

ICC Government Relations

October 2024

Monthly Update

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Committee Action Hearings follow the Annual Conference on Wednesday, October 23.



JOIN THE FUN!

Can't make it to Long Beach to join the best building safety event of the last 30 years?

No worries!

Join the fun October 21 without leaving town.
Hold a <u>virtual watch party</u>.

Click here and find out!

LONG BEACH: Committee Action Hearings scheduled to run October 23-31

This year's Committee Action Hearings offer code officials, architects, builders, structural engineers, fire, residential and existing building professionals as well as those responsible for the administration of the International Codes® (I-Codes®) the opportunity to provide input on proposed code changes to the Group A I-Codes. The hearings are scheduled to begin the afternoon of October 23. The code development process for the 2027 I-Codes introduces a restructured process starting in 2024 with two Committee Action Hearings for Group A Codes and followed in 2025 by two Committee Action Hearings for Group B Codes. In April 2026, there will be combined Group A and B Public Comment Hearings with a combined Online Governmental Consensus Vote in May 2026. Please refer to the 2024/2025/2026 ICC Code Development Schedule for details on code groups and important deadlines.

Read more here →

Focus set on the future of the building safety profession

The Opening Session of the 2024 Annual Business Meeting October 21 in Long Beach will feature keynote speaker Erik Qualman, an expert on artificial intelligence and digital transformation who will speak on digital leadership. Before ending with the Annual Business Meeting updates from association leadership and voting for ICC Board Officers, get inspired by a panel of industry experts who will discuss the future of the building safety profession. Looking Forward: Building Industry Leaders Share Their Insights on the Next 30 Years will gather executives who have played a pivotal role in shaping the building industry. Don't miss this video from ICC Board President Stuart Tom with insights on the ABM.



WICED, PTN and ICC offer a Day of Service projects at Long Beach

Women in Code Enforcement Development (WICED), PermitTechNation (PTN), and the International Code Council (ICC) will offer a Day of Service on Saturday, October 19, when conference participants can give back to the local community. Volunteers are needed to assist the Century Villages of Cabrillo (CVC), in partnership with Habitat for Humanity for Los Angeles (HFHLA), with two exciting projects.

Read more here →

The 2024 Ron Burton Golf Outing set for 8 a.m. Sunday, October 20

The Code Council's Past Presiding Officers will hold its annual fundraising event, the Ron Burton Annual Golf Outing, in conjunction with the ICC 2024 Annual Conference in Long Beach. This event includes a number of sponsorship opportunities, and funds raised will go towards training and resources for the next generation of code officials. The Ron Burton Golf Outing celebrates the life and work of William Ronald "Ron" Burton, a renowned code expert who worked on many code-related projects for ICC, BOMA and NAHB.

Read more here →

'I built this!' event set for Tuesday morning, October 22, at Long Beach

In partnership with ConstructReach, Procore and Target, the Code Council is excited to host an "I built this!" event during the 2024 Annual Conference on Tuesday, October 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. PT at the Long Beach Convention Center, Hall A. This event aligns with the Code Council's Safety 2.0 initiative, and will be filled with hands-on experiences for students to explore possibilities and future careers in construction and building safety.

Read more here →



Former ICC Board President Cindy Davis testified to House Subcommittee on September 25.

Code Council testifies before U.S. House Subcommittee on resilient codes

International Code Council Past Board President Cindy Davis recently testified before Congress on the importance of building safety code adoption to boost community resilience. Her testimony was presented to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management in conjunction with its hearing titled *Examining the Role and Effectiveness of Building Codes in Mitigating Against Disasters*. Davis detailed the Code Council's long-time and ongoing efforts to ensure the Code Council's model codes integrate the latest hazard resistant designs, best practices and lessons learned post disaster. She outlined studies confirming that the adoption and implementation of current model building codes are central to creating effective mitigation strategies for lessening the impacts of natural hazards, including hurricanes, flooding, hail, earthquakes, tornados and wildfires. She also shared that contemporary research continues to find that modern model building codes have no appreciable implications for housing affordability.

Read more here →



Insight session on federal funds for resilience goals set for Long Beach

Ryan Colker, VP of Innovation, International Code Council, Stella Carr, Energy and Resilience Project Manager, International Code Council, and others will host an insight session entitled *Driving Resilience Through Building Codes: Harnessing Federal Funding to Achieve Resilience Goals.* It will start at 1 p.m. Monday, October 21, at the Long Beach Convention Center, and will help you to:

- Understand the critical role of modern, hazard-resistant building and energy codes in enhancing community resilience and creating a sustainable future.
- Discover effective strategies for navigating federal funding opportunities to support the implementation of building and energy codes.
- Explore unique building code implementation projects that drive community resilience across the country.
- Discuss the importance of creating synergies between local initiatives and federal agencies to co-develop and implement effective building and energy codes.

Read more here →

Montana is the third state this year to adopt ICC/MBI 1200 and 1205 standards for off-site construction

Last month, the state of Montana approved the adoption of the International Code Council's and Modular Building Institute's (MBI) Standards 1200 and 1205. The adoption marks Montana's commitment to the expanded use of off-site construction and the promotion of greater regulatory consistency. The Code Council and MBI developed ICC/MBI Standard 1200-2021: Standard for Off-Site Construction: Planning, Design, Fabrication, and Assembly and ICC/MBI Standard 1205-2021: Standard for Off-Site Construction: Inspection and Regulatory Compliance to provide best practices based on existing off-site construction programs and support consistency and efficiency in how off-site construction is approved and inspected. The ICC/MBI Standards for Off-Site Construction aid communities in advancing off-site construction while adhering to local building codes. Montana joins Virginia, Utah and the U.S. General Services Administration as adopters of these standards. Off-site construction is a rapidly growing, innovative construction technique, that creates affordable housing with greater speed to market than traditional construction methods. Off-site construction can also support jurisdictions in achieving their goals for sustainability and jobsite safety. For more information on the ICC/MBI 1200 Series Standards or the benefits of off-site construction, visit https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/safety-toolkits/offsite-construction/.

2027 IECC Scope, Intent and ICC Board Commentary are published

The 2027 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) Scope and Intent, including additional Code Council Board of Directors Commentary, has been finalized after careful consideration of public comments. The following represents the final scope, intent, and associated commentary for both the commercial (CECDC) and residential (RECDC) committees.

Read more here →

Take a moment for this 'State of the Building Safety Industry' survey

It's important to keep up with the latest trends in our ever-changing industry to forecast what's ahead. As a professional in the industry, your experiences and insights are invaluable to gaining a deeper understanding of the industry and the needs of our community. From compensation to career satisfaction, the International Code Council is embarking on a crucial research study to assess the current state of the building safety industry. Once complete, we'll share the results in a new State of the Building Industry Report, so you can better understand how to position yourself for continued success. The survey takes less than 10 minutes and will close on October 31. Click here [link to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024-ICC-Primary-Web-Link] to begin the survey.

DOE awards \$90 million in resilient and efficient energy codes initiative

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced the awardees for \$90 million in funding to help states, cities, tribal nations and their partners implement updated energy codes for residential and commercial buildings. As part of the Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation (RECI) initiative, the awards support 25 new projects aimed at improving energy efficiency, lowering bills and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These projects also advance DOE's goal of decarbonizing the U.S. economy by 2050, focusing on workforce development, community engagement and environmental justice.



Read more here →

CALL FOR COMMITTEE: Existing Buildings Safety Inspections Committee

The Code Council is currently accepting industry volunteers for the Existing Buildings Safety Inspections Consensus Committee (IS-EBSI). As an ANSI accredited standards developing organization, the Code Council is developing a new standard to provide the framework for the regular inspection of structural elements, egress components, active and passive fire protection systems, the building envelope (including the roof), electrical, plumbing, mechanical and fuel gas equipment and systems in order to assess whether an unsafe condition exists. Events such as the <u>Surfside Condominium collapse in Florida and other more recent events in New York City and Davenport Iowa</u>, highlight the need for guidance on the maintenance and inspections of existing buildings. The application deadline is October 15. Read more here →

The complete set of the 2024 International Codes is now available

The International Code Council has published the 2024 International Residential Code® (IRC®) and the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC®) which are now available in both digital and print formats, completing the set of the 2024 International Codes® (I-Codes). Made up of fifteen codes that cover many different aspects of building safety including plumbing, mechanical, structural and fire safety issues, these codes offer a comprehensive approach to sustainability, resiliency and affordability of the built environment. These essential resources are invaluable for architects, builders, engineers, building owners and code officials who want to stay at the forefront of industry standards and best practices.

Read more here →

Here's how to make the most out of your Code Council Membership

Becoming a member of the International Code Council offers significant advantages to advance careers and grow within the building safety industry. Membership provides access to many resources, including discounts on certifications and training programs and unique opportunities to network with industry experts. Engaging and networking with the Code Council community and other building safety professionals is crucial for knowledge sharing and staying updated on industry standards and best practices. Active participation in committees and local chapters offers unique opportunities to collaborate with peers, contribute to the field and gain insights from experienced professionals. In this article, we'll guide you on making the most of your first year as a Code Council member, ensuring you take full advantage of all the exclusive opportunities available.

Read more here →

New online Member Community platform is versatile communications tool

The International Code Council has launched its exclusive online Member Community, a platform designed to enhance the benefits of Code Council membership and provide a hub for building safety professionals to connect and network with other members, streamline communication and collaboration, create and share events, and more. This FREE new platform offers Code Council members the opportunity to access the latest member updates and valuable tools for advancing their careers in the ever-evolving building safety industry. Demonstration available on YouTube. Read more here →

Email ballots sent to elect Membership Council Governing Committees

If you're a member of any of the <u>Code Council's Membership Councils</u>, you should be receiving emails with links to ballots to vote online for slates of candidates nominated for three-year terms on each of the Membership Council Governing Committees. The Governing Committees' elections process was reformed by the ICC Board of Directors to create uniformity between the Membership Councils and to provide Membership Council members greater access to electing Governing Committee members. Previously, the balloting was done in person at the Code Council's annual conferences. The presiding officer position elections for each Governing Committee will remain in person at the annual conference. For more information, email rpiester@iccsafe.org. The chart below is the election schedule.

September 27	MCGC online voting opens
October 11	MCGC online voting closes
October 23	Election results announced at Steering Committee meeting (Long Beach)



November 1	MCGC recommendations delivered to Board of Directors (agenda item)
December 7	MCGC members appointed (Board of Directors meeting)

FOCUS: Addressing international construction skilled labor shortages

Around the world, there is a drive to increase housing stock and address growing housing affordability issues. One of the principal barriers to this goal is a global shortage of skilled labor across most construction occupations. An occupation is typically considered to be in "shortage" when employers struggle to fill vacancies or face significant difficulty meeting specialized skill requirements within the occupation at the current levels of remuneration and employment conditions in reasonably accessible locations. Let's delve into some statistics from several countries, including the U.S., Australia and the United Kingdom, to better understand this global challenge.

GOT PULSE? Episode 58 explores product evaluation and testing

In Episode 58 of the ICC Pulse Podcast, we dive into the roles, functions and importance of the International Code Council Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) and ICC-ES Labs in the construction industry, featuring expert insights on evaluation, certification and industry innovations. Listeners will gain a comprehensive understanding of how these organizations contribute to safety, compliance and the future of building standards. Listen to Episode 58 of the ICC Pulse Podcast, Behind the Scenes at ICC-ES/NTA and ICC-ES Labs, here.

ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

ICC selected to advance hydrogen deployment through DOE grant

The <u>U.S. Department of Energy</u> (DOE) recently announced the selection of \$62 million in funding to support America's growing hydrogen industry. Among the recipients of the funding, the International Code Council's project, *Enabling Permitting and Safety for Hydrogen Development*, was awarded \$1 million. For this project, the Code Council is collaborating with the <u>Pacific Northwest National Laboratories</u>, <u>Center for Hydrogen Safety</u> and <u>PermitTechNation</u> (PTN). The DOE's funding will accelerate the research, development and deployment of next-generation clean hydrogen technologies, advancing key aspects of hydrogen fueling infrastructure and streamlining processes vital to the widespread adoption of <u>hydrogen technologies</u>.

Read more here →

Plumbing Manufacturers International release report: Past, Present, Future

The <u>Plumbing Manufacturers International</u> (PMI) Annual Report, <u>Past, Present, Future</u>, provides a comprehensive overview of PMI's achievements, ongoing initiatives and innovative strategies. PMI plays a key role in shaping policies, advancing technological developments and promoting industry best practices to enhance the built environment. The International Code Council is featured throughout the Annual Report, highlighting the collaborative efforts between the two organizations to advance water conservation, safety and sustainability in plumbing products and standards.

ICC Family of Solutions Updates

Turn ARPA Funds into office system upgrades by December 31

Recipients of **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)** have two options: **Obligate funds** into contracts by December 31, 2024, **or return the funds** to the U.S. Department of Treasury. Once you obligate funds into a contract, you have until December 31, 2026, to spend the funds. Use ARPA funds to implement a **Laserfiche** (records management and process automation) or **Municity** (ePermitting) system, or enhance your existing systems by adding licenses, expanding to more departments, increasing functionality, or getting additional training. There are still **\$89 billion** in ARPA funds that are **unobligated** and **67 percent of recipients have unspent funds**. More than \$57.3 million in ARPA funds have been used for records management and digitization projects, accounting for 219 projects in 40 states. **Download our ARPA Guide** to eligible solutions. Learn how to digitally transform the operations of your organization.

S. K. Ghosh Associates welcomes Dr. Jared Brewe as new Vice President

S. K. Ghosh Associates (SKGA), part of the Code Council family of solutions, recently announced the appointment of Dr. Jared Brewe, P.E., S.E., as its new Vice President. In his role, Dr. Brewe will serve as a technical consultant on



structural codes and standards, providing expertise to agencies involved in the design and construction of buildings and infrastructure.

Read more here →

Master post-tensioned concrete design with SKGA's online course

The construction industry's demand for advanced concrete design is growing, and understanding post-tensioned concrete is more important than ever. Despite its popularity in concrete floor systems both in the U.S. and internationally, post-tensioned concrete design is often underrepresented in university programs. Many engineering students are introduced to prestressed concrete, focusing primarily on precast beams, leaving a gap in knowledge about the practical application of post-tensioned concrete systems. S. K. Ghosh Associates (SKGA), a member of the International Code Council family of solutions, is offering a Post-Tensioned Concrete Design Course, designed to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and real-world application.

Read more here →

ICC-ES and ICC NTA: Cornerstones of the building safety industry

ICC-ES is the leading provider of evaluation reports for building and plumbing products and materials. Its mission is to assess and verify that building products meet the rigorous standards set forth in the International Codes®. ICC NTA specializes in off-site construction services, including plan review, engineering, inspection and certification. The conformity assessment services provided by ICC-ES and ICC NTA are integral to the work of code officials. Conformity assessment involves providing proof that products and systems adhere to established codes and standards, verified by test data. For code officials, this process is essential for ensuring that construction materials meet safety requirements.

Read more here →