

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-845

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CEDAR HILL, TEXAS ADOPTING THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE XXIII OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CEDAR HILL, TEXAS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING A SEVERANCE CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR IMMEDIATE EFFECT; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION.

WHEREAS, the City of Cedar Hill, Texas is a home rule city within the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cedar Hill, Texas desires to provide for the safety, health and public welfare of the citizens of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas, by the regulation of standards for building construction and the inspection thereof; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cedar Hill, Texas further desires to promote and maintain current and beneficial health and safety standards in the City of Cedar Hill, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas, does find and determine that it is in the best interest of the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas to adopt the 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code with certain modifications and additions as are herein prescribed within the corporate limits of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas, and areas within 5,000 feet of the corporate limits.

WHEREAS, the Ordinance shall not be retroactive to existing buildings at the time of the adoption of this Ordinance but shall apply only to new construction and changes to the use, occupancy or modifications of existing buildings.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR HILL, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. CREATION OF CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE XXIII OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CEDAR HILL, TEXAS

The City Council of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas hereby creates Chapter 4, Article XXIII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas, to provide as follows:

SECTION 2. ADOPTION OF THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA CODE

The 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code is hereby adopted and incorporated in its entirety as though fully set out at length herein, save and except such portions as are hereinafter deleted, modified or amended and the provisions of such code shall be

controlling in the installation, alteration or repair of buildings and the inspection thereof within the corporate limits of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas.

2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Additional requirements and amendments.

(1) Section 101.1 is amended to read as follows:

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the *Swimming Pool and Spa Code* of City of Cedar Hill hereinafter referred to as “this code.”

(2) Section 102.9 is amended to read as follows:

102.9 Other laws. The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state, or federal law to include but not limited to:

1. Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS); *Standards for Public Pools and Spas*; §285.181 through §285.208, (TDSHS rules do not apply to pools serving one- and two-family dwellings or townhouses).
2. Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR); 2012 Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS), TAS provide the scoping and technical requirements for accessibility for Swimming Pool, wading pools and spas and shall comply with 2012 TAS, Section 242. (TAS rules do not apply to pools serving one- and two-family dwellings or townhouses).

Exception: Elements regulated under Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) and built in accordance with TDLR approved plans, including any variances or waivers granted by the TDLR, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of this Chapter.

(3) Section 102.8.2 is amended to read as follows:

102.8.2 Provisions in referenced codes and standards. Where the extent of the reference to a referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code, the provisions of this code, as applicable, shall take precedence over the provisions in the referenced code or standard. 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 as well. Any reference to NFPA 70 or the *National Electrical Code* (NEC) shall mean the Electrical Code as adopted.

(4) Section 111.5 is added to read as follows:

111.5 Application for appeal. Any person shall have the right to appeal a decision of the code official to the board of appeals established by ordinance. The board shall be governed by the enabling ordinance.

(5) Section 111.5.1 is added to read as follows:

111.5.1 Fee. An application fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) is required for hearing of appeal.

(6) Section 113.4 is amended to read as follows:

113.4 Violation penalties. Any person who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter or repair a pool or spa in violation of the *approved* construction documents or directive of the *code official*, or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code may be punishable for each day of the violation set forth by the *authority having jurisdiction*.

(7) Section 305.1 is amended to read as follows:

305.1 General.

The provisions of this section shall apply to the design of barriers for restricting entry into areas having pools and spas. In only one-and two-family dwellings and townhouses, where spas or hot tubs are equipped with a lockable safety cover complying with ASTM F1346 and swimming pools are equipped with a powered safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346, the areas where those spas, hot tubs or pools are located shall not be required to comply with Sections 305.2 through 305.7.

(8) Section 305.2.4 is amended to read as follows:

305.2.4 Mesh fence as a barrier. Mesh fences, other than chain link fences in accordance with Section 305.2.7, shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall comply with the following:

1. The bottom of the mesh fence shall be not more than 1 inch (25 mm) above the deck or installed surface or grade.
2. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall not permit the fence to be lifted more than 4 inches (102 mm) from grade or decking.
3. The fence shall be designed and constructed so that it does not allow passage of a 4-inch (102 mm) sphere under any mesh panel. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall be not greater than 4 inches (102 mm) from grade or decking.
4. An attachment device shall attach each barrier section at a height not lower than 45 inches (1143 mm) above grade. Common attachment devices include, but are not limited to, devices that provide the security equal to or greater than that of a hook-and-eye type latch incorporating a springing actuated retaining lever such as a safety gate hook.
5. Where a hinged gate is used with a mesh fence, the gate shall comply with Section 305.3.
6. Patio deck sleeves such as vertical post receptacles that are placed inside the patio surface shall be of nonconductive material.
7. Mesh fences shall not be installed on top of above-ground *residential* pools.
8. Welded wire mesh fence shall be a minimum of 14-gauge wire mesh.

(9) Section 305.2.7.1 is added to read as follows:

305.2.7.1 Chain link fencing prohibited. Chain link fencing is not permitted as a barrier in public pools built after January 1, 1994.

(10) Section 305.4 is amended to read as follows:

305.4 Structure wall as a barrier. Where a wall of a dwelling or structure of a one- and two-family dwelling or townhouse or its accessory structure serves as part of a barrier and where doors or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa through that wall, one of the following shall be required:

1. Operable windows having a sill height of less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the indoor finished floor, doors and gates shall have an alarm that produces an audible warning when the window, door or their screens are opened. The alarm shall be *listed* and labeled as a water hazard entrance alarm in accordance with UL 2017.
2. In dwellings not required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located at not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the finished floor.
3. In dwellings that are required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.
4. In structures other than dwellings, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.
5. A safety cover that is *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with ASTM F1346 is installed for the pool or spa.
6. An *approved* means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, is provided. Such means of protection shall provide a degree of protection that is not less than the protection afforded by Item 1 or 2.

(11) Section 305.6 is amended to read as follows:

305.6 Natural barriers used in a one- and two-family dwelling or townhouse. In the case where the pool or spa area abuts the edge of a lake or other natural body of water, public access is not permitted or allowed along the shoreline, and required barriers extend to and beyond the water's edge a minimum of eighteen (18) inches, a barrier is not required between the natural body of water shoreline and the pool or spa.

(12) Section 307.1.4 amended to read as follows:

307.1.4 Accessibility. An accessible route to public pools and spas shall be provided in accordance with the *International Building Code*. Accessibility within public pools and spas shall be provided as required by the accessible recreational facilities provisions of the *International Building Code*. Pool and spa lifts providing an accessible means of entry into the water shall be *listed* and labeled in accordance with UL 60335-2-1000 and be installed in accordance with ICC A117.1 and NFPA 70.

Exception: Components of projects regulated by and registered with Architectural Barriers

Division of The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(13) Section 307.2.2.2; add to read as follows:

Section 307.2.2.2. Adjacency to Structural Foundation. Depth of the swimming pool and spa shall maintain a ratio of 1:1 from the nearest building foundation or footing of a retaining wall.

Exception: A sealed engineered design drawing of the proposed new structure shall be submitted for approval.

(14) Section 310 is amended to read as follows:

310.1 General. Suction entrapment avoidance for pools and spas shall be provided in accordance with APSP 7 (ANSI/PHTA/ICC 7) or for public swimming pools in accordance with State of Texas Rules for Public Swimming Pools and Spas, Title 25 TAC Chapter 265 Subchapter L, Rule §265.190.

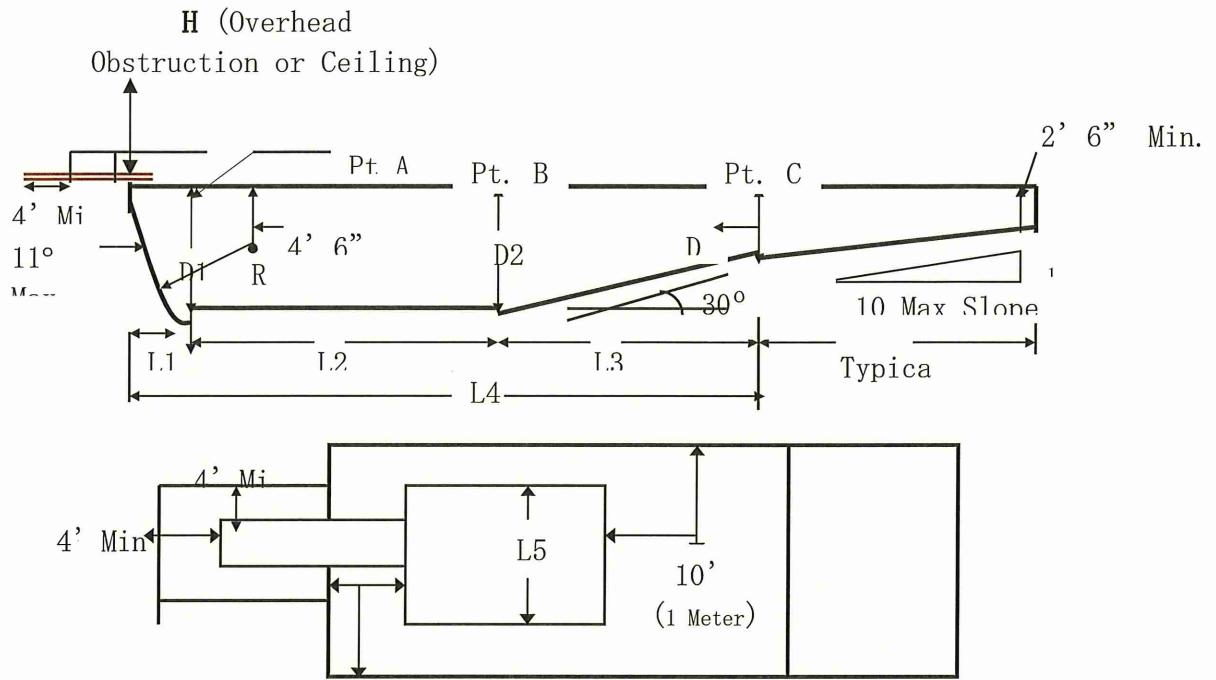
(15) Section 402.12 amended to read as follows:

402.12 Water envelopes. The minimum diving water envelopes shall be in accordance with Texas department of State Health services, Administrative Code Title 25, Chapter 265, Section 186 (e) and Figure: 25 TAC 256.186 (e) (6). (Delete Table 402.12 and Figure 402.12)

(16) ADD: Figure: 25 TAC §265.186 (e) (6)

Figure: 25 TAC §265.186 (e) (6)

Maximum Diving Board Height Over Water	¾ Meter	1 Meter	3 Meters
Max. Diving Board Length	12 ft.	16 ft.	16 ft.
Minimum Diving Board Overhang	2 ft. 6 in.	5 ft.	5 ft.
D1 Minimum	8 ft. 6 in.	11 ft. 2 in.	12 ft. 2 in.
D2 Minimum	9 ft.	10 ft. 10 in.	11 ft. 10 in.
D3 Minimum	4 ft.	6 ft.	6 ft.
L1 Minimum	4 ft.	5 ft.	5 ft.
L2 Minimum	12 ft.	16 ft. 5 in.	19 ft. 9 in.
L3 Minimum	14 ft. 10 in.	13 ft. 2 in.	13 ft. 11 in.
L4 Minimum	30 ft. 10 in.	34 ft. 7 in.	38 ft. 8 in.
L5 Minimum	8 ft.	10 ft.	13 ft.
H Minimum	16 ft.	16 ft.	16 ft.
From Plummet to Pool Wall at Side	9 ft.	10 ft.	11 ft. 6 in.
From Plummet to Adjacent Plummet	10 ft.	10 ft.	10 ft.



(17) Section 411.2.1 is amended to read as follows:

411.2.1 Tread dimensions and area. Treads shall have a minimum unobstructed horizontal depth (i.e., horizontal run) of 12 inches and a minimum width of 20 inches.

(18) Section 411.2.2 is amended to read as follows:

411.2.2 Risers. Risers for steps shall have a maximum uniform height of 10 inches, with the bottom riser height allowed to taper to zero.

(19) Section 411.5.1 amended to read as follows:

411.5.1 Swimouts. Swimouts, located in either the deep or shallow area of a pool, shall comply with all of the following:

1. The horizontal surface shall be not greater than 20 inches (508 mm) below the waterline.
2. An unobstructed surface shall be provided that is equal to or greater than that required for the top tread of the pool stairs in accordance with Section 411.2.
3. Where used as an entry and exit access, Swimouts shall be provided with steps that comply with the pair stair requirements of Section 411.2.

4. The leading edge shall be visibly set apart and provided with a horizontal solid or broken stripe at least 1 inch wide on the top surface along the front leading edge of each step. This stripe shall be plainly visible to persons on the pool deck. The stripe shall be a contrasting color to the background on which it is applied, and the color shall be permanent in nature and shall be a slip-resistant surface.

(20) Section 411.5.2 is amended to read as follows:

411.5.2 Underwater seats and benches. Underwater seats and benches, whether used alone or in conjunction with pool stairs, shall comply with all of the following:

1. The horizontal surface shall be not greater than 20 inches (508 mm) below the waterline.
2. An unobstructed surface shall be provided that is not less than 10 inches (254 mm) in depth and not less than 24 inches (607 mm) in width.
3. Underwater seats and benches shall not be used as the required entry and exit access.
4. Where underwater seats are located in the deep area of the pool where manufactured or constructed diving equipment is installed, such seats shall be located outside of the minimum diving water envelope for diving equipment.
5. The leading edge shall be visually set apart and provided with a horizontal solid or broken stripe at least 1 inch wide on the top surface along the front leading edge of each step. This stripe shall be plainly visible to persons on the pool deck. The stripe shall be a contrasting color to the background on which it is applied, and the color shall be permanent in nature and shall be a slip-resistant surface.
6. The horizontal surface shall be at or below the waterline.
7. A tanning ledge or sun shelf used as the required entry and exit access shall be located not greater than 12 inches (305 mm) below the waterline.

(21) Section 610.5.1 is amended to read as follows:

610.5.1 Uniform height of 10 inches. Except for the bottom riser, risers at the centerline shall have a maximum uniform height of 10 inches (254 mm). The bottom riser height shall be permitted to vary from the other risers.

(22) Section 804.1 is amended to read as follows:

Section 804.1 General. The minimum diving water envelopes shall be in accordance with Table 804.1 and Figure 804.1, or the manufacturer's specifications, whichever is greater. Negative construction tolerances shall not be applied to the dimensions of the minimum diving water envelopes given in Table 804.1.

SECTION 3. SAVINGS CLAUSE

In the event that any other Ordinance of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas, heretofore enacted is found to conflict with the provisions of the Ordinance, this Ordinance shall prevail.

SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT OF PENALTY

Any person, firm partnership, association or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof in the Municipal Court of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas such violation shall be liable for a **fine in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500)**, and each and every instance of the violation of this Ordinance constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable by separate fines for each offense.

SECTION 5. SEVERANCE CLAUSE

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 6. INCORPORATION INTO CODE OF ORDINANCES

The provisions of this ordinance shall be included and incorporated in the Code of Ordinances, City of Cedar Hill, Texas, as an addition, amendment thereto, and shall be appropriately renumbered to conform to the uniform numbering system of the Code.

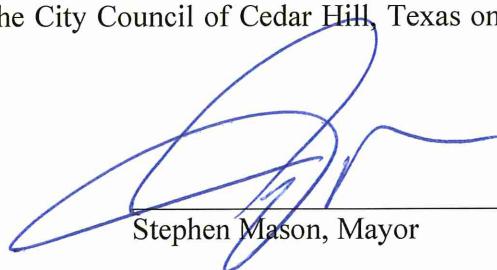
SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

Because of the nature of interest and safeguard sought to be protected by this Ordinance and in the interest of health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Cedar Hill, Texas, this Ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage, approval and publication, as required by law.

SECTION 8. PUBLICATION

The City Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to cause publication of the descriptive caption and penalty clause hereof as an alternative method of publication provided by law.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of Cedar Hill, Texas on this 22 day of April, 2025.


Stephen Mason, Mayor

ATTEST:

Belinda Berg
Belinda Berg, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM

R.G. MacFarlane Jr.
Ron G. MacFarlane Jr., City Attorney