

The International Green Construction Code (IGCC) Rallies Industry Support

A lot has happened since the spring update on the IGCC. Given that the hearings are just weeks away, it's the perfect time for filling everyone in on how the IGCC has evolved. Since the initial release of Public Version 1.0 of the IGCC in March, thousands of individuals and organizations have downloaded, reviewed and lent their public support to the initiative.

In June, both the BOAF and the US Conference of Mayors passed resolutions that endorsed the IGCC. With strong support from leading chapter of code officials and the commitment of an advocacy body representing America's municipal leadership, the IGCC continues to build momentum.

"We are pleased to be part of the movement towards safe and sustainable construction using the IGCC as the primary resource for our communities throughout Florida," said Claudio Grande, President, BOAF. "Our state requires a flexible code that can work within the constraints of our needs to weatherize against hurricanes and other acts of nature that involve high winds, flooding and high heat. The IGCC will enable all of those involved in construction industry and development decisions to be assured that there is a code able to drive both performance and safety throughout the built environment. As an overlay code, the IGCC will complement existing codes and will not seek to replace the Florida Building Code. "

However, there is still more work to be done including what will be happening this summer. After the August hearings in Chicago from the 14th to the 22nd, a revised Public Version will be issued in November, and be addressed at code development hearings in May 2011 (Dallas), with the amended version going on to final action hearings in the fall of 2011 (Phoenix), with publication in 2012.

The goal of the IGCC is to create a strong code that addresses long-term performance in new and existing non-residential structures and in residential buildings by referencing ICC 700. To achieve peak performance during the life of a building, the IGCC will incorporate critical elements such as usability, flexibility, adoptability and enforceability. As part of the existing I-Code family, which is unique in the industry on both national and global levels, the IGCC aligns with both safety *and* sustainability guidelines. The momentum cannot continue without you. Your input is welcomed as the development moves into the next phase. Your Florida-based ICC liaison is Phil McMahan, Senior Regional Manager in the ICC Government Relations department. Phil can help offer insight into the development process and specifics and can be reached at pmcmahan@iccsafe.org.

The Public Version is available as a download free of charge on the ICC website. The ICC distributes hard copy versions to jurisdictions desiring to adopt and sells them to the public at a minimal shipping/handling cost. The ICC website will also direct interested parties on how to enter public comments, as well as provide an overview video and supporting documents.

For more information, please visit <http://www.iccsafe.org/igcc>.

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