

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION  
MARCH 20, 2018 AGENDA**

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Action Required:</b>	<b>Approved By:</b>
<p>Adoption of new requirements to test heating and air duct installations in all new residential structures and blower door testing for spray foamed insulated structures.</p> <p><b>Submitted By:</b></p> <p>Planning &amp; Development Department</p>	<p>√ <b>Ordinance</b> Resolution Approval Information Report</p>	<p>Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
<b>SYNOPSIS</b>	<p>The State of Arkansas adopted the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code also known as the 2014 AR Energy Code but deleted the standards for testing residential structures. This ordinance would put some of those standards back in place.</p>	
<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>	<p>None.</p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<p>Approval of the ordinance.</p>	
<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<p>City Staff has met with the Greater Little Rock Homebuilders Association, Little Rock Realtors Association and a number of other stakeholders over the past year to discuss residential energy issues. The current State Adopted Energy Code doesn't require testing for mechanical (heating and air) installations. Duct leakage (heating and air) is the single biggest contributor to energy loss. The other issue that was discussed was spray foamed insulated structures. These structures can be a safety hazard if not properly ventilated which in turn can produce deadly carbon monoxide and mold and mildew.</p>	

**BACKGROUND  
CONTINUED**

If approved, this ordinance would require that all new residential structures have the duct work tested, approved, and certified per code standards. In addition, all spray foamed insulated structures would be required to pass a blower door test and be approved and certified. A certified Energy Rater or Certified Duct Tester would be required to perform testing and certify approval in writing to the City prior to issuance of the final certificate of occupancy. Also a sticker shall be placed on the front entrance and on the electrical panel in accordance with the sticker standards as required in the 2014 AR Energy Code outlining the levels of insulation and other energy installed components as well as the test date for the duct testing or blower door test if applicable. In order to adequately prepare the residential construction industry for the new related testing requirements. The effective date will be as follows.

- (1) All new Residential Building Permits issued six (6) months from date of passage of this ordinance shall meet the new testing and sticker requirements upon completion.

These adopted amendments are designed to save the consumer in utility costs.