

ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



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WELCOME TO LOUISVILLE! Forum offers Code Council members opportunity to learn more about recent federal grant programs that help finance and support code activities

With nearly \$1.5 billion now available to support code adoption and implementation, the ICC Government Relations team is putting together a special event at the 2022 ICC Annual Conference: "[Forum on U.S. Federal Funding Opportunities](#)." It will be held 8-11 a.m. Eastern on Tuesday, September 12, in the Kentucky International Convention Center. Panel members are officials of the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the City of Chicago Department of Buildings. It features presentations and small group breakout sessions with federal officials. Panelists will discuss the following programs:

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Energy Code Implementation Program and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Energy Codes Funding
- Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Post-Disaster Code Administration and Enforcement Assistance (DRRA sec. 1206)
- Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and Disaster Mitigation (CDBG-MIT)

Stay on track at the 2022 Annual Conference and Public Comment Hearings with the app!

Attendees to [the ICC Annual Conference and Public Comment Code Hearings](#) in Louisville, Kentucky, can stay connected with all the latest information about the expo, meetings, training sessions and hearings by downloading the conference app. Create a personal schedule, check out speaker information, download conference education materials and more. The app is accessible from smartphones, tablets, laptops and desktops and is available for [Android devices](#) and on the [web](#). The app will be available in the Apple App Store soon. You can find the app quickly in stores by searching for: **iccac22**. And don't forget to share your excitement by using the pre-made posts in the ICC [social media toolkit](#)!

September 9 is deadline to submit questions to candidates at Board of Directors Candidates Forum

The ICC Board of Directors Candidates Forum will be held 1-2 p.m. Eastern on Sunday, September 11, in Room M100/103 of the Kentucky International Convention Center. As part of this forum, Code Council members can submit questions to the 2022 candidates seeking positions on the ICC Board of Directors. These questions will be selected at random and read to at-large and sectional seat candidates by the chair of the Nominating Committee. To submit a question, email [Will Coffman](#) no later than 5 p.m. Eastern on Friday, September 9. [Read more here](#).

Group B Public Comment Hearings schedule in Louisville and the complete monograph are available

The 2022 Group B Public Comment Hearings will be held Sept. 14–18, 2022, at the Kentucky International Convention Center during the International Code Council Annual Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The Public Comment Hearing schedule — with start and end times, schedule notes and list of International Codes — is [now available by clicking here](#). The 2022 Group B Public Comment Agenda (the complete monograph) for consideration at the Public Comment Hearings is available online. This monograph addresses hearings on public comments on proposed code changes to the administrative provisions, International Building Code (structural), International Existing Building Code, and International Residential Code (building). [Read more here](#).

Inflation Reduction Act boosts jurisdictions' energy code updates and green construction materials

Building upon last year's [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#), the recently signed Inflation Reduction Act provides \$1 billion to support jurisdictions seeking to adopt, update and improve the implementation of current energy codes. The International Code Council worked with policymakers to support the provided resources. These resources will help communities:

- Update their energy codes
- Support the development, verification, and use of low-carbon construction materials
- Encourage energy-efficient retrofits and distributed energy generation, including solar thermal and small-scale wind

More specifically, the new legislation provides resources to support communities seeking to update their building energy requirements to codes and standards adoptions that meet or exceed the [2021 International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\)](#) and [2021 IECC's net zero appendices](#). The bill makes further historic investments in sustainable construction, including \$350 million through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for work toward enhanced standardization for low-embodied carbon construction materials through [environmental product declarations](#), as well as assistance for the manufacturing industry to more widely use and validate EPDs. [Read more here](#).

APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS SEPTEMBER 30: Newest BRIC funding level more than doubles last year's

Now in its third year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program continues to grow exponentially, and it's set to award \$2.295 billion for pre-disaster mitigation grants. That's more than double the FY2021 funding level. \$122 million in direct funding is allocated to states and territories (\$2 million per state/territory), with \$50 million set aside for tribal governments. A total of \$2.133 billion is available in competitive grants. The non-federal cost share is generally 25 percent (10 percent for small/impooverished communities). FEMA has identified increasing "funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes" as one of the three priorities for the program this year. BRIC funds the adoption and implementation of resilient codes and jurisdictions that implementing resilient codes are more competitive for BRIC project funding. The application period opens September 30 and closes January 27, 2023, but most jurisdictions have earlier internal deadlines. [Read more here](#), from the ICC Government Relations' webpage on the BRIC program.

FEMA offers free download to help jurisdiction officials with grants and latest editions of model codes

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently released the **Building Codes Adoption Playbook for Authorities Having Jurisdiction**, which is intended for officials interested in increasing community resilience and reducing loss from natural hazards by adopting the latest editions of model building codes. It equips officials with background and language to help educate decision-makers and constituents on the benefits of adopting and enforcing the latest building code editions. In addition, it provides general steps to help navigate the code adoption process and describes the FEMA grants available to support building code adoption and enforcement activities. The Code Council collaborated with FEMA to develop and review the content in the playbook. [Read more here](#).

ICC Membership Drive Incentive Program campaign enters its second month. Are you earning points?

Your role in the Membership Drive Incentive Program will build a stronger, more resourceful Code Council while arming the next generation of building safety professionals with the tools they need to advance our industry. Remember, for every new Code Council member you recruit, you'll earn \$25 in savings on future expenditures at the [ICC Store](#). There is no limit on how many points you can earn and the savings you can sock away. Here's how it works when you've found a new recruit:

- Go to your [myICC account and login](#). After the login, there will be a pop-up that displays the following: **I want to be part of the Membership Drive Incentive Program.**
- You will be given a unique URL to share with your friends. The URL contains a membership application that can be completed by your referral. This unique URL will allow us to know that the new member came from you. Once the referral is officially a member, you will be rewarded 25 points (equal to \$25) to use toward Code Council product purchases from the [ICC Store](#).

This campaign ends December 31. How many new ICC members can you meet and recruit in the next four months? [Read more here](#).

Code Council Board of Directors appoints new Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The International Code Council Board of Directors announced the committee members of the newly established [Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion \(DEI\)](#). The goal of this committee is to increase DEI in the membership association while helping Code Council members diversify their own

organizations and, ultimately, the building safety profession overall. [View the list of committee appointees](#) and learn more about the committee [here](#). The committee will also support the Code Council's [Safety 2.0](#) program, by encouraging individuals representing a wide range of perspectives and backgrounds to consider careers in building safety. [Read more here](#).

ICC members sought to volunteer for the Code Council's many Exam Development Committees

Those interested in working with industry peers to contribute to the development and maintenance of [ICC National Certification exams](#) are [urged to apply for any](#) of the Code Council's various Exam Development Committee (EDC). [The application deadline is October 31](#). There are openings beginning January 1, 2023, on the following [Exam Development Committees](#) (EDCs) topic areas: Accessibility; Certified Building Official/ Certified Fire Marshal (CBO/CFM); Commercial Building; Electrical; Fire Services; International Green Construction Code; Mechanical; Permit Technician; Plumbing/Fuel Gas; Property Maintenance and Housing/Zoning; Residential Building; Special Inspector - Reinforced/Prestressed Concrete; Special Inspector – Soils; Special Inspector - Structural Masonry; Special Inspector - Structural Steel & Welding; Sustainability. Got questions about the duties and responsibilities? Call 888-422-7233, ext. 5524, or email acommittees@iccsafe.org.

International Code Council and ASHRAE to co-sponsor a building whole life carbon approach standard

The International Code Council and ASHRAE announced the joint development of a standard to assess carbon emissions across the entire building life cycle. Proposed ASHRAE/ICC Standard 240P - *Evaluating Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and Carbon Emissions in Building Design, Construction and Operation*, will provide a whole life carbon approach to support emissions reductions in buildings. The proposed standard establishes how to measure and verify the greenhouse gas (GHG) and carbon emissions of a building, or group of buildings, over the entire life cycle. The goal is to provide consistent procedures and data to be referenced by policies, codes, and other standards that address new and existing building performance. [Read more here](#).

United States Magistrate Judge recommends finding IAPMO liable for copyright infringement

United States Magistrate Judge Zia Faruqui has issued a report recommending that the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia find that the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, Inc., and IAPMO Evaluation Service, LLC (IAPMO-ES) (collectively IAPMO) infringed the copyrights for 26 ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) evaluation reports and acceptance criteria. The magistrate judge overwhelmingly agreed with ICC-ES's arguments, finding, among other things, that:

- ICC-ES owns valid and protectable copyrights in the evaluation reports and acceptance criteria;
- IAPMO infringed ICC-ES's copyrighted works through reproduction and distribution of the copyrighted works on IAPMO's internal systems; and
- ICC-ES is entitled to a permanent injunction prohibiting IAPMO and their employees and agents from any infringement of ICC-ES's current and future copyrighted works.

The report is an important development in ICC-ES's litigation against IAPMO, but it is not a final decision and will be reviewed by a District Court Judge who will issue a separate decision. [Read more here](#).

SkillsUSA's 2022 National Leadership & Skills Conference spotlights career and technical ed students

Career and technical education students from around the nation traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, to compete in the annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). The conference was held this summer to showcase over 6,500 state contest-winning students as they competed in 107 different trade, technical and leadership fields. Competing students worked against the clock and one another to prove their expertise in several skilled service occupations. The competitions were run with the help of industry, trade associations and labor organizations and the contests are based on industry standards. Joel Rodriguez, board member of the [Building Officials Association of Georgia \(BOAG\)](#), was contacted to help judge the SkillsUSA national championship for HVAC students. [Read more here](#).

Automatic doors offer convenience, improve access, energy savings and improved hygiene control

Automatic doors offer convenience, but also have additional benefits. Kimberly Paarlberg, senior staff architect with the International Code Council, focuses on revisions to the automatic door opener

requirements in the 2021 and 2024 International Building Code and the referenced accessibility standard, 2017 ICC A117.1 Standard for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities. [Read more here.](#)

GOT PULSE? Living with Fire: How America's Wildland-Urban Interface fires impact everyone

Episode 47: Through a series of interviews with Code Council experts and U.S. fire service professionals, this quarter's episode explores wildfires in the Wildland-Urban Interface, or in short, the WUI. When it comes to wildfire, do you know your risk? And how can we prepare our communities to become more fire-adapted? [Just listen here.](#) And make sure your colleagues listen to it, too.

ICC Region I Radio features Virginia's Cindy Davis, current President of the ICC Board of Directors

In the latest episode of ICC Region I Radio, Cindy Davis, deputy director of the Virginia Division of Building and Fire Regulations and president of the International Code Council Board of Directors, discusses her background, building relationships, ICC Global Initiatives, the many programs that the Code Council offers code professionals, and the code development process for Virginia. [Listen in](#)



[ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates](#)

"Preparing Our Buildings and Communities for Water Reuse in the 21st Century" set for September 11

Join the Code Council's PMG and Government Relations Teams for "Preparing Our Buildings and Communities for Water Reuse in the 21st Century," a hybrid live meeting and webinar **Sunday, September 11.** For those in Louisville, the live presentation and webinar will begin at 2 p.m. Eastern in Rooms 007/008 of the Kentucky International Convention Center. Potable water from a public drinking water treatment plant is required to meet Safe Drinking Water Act standards. But, to date, no national regulations exist for onsite non-potable water systems for reuse treatment, storage, and delivery. The Code Council, in partnership with The National Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Non-potable Water Systems (NBRC), is establishing a Water Reuse Working Group to explore opportunities to protect public health and better support jurisdictions seeking to advance water reuse opportunities. This diverse working group will research all aspects of onsite water reuse, develop a roadmap, and propose needed resources, including recommended updates to the I-Codes necessary to meet jurisdictions' water reuse goals. Join ICC and industry Stakeholders for this inaugural meeting taking place in a hybrid platform. [For virtual attendance register here.](#)

Cross-Connection Control: A Critical Line of Defense Against Potable Water Contamination

Most of us can go to a faucet, water bottle filler or drinking fountain and get a sip of potable water. This is largely due to the fact that cross-connection control is an inherent plumbing design and installation component. Cross-connection control consists of various methods, assemblies and devices, that when installed and maintained properly, safeguard our potable water. When these controls fail, however, the results can be catastrophic. Rich Anderson, Director, ICC PMG Technical Resources, takes on the issues around cross connection control. [Read more here.](#)

2024 International Codes integrate lower emission refrigerants to meet federal HFC phase down

A broad coalition of industry, environmental, governmental and code development organizations encourage early adoption by states and localities of the 2024 [International Building Code](#), [International Fire Code](#) and [International Mechanical Code](#), which now permit the use of A2L refrigerants. The recently approved code changes allow commercial and residential use of A2L refrigerants to replace high global warming potential (GWP) hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants. [Read more here.](#)

Calls for Committee Members encourages participation in two committees on ANSI/ICC standards

Code Council members should consider two upcoming calls for committee members. The committees will develop two new ANSI/ICC standards that, once published, will be groundbreaking for the industry:

- **The Sizing Water Distribution, Drainage and Venting Standard Consensus Committee** (IS-SWDDV) will be responsible for developing ICC 815-202X (Standard for Sizing Water Distribution, Sanitary Drainage and Vent Piping Systems). This new international standard will take a holistic worldwide approach to sizing water distribution, sanitary drainage, and vent piping systems for

residential, mixed-use, and institutional occupancies that utilizes a sizing method that has no basis on Hunter's Method and accounts for post-COVID-19 usage patterns.

- **The Private Sewage Disposal Systems Standard Consensus Committee (IS-PSDS)** will be responsible for developing ICC 825-202X (Private Sewage Disposal Systems). This new international standard will provide minimum requirements for designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining private sewage disposals systems based on newer technologies and methods, and most importantly, the impacts of climate change.

If interested, please click [here](#) and fill out the application(s). The deadline is **September 30**.

Significant changes to the length of hot water piping to fixtures were made in the 2021 IRC

An addition to Section P2905.3 (Length of Hot Water Piping to Fixtures) of the 2021 International Residential Code states that the code now limits the length of hot water piping serving fixtures. The new section limits the hot water supply line length to 100 feet measured from the source of hot water to the fixtures that require hot water. This provision is similar to existing language in International Plumbing Code (IPC) Section 607.2, except the IPC limits the length to not greater than 50 feet. Hot water supply lines greater than 100 feet waste water (proportional to pipe size) while occupants wait for hot water to reach fixtures for bathing, washing and culinary purposes. [Read more here](#).



ICC Evaluation Services updates

New IRC Equivalency Evaluation Report program streamlines building permit process

ICC-ES PMG, the premier product certification program for Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas (PMG) products, is now accredited by the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JAS-ANZ) to certify plumbing and drainage products in accordance with the WaterMark scheme, for use under the Plumbing Code of Australia. The WaterMark Certification Scheme, managed and administered by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB), is mandatory for plumbing and drainage products to ensure they are fit for purpose and appropriately authorized for use in plumbing and drainage installations. ICC-ES report holders benefit from bundling certifications for multiple geographies while maintaining the same quality service provider. [Read more here](#).

Structural steel connection systems obtains ICC-ES reports for use in all Seismic Design Categories

Lindapter Girder Clamps and Hollo-Bolts are the world's first structural steel connection systems to obtain an ICC-ES report for evaluation to the International Building Code® (IBC) for use with all Seismic Design Categories. Whether you are designing steel connections for structures in high wind or high seismic areas, for buildings classified as Occupancy Category IV, or for projects where you want to avoid welding or drilling holes in the field, Lindapter offers faster, safer, and more cost-effective alternatives to traditional welding and bolting. Go to [ESR-3976](#) for Girder Clamps or go to [ESR-3330](#) for Hollo-Bolt.