

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 27

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF PUBLIC ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the Cullman City Council recognizes the increasing use of electric vehicles and the need for public charging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish regulations to ensure the safe installation and operation of public electric vehicle charging stations to protect public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, compliance with established electrical and fire codes is essential to mitigate risks associated with such installations; and

SECTION 1. Purposed of this Ordinance is to add Article VI. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

SECTION 2. The following article of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is hereby added to read as follows:

**Chapter 22 – Fire Prevention and Protection.
Article VI. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.**

Section 22-120. Purpose and Scope.

This ordinance establishes requirements for the installation and operation of public electric vehicle charging stations within the City of Cullman.

Section 22-121. Definitions.

For the purposes of this ordinance:

- (a) "Public Electric Vehicle Charging Station" means any Level 1, Level 2, or DC fast charging equipment that is accessible to the public and is used for charging electric vehicles.
- (b) "Building" means any structure intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

Section 22-122. Installation Requirements.

All public electric vehicle charging stations shall be installed in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) **Electrical Compliance.** Installations shall comply with Article 625 of the 2026 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC), which governs Electric Vehicle Power Transfer Systems.

(b) **Location and Setback.** Charging stations shall be located a minimum distance of fifty (50) feet from any building to ensure safety and reduce fire hazards.

(c) **Vehicle Impact Protection.** Barriers shall be provided in accordance with Section 312.2 of the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) to protect charging stations from vehicle impacts. Barriers shall not obstruct accessibility as required by ADA standards. Vehicle impact protection posts shall meet the following specifications:

- **Materials:** Constructed of steel not less than four (4) inches (102 mm) in diameter and concrete filled.
- **Spacing:** Spaced not more than four (4) feet (1219 mm) between posts on center.
- **Depth:** Set not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) deep in a concrete footing of not less than fifteen (15) inches (381 mm) in diameter.
- **Height:** Set with the top of the posts not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) above ground.
- **Distance:** Located not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) from the protected object (charging station).

These requirements are designed to enhance safety by providing robust protection against accidental vehicle impacts.

Section 22-123. Operation Requirements.

Public electric vehicle charging stations shall be operated in a safe manner, including regular maintenance to ensure compliance with all applicable codes and standards. Operators shall provide clear signage indicating usage instructions, safety warnings, emergency shut off, and emergency contact information.

Section 22-124. Permits and Inspections.

Installation of public electric vehicle charging stations requires a permit from the City of Cullman Building Department. Inspections shall be conducted to verify compliance with this ordinance, the NEC, and the IFC. The installation must be performed by a contractor with the appropriate licensing and insurance for such project.

Section 22-125. Enforcement and Penalties.

Violations of this ordinance shall be subject to fines not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per violation, and the City may order the removal or correction of non-compliant installations.

SECTION III. Severability.

If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION IV. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 23rd day of February, 2026.

President of the City Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this the 23rd day of February, 2026.

Mayor

COUNCIL AGENDA REQUEST

Date: 02.03.2026

Department: Fire Name: Darren Peeples

Phone: 256-775-7192 Email: dpeeples@cullmanal.gov

Type of request (select all that apply):

- Alcohol License
- Budget Amendment
- Contract Approval
- Public Comment
- Special Event
- Other
- Annexation
- Change Order
- Petition
- Resolution
- Tax Abatement
- Bid Award
- Codification Change
- Proclamations
- Rezoning
- Variance

Reason for Request:

Supporting Documentation:

Attach supporting documentation.

Signature: Darren Peeples

Approval Sequence:

1. Administration – City Clerk’s Office

Verifies form is completed and proper documentation is attached.

Approved to Move Forward Rejected Return to Requestor

Comments: _____

Signature: Pam Leslie Date: 02.06.2026

2. Council Committee Chairperson

Ensures necessity of the requested expense.

Approved to Move Forward Rejected Return to Admin


Comments: _____

Signed by:  Date: February 3, 2026 | 7:31 PM CST
Signature: _____ Date: _____
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3. Council President


Approved for Council Agenda Rejected Return to Committee

Comments: _____ Council President

Signed by:  Date: February 4, 2026 | 8:46 AM CST
Signature: _____ Date: _____
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4. Administration – City Clerk’s Office

Added to Council Agenda Date of Meeting: 2/9/26
City Clerk

Signed by: _____ Date: _____
Comments: _____
Signature:  Date: February 4, 2026 | 9:22 AM CST
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