

ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



INTERNATIONAL
CODE
COUNCIL®

June 2023

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Colorado Gov. signs bill creating a Wildfire Resiliency Code Board to work toward statewide WUI code

Colorado Governor Jared Polis recently signed bill [SB23-166](#) that establishes a Wildfire Resiliency Code Board to adopt a statewide minimum code for fire-resistant construction and defensible space in Colorado's wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas. SB23-166 was one of the 11 wildfire-related bills Governor Polis signed into law showcasing the state's leadership in reducing risk for people and property in Colorado's WUI areas. The 21-member Wildfire Resiliency Code Board will be appointed by September 2023 and must adopt initial rules, based on best practice approaches such as the [International Wildland-Urban Interface Code®](#) (IWUIC®), by July 1, 2025. In addition to adopting wildfire codes and standards, the Wildfire Resiliency Code Board is charged with defining the WUI and identifying the areas of Colorado that are included within it. "The International Code Council fully supports the creation of Colorado's Wildfire Resiliency Code Board. We are proud to have participated in the process spearheaded by Colorado State Senator Lisa Cutter, members of the Colorado Fire Commission, and the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control that led to the signing of this bill," said Karl Fippinger, Code Council Vice President of Fire and Disaster Mitigation. [Read more here.](#)

Illinois legislature overwhelmingly passes historic bill to strengthen community resilience statewide

The Illinois legislature recently passed by overwhelming bipartisan margins Senate Bill 2368 which requires that all jurisdictions in the state adopt the [International Building Code®](#) (IBC), [International Residential Code®](#) (IRC) and [International Existing Building Code®](#) (IEBC). The International Codes® (I-Codes) are the most widely used and adopted set of building codes in the U.S. and around the world. The Code Council, along with several organizations, worked to advance the bill, and testified before both the Senate and House committees. As the largest of the seven remaining states without a statewide building code, the bill's ultimate enactment will establish a statewide minimum standard for structural design within the framework of existing Illinois laws. [Read more here.](#)

CALL FOR COMMITTEE: Deadline is June 28 apply for positions on Professional Development Council

The Professional Development Council (PDC) advises the ICC Board of Directors on coordinated career path resources for ICC Members to strengthen the credibility of the Code Council's Certification and Education programs. The PDC is comprised of the Education Committee (EC) and the Certification Committee (CC). The Professional Development Council:

- Recommends initiatives identified by the CC and EC to better serve the Membership.
- Coordinates the goals and objectives of the CC and EC.
- Identifies certification and education issues arising from ICC policies that will improve or enhance the position of ICC.

Duties and responsibilities of the PDC are outlined in [CP-45-14](#). [Read more here.](#)

ICC Board certified results of online governmental consensus voting on 2022 Group B cycle

The Code Council Board of Directors recently certified the results of the online governmental consensus vote for the 2022 Group B cycle. The board reviewed the findings from an independent Validation Committee before making its decision. The committee determined that there was a valid voting process with no concerns material to the outcome. Learn more and view the final action results [here](#).

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser capped off Building Safety Month reception at Code Council's new office

On May 24, the Code Council hosted a Building Safety Month reception at the new office in Washington, D.C. At the reception, Code Council Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, CBO, and President of the Code Council Board of Directors, Michael Wich, signed a commemorative certificate of occupancy in appreciation the work of Capitol Crossing and the District of Columbia Department of Buildings in constructing the ultra-high-performance building and adhering to the District's building safety

requirements. More than 100 individuals attended the reception, including U.S. House and Senate Staff, representatives from at least seven federal agencies, national building safety stakeholders, and ICC members in the D.C., Maryland, Virginia (DMV) area. The Code Council's D.C. Chapter also presented a Building Safety Month proclamation from D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser at the event.

Code Council seeking input from off-site construction manufacturers and regulators on Guideline 6

The International Code Council is seeking input in developing a Guideline to provide more specific guidance to state and local building authorities related to panelized systems, including "closed panels." **ICC Guideline 6** will provide jurisdictions with guidance on the approval of panelized systems meeting specific criteria in order to help efficiently verify their compliance with existing criteria, including building codes, standards and acceptance criteria. To support the Guideline development process, the G6 Committee has developed a survey to gather input from off-site construction manufacturers and regulators. The survey can be accessed here: <https://forms.office.com/r/isWvfYdfcB>. Responses by June 16 appreciated. Stay tuned for the G6 public comment period later this summer.

Clearinghouse is a resource for free training on on-site renewable energy, high-performance buildings

The nation's 118 million homes, 5.6 million commercial buildings and 270 million vehicles represent a significant opportunity to unlock energy savings or enhance energy resilience through efficiency improvements and emerging technologies—notably solar; energy storage; electric vehicles; and grid-interactive, efficient building technologies. Building, fire, and safety officials play a critical role in enabling the safe, widespread, and rapid deployment of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs). That's why it is crucial to invest in education and training on DERs. Through a DOE funded partnership, the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) along with ICC, IAEI, the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) and others have created the [CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org](https://www.CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org) which provides building safety professionals with up to date, timely and vetted technical resources and courses for FREE. Learn more about:

- Codes and standards related to solar, energy storage, and electric vehicle supply equipment
- Best practices for plan review, permitting, and inspection of on-site renewables and storage
- Emerging energy technology and installation safety

Stay informed and confident as the energy industry transforms. Invest in your education and training with free educational resources and CEU bearing courses from leading industry organizations at [CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org](https://www.CleanEnergyClearinghouse.org).

Tampa's John "JC" Hudgison becomes the latest recipient of the Emory R. Rodgers Fellowship award

John "JC" Hudgison, Construction Services Manager and Building Official for the City of Tampa, Florida, was recently awarded the 2022 Fellowship at the Code Council's 2023 Spring Interchange event in Tampa. Emory R. Rodgers was a leader in the building safety industry who devoted himself to the creation and development of the International Codes® and to the education and preparation of the next generation of building safety professionals. To honor this legacy, the International Code Council created the [Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship](#). Hudgison is a member of the American Institute of Architects, Code Council's Foundation Board, as well as the Building Officials Association of Florida (BOAF). Hudgison chairs the Emerging Leaders Membership Council in addition to the International Energy Conservation Code Consensus Committee, which is responsible for the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code®. The previous annual recipient was Andre Jaen of Jefferson County, Colorado, who also had chaired the ELMC. [Read more here](#).

Deadline is June 30 to apply for six scholarship programs for children of active Code Council members

Each year, the Code Council awards sponsored scholarships to support and recognize the children of active Code Council members. The scholarships are funded by contributors and Code Council Chapters and managed by the ICC. The 2023 scholarship cycle closes on Friday, June 30, for the following:

- [ICC General Scholarship Fund](#)
- [William J. Tangye Scholarship](#)
- [J.W. "Bill" Neese Scholarship](#)
- [C.D. Howard Scholarship](#)
- [Charlie O'Meilie Scholarship](#)

For more information call 888-422-7233, ext. 5266 or email scholarships@iccsafe.org. [Read more here.](#)

Code Council recognized as new member of testing, inspection and certification (TIC) solutions

The International Code Council was recently recognized as a new member of the TIC Council, a global organization that engages governments and key stakeholders to advocate for effective solutions that protect the public, support innovation and facilitate trade. Experts from the Code Council family of solutions companies [ICC-ES](#), [ICC NTA](#) and [ICC Credentialing](#), will collaborate with other TIC Council members such as [Bureau Veritas](#) and [CSA Group](#) to promote best practices in safety, quality, health, ethics and sustainability. [Read more here.](#)

Code Council and Dubai Municipality sign MOU to expand, formalize their collaborative relationship

The International Code Council and the Building Permits Department of Dubai Municipality have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that formalizes and expands the entities' well-established collaboration. The MOU streamlines the ability to leverage International Code Council solutions such as Evaluation Service Reports, that independently assess the compliance of innovative building products and systems with locally enforced building regulations, to be accepted by Dubai Municipality. The MOU also includes a pathway to membership and Dubai Municipality's participation in the MENA Building Science Advisory Council, established by the Code Council's regional office in Dubai. [Read more here.](#)

New Green Building Code is the second building code created by the PEC based on International Codes

Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) recently released the Green Building Code of Pakistan-2023 based on the 2021 edition of the International Green Construction Code® (IgCC). The Green Building Code is the second building code to be created by the PEC based on the International Codes® (I-Codes), following the publication of the 2021 Building Code of Pakistan, based on the 2021 International Building Code® (IBC). This effort represents the largest adoption of the IgCC to date, with immediate benefits for nearly three percent of the world's population. [Read more here.](#)

Preventative measures can help minimize the risk of death, injury and property damage caused by fire

The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) [2021 Home Structure Fires Report](#) found that more than one-quarter of reported fires occur in home environments. And, during a five-year period, there were an estimated 346,800 home structure fires per year, causing an annual average of 2,260 civilian deaths, 11,070 civilian injuries and \$7.3 billion in direct property damage. By taking preventative measures to protect your home, you can help minimize the risk of death, injury and property damage caused by a fire. The International Code Council's [2023 Building Safety Month campaign](#) focused on how you can take the responsibility of building safety into your own hands. [Read more here.](#)

BRIC UPDATE: FEMA releases list of preliminary subgrantee awards for the FY22 BRIC cycle

The Federal Emergency Management Administration recently released the list of preliminary subgrantee awards for the FY22 [Building Resilience Infrastructure and Communities](#) (BRIC) cycle for state and tribal set-aside buckets, as well as direct technical assistance (DTA). Included in the total are projects seeking more than \$3 million for code-related projects, across 11 awards, including over \$1 million dollars for Hawaii. More information is available here:

- [List of state/tribal set-aside subgrantees/projects](#)
- [List of Direct Technical Assistance recipients](#)

Code Council offers one-on-one help to apply for federal aid that finances energy code enforcement

The Department of Energy's Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) recently announced the intent to make \$1 billion in funding available to states and local governments to be used for improved building codes that reduce carbon emissions and improve energy efficiency through IRA Funded Technical Assistance for the Adoption of Building Energy Codes. SCEP published a [Notice of Intent \(NOI\)](#) on the funding distribution. This technical assistance opportunity, funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), will make two types of Building Code Technical Assistance available:

- **\$330 million** will be available to adopt the latest building energy code, the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC) for residential buildings and the ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard

90.1–2019 for commercial buildings, or other codes and standards that achieve equivalent or greater energy savings.

- **\$670 million** will be used to adopt a building energy code that meets or exceeds the zero energy provisions in the 2021 IECC, or other codes and standards with equal or greater energy savings.

State and local jurisdictions should also note that FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program (BRIC) will likely be releasing information on its 2023/2024 funding cycle in August or September. [Watch for critical information about federal funding programs](#), as well as future webinars and training covering grant basics, from the International Code Council. Our team is available for grant application development assistance. Click this "[Schedule a Consultation](#)" link to book a one-on-one virtual meeting with the Code Council's Energy and Resilience Project Manager.

Code inspectors and local building departments can be valuable resources to homeowners

Code inspectors and local building departments work every day to protect the public through their professional expertise and commitment to building safety. Their experience in the field can be invaluable to homeowners who are looking to ensure that all building codes and safety regulations are being followed. You may find it handy to send the link to this Building Safety Journal Weekly news story to homeowners and DIYers to provide some good advice. [Read more here.](#)

Karyn Beebe is the newest addition to the Code Council's Government Relations team

The new member to the ICC Government Relations team is Karyn Beebe, PE, LEED AP, who'll serve as Regional Manager in California and Nevada. Beebe was an Engineered Wood Specialist serving the APA in the Southwest. A licensed professional engineer in the state of California, Beebe has been an active member of the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), and also served as past president for the San Diego Area Chapter of ICC. Beebe replaces Susan Dowty, who recently retired.

Hot topics, trends and Code Council news featured in Building Safety Journal Weekly newsletter

The Building Safety Journal (BSJ) Weekly is a weekly newsletter from the International Code Council that covers relevant current trends and hot topics within the building safety industry. Each issue includes a wide range of curated articles from categories that include deep dives, technical topics, personal perspectives, member news and quick hits. [Click here to subscribe.](#)

***GOT PULSE?* The 50th podcast episode spotlights building safety from the kids' point of view**

To celebrate the 43rd Annual Building Safety Month and the 50th episode of the podcast, what better way to talk about building safety than with kids! In this episode of the ICC Pulse Podcast, we highlight children of Code Council staff exploring building safety in their homes. Podcast host Elizabeth McDonald gave five Code Council families an assignment to go through their homes with a checklist to take inventory of what building safety initiatives are achieved within their homes. She chatted with the kids and parents afterward to see what they learned. [Click here to tune in!](#)



ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates

June 14 webinar to explore advancements and safe uses of hydrogen blended with natural gas

Sign-up has started for a webinar on June 14 at 1 p.m. Eastern which provides an overview of:

- The [global advancement of the use of hydrogen gas](#).
- U.S. Federal Government actions taken to support the hydrogen industry.
- A discussion on how [natural gas/hydrogen blended fuel](#) is introduced to the built environment.

The webinar, which is part of the weekly series of training offered through [ICC Learn Live](#), will discuss resources for building and fire officials for the safe use of hydrogen, and as well as the current requirements for the [installation of gaseous hydrogen systems](#) as regulated by Chapter 7 of the 2021 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC). Last month, [ICC Learn Live](#) was re-launched in its new format. Every Wednesday there will be a 60-to-90-minute midday live online course featuring a diverse set of topics spanning the entire spectrum of building safety. This will allow anyone with an ICC certification to obtain their required CEUs from the convenience of their home or office. [Read more here.](#)



ICC Evaluation Services updates

New Zealand Certification helps manufacturers break into new markets in the Oceania region

ICC-ES PMG, the premier product certification program, certifying Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas products, has issued its first New Zealand plumbing product certification for compliance with AS/NZS 3500.2-2021. This ICC-ES PMG certification program ensures that listed plumbing products meet “requirements for the design and installation of sanitary plumbing and drainage from fixtures to a sewer, common effluent system or an on-site wastewater management system” in compliance with the [New Zealand Building Code](#) (NZBC). [Read more here](#).



ICC Community Development Solutions update

Municipity® Building and Enforcement Software keeps track of assets as well as reports and inspections

The assets and inspections program of work is a configurable asset management solution to maintain community well-being. It is part of Municipity’s Building and Enforcement Software that enables municipalities to streamline and track land management operations. It helps to track assets such as signs, fire hydrants, park benches, as well as the inspections related to these assets. Set up asset-specific data fields, detailed inspection checklists, and associated fees all in one place. Generate reports detailing checklist pass/failure, bulk inspection reminder letters, and more. Build Dashboards for easy asset tracking. Learn more by [watching this video](#) or join an [upcoming Municipity Overview Webinar](#) on June 8 or June 20.

ICC/IAEI collaboration produces one program instead of three programs to achieve certification

ICC and International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI) have collaborated on [Electrical Certification programs](#). Prior to the creation of the *ICC/IAEI Electrical Inspector Joint Certification* program, industry professionals had to take three separate programs to get their certification. Now, through the joint effort of these two organizations, electrical professionals can take one program that covers all of the previous material. Certificate holders can expect to receive recognition in the U.S. nationally, experience increased job opportunities and improve mobility within the building safety industry. This joint electrical certification program in partnership with IAEI is the latest in the Code Council’s efforts to support the electrical industry. [Learn more here](#).