

## **EXISTING CODE**

### **Olympia Municipal Code Chapter 18.40.060(C)(10)**

10. Electric fences. It is unlawful to erect or install or maintain any electric fence within the city limits except for low-voltage, solar fences installed atop a 6-foot non-electric fence for the purposes of protecting farms or agricultural animals. "Electric fence" means any fence with above-ground electric conductors carrying electric current supplied by batteries, commercial power or any other source of electricity, erected for the purpose of retaining or excluding any animals, livestock, or persons.

## **REQUESTED REVISION**

### **Olympia Municipal Code Chapter 18.40.060(C)(10)**

10. Electric fences. Other than in the commercial and industrial zones, electrically charged fences are not permitted. Electrically charged fences within the commercial and industrial zones shall adhere to the following standards. These standards shall not apply to underground pet fences, invisible fences and wireless pet collar fences that are used to contain household pets.

1. Within the commercial and industrial zones the electrical charge of an electric fence must be noncontinuous and the electric fence controller shall be approved by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) or meet the testing standards of the NRTL. It is further provided that electric fences in the commercial and industrial zones that abut any public street or right-of-way shall include signs of not less than 30 square inches in size posted at least every 50 feet on the fence, stating that the fence is charged with electricity.

2. Within the commercial and industrial zones the construction and use of electric fences shall be allowed in the city only as provided in this section and subject to the following:

a. *Electrification.*

i. The energy source (energizer) for electric fences must be provided by a storage battery not to exceed 12 volts DC. The storage battery is charged primarily by a solar panel. However, the solar panel may be augmented by a trickle charger.

ii. The electric charge produced by the fence upon contact shall not exceed energizer characteristics set forth in paragraph 22.108 and depicted in Figure 102 of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Standard No. 60335-2-76.

b. Permit Fence or Wall. No electric fence shall be installed or used unless it is completely surrounded by a non-electrical fence or wall that is not less than five feet.

c. Location. Electric fences shall be permitted on any nonresidential outdoor storage areas.

d. *Height.* Electric fences shall not exceed the higher of 10 feet in height or 2 feet higher than the perimeter fence.

e. Warning Signs. Electric fences shall be clearly identified with warning signs that read "Warning – Electric Fence" at intervals less than 50 feet. Signs shall also contain imagery or symbols that allows non-English speaking individuals to understand that the fence is electrically charged, e.g., lightning bolts.

f. The permitting process for electric fences shall be governed and regulated in accordance with the regulations for burglar alarms under city code.

g. Any fence located within a front setback that features a locking gate or similar security device shall provide emergency access in a manner acceptable to the fire marshal.

