordance with NFPA 70. Exposed lamps shall be protected from damage by location or lamp guards.

Section 307.3. Amend to read as follows:

306.5 Equipment and Appliances on Roofs or Elevated Structures. Where equipment requiring access or appliances are located on an elevated structure or the roof of a building such that personnel will have to climb higher than 16 feet (4,877 mm) above grade to access, an interior or exterior means of access shall be provided. Exterior ladders providing roof access need not extend closer than 12 feet (2,438 mm) to the finish grade or floor level below and shall extend to the equipment and appliances' level service space. Such access shall . . . {Bulk of section to read the same} . . . on roofs having a slope greater than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33-percent slope)....{Remainder of text unchanged}

[Amend] to read as follows

306.5.1 Sloped Roofs. Where appliances, equipment, fans or other components that require service are installed on a roof having a slope of three units vertical in 12 units horizontal (25-percent slope) or greater and having an edge more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade at such edge, a catwalk at least 16 inches in width with substantial cleats spaced not more than 16 inches apart shall be provided from the roof access to a level platform at the appliance. The level platform shall be provided on each side of the appliance to which access is required for service, repair or maintenance. The platform shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in any dimension and shall be provided with guards. The guards shall extend not less than 42 inches (1,067 mm) above the platform, shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a 21-inch-diameter (533 mm) sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards specified in the International Building Code...{remainder of text unchanged}.

[Add] section 306.6 to read as follows

306.6 Water Heaters Above Ground or Floor. When the mezzanine or platform in which a water heater is installed is more than eight (8) feet (2,438 mm) above the ground or floor level, it shall be made accessible by a stairway or permanent ladder fastened to the building.

Exception: A maximum 10-gallon water heater (or larger with approval) is capable of being accessed through a lay-in ceiling and the water heater installed is not more than ten (10) feet (3,048 mm) above the ground or floor level and may be reached with a portable ladder.

[Amend] Section 307.2.3 item 2. As follows.

307.2.3 Auxiliary and secondary drain systems. *{text unchanged}*

1. *{text unchanged}*....

2. A separate overflow drain line shall be connected to the drain pan provided with the equipment. Such overflow drain shall discharge to a conspicuous point of disposal to alert occupants in the event of a stoppage of the primary drain. The overflow drain line shall connect to the drain pan at a higher level than the primary drain connection. However, the conspicuous point shall not create a hazard such as dripping over a walking surface or other areas so as to create a nuisance.

{remainder of section unchanged}.....

307.3 Condensate Pumps. Condensate pumps located in uninhabitable space, such as attics and crawl spaces, shall be connected to the appliance or equipment served such that when the pump fails, the appliance or equipment will be prevented from operating. Pumps shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not prevent the operation of fuel fired appliances.

Section 307.4. Amend to read as follows:

307.4 Auxiliary drain pan. Category IV condensing appliances shall have an auxiliary drain pan where damage to any building component will occur as a result of stoppage in the condensate drainage system or failure of a condensate pump. These pans shall be installed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Section 307.2.3 item (1.) and be provided under condensate pumps.

[Add] Section 403.2.1 item 5 as follows

4. Toilet rooms within private dwellings that contain only a water closet, lavatory, or combination thereof may be ventilated with an approved mechanical recirculating fan or similar device designed to remove odors from the air.

[Add][Amend]

501.3 Exhaust Discharge. The air removed by every mechanical exhaust system shall be discharged outdoors at a point where it will not cause a public nuisance and not less than the distances specified in Section 501.3.1. The air shall be discharged to a location from which it cannot again be readily drawn in by a ventilating system. Air shall not be exhausted into an attic, crawl space, or be directed onto walkways.

Exceptions:

1. Whole-house ventilation-type attic fans shall be permitted to discharge into the attic space of dwelling units having ventilated private attics.

2. Commercial cooking recirculating systems.

3. Where installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and where mechanical or natural ventilation is otherwise provided in accordance with Chapter 4, listed and labeled domestic ductless range hoods shall not be required to discharge to the outdoors.

4. Toilet room exhaust ducts may terminate in a warehouse or shop area when infiltration of outside air is present.

[Amend]

Section 918. Add section to read as follows:

~~918.1-2~~ **2.1** Total electric heating. Primary central heating and cooling forced air systems utilizing only electric heat shall utilize heat pumps.

(Ord. No. 5587, § 2, 4-15-86; Ord. No. 5856, §§ 1, 2, 4-17-90; Ord. No. 5904, § 1, 2-19-91; Ord. No. 5952, § 1, 3-31-92; Ord. No. 6147, § 1, 4-11-95; Ord. No. 6169, § 1, 7-11-95; Ord. No. 6182, § 2, 9-5-95; Ord. No. 6352, § 1, 6-30-98; Ord. No. 6575, § 2, 12-18-2001; Ord. No. 6878, § 7, 12-13-2005; Ord. No. 6884, §§ 1, 4, 1-3-2006; Ord. No. 7104, § 1, 5-20-2008; Ord. No. 7354, §§ 1, 2, 9-4-2012; Ord. No. 7511, §§ 1, 2, 3-3-2015)