



Office of the MPC

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SHREVEPORT UDC CODE TEXT AMENDMENT SUMMARY: 24-01-CTAC
—Electric Fences—

MPC Case #24-01-CTAC recommends two (2) text amendments that are intended to be more user-friendly.

REQUEST: These proposed code text amendments would amend *Article 2. – Definitions and Rules of Measurement* and *Article 7. – On-Site Development Standards*, updating the UDC’s regulations for the electrification of fences—mirroring state law, La. R.S. 33:1376, for battery-charged fences.

MASTER PLAN

CONSISTENCY: Staff certifies that the proposed UDC amendments are consistent with the Shreveport-Caddo 2030 Great Expectations Master Plan.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The MPC has seen a spike in development’s wanting to construct electric fences throughout the City of Shreveport. This is due to the rise in theft and other safety issues that has added expense to local businesses.

Recently, a property owner wishing to install an electric fence challenged the legality of this provision, citing state law (La. R.S. 33:1376).

Additionally, the City Attorney has advised MPC Staff that the original blanket prohibition on the electrification of fences within the UDC may need to be amended to become more in compliance with state law.

Therefore, staff proposes adding a new definition for battery-charged fence, as well as additional language to the development standards for fences.

These revised development standards mirror those found in state law, and when combined with the existing location and other performance standards, better protect potential unintended interaction with electric fences.

RECOMMENDATION: MPC Staff concludes that the recommendation to APPROVE these code text amendments is warranted.