

# ICC [Government Relations](#) Monthly Update – August 2021

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**Friday is the deadline for early-bird registrations to the 2021 ICC Annual Conference, Group A hearings**  
Friday, August 6, is the early-bird registration deadline for the 2021 International Code Council's Annual Conference and Public Comment Hearings in Pittsburgh. Individuals can take advantage of the early bird discount by [registering here](#). This essential building safety conference will take place September 19 – 26 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center and will feature expert speakers, networking opportunities with industry professionals from across the country and educational sessions. This year's event will focus on the long-lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the building safety industry, with keynote speeches from Jennifer McClure, President, Unbridled Talent LLC, and Markus Achord, Head of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging at Sunrun. McClure, an international speaker and business advisor, will explore progressive ways to evolve and disrupt traditional business practices, while Achord will explain the connection having a diverse and inclusive workforce has on innovation and success. Educational workshops and resources will be available during the conference for participants to grow their knowledge and expertise within the building safety industry:

- Conference Education Program (Sunday, September 19) – 3 hours or .3 CEUs
- Building Tours (Sunday, Sep. 19 & Tuesday, September 21) – Earn up to 12 hours or 1.2 CEUs
- Annual Business Meeting (Monday, September 20) – 2 hours or .2 CEUs

Attendees can earn CEUs at [Global Connections Day](#), the [Public Comment Hearings](#) and ICC Learn Live.

## **August 21 is the deadline for all Governmental Member Voting Representatives to be validated**

All Governmental Member Voting Representatives must be validated this year to participate in the new [code development cycle](#) in person at [the Public Comment Hearings](#) or by cdpACCESS and to participate at the [2021 ICC Annual Conference in Pittsburgh September 19-21](#). This [short video](#) takes you through the step-by-step process to designate your voting representatives. Governmental Member primary representatives must validate their voting representatives by August 21 in order to fully participate in the code development process. [Validate credentials here](#). Also, the Code Council has issued the "[2021 Report of the Committee Action Hearings on the 2021 Editions of the Group A International Codes](#)." The Code Council's 2021 Annual Business Meeting notice includes important information on the meeting, proposed amendments to the ICC bylaws and proposed member resolutions. [See it here](#).

## **Annual Bob Fowler Motorcycle Ride expanded to a virtual ride, walk and run event. Sounds healthy!**

This year, the [16th Annual Bob Fowler Motorcycle Ride](#) has been re-imagined to a virtual ride/walk/run event. Suggested 5k routes will be provided to those who want to participate at the [ICC Annual Conference](#) in Pittsburgh. Others around the world, can participate virtually in their areas.

Proceeds of the participation fee will also go toward funding [scholarships](#) and [Safety 2.0](#) programs.

## **ICC launches the "Code on a Mission" challenge urging adoption of modern energy efficiency codes**

The Code Council recently launched its "Code on a Mission" challenge which aims to have over a third of the U.S. population covered by the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) by the end of 2023. To make this a reality, the Code Council is challenging the building industry and communities alike to update their building energy codes to meet or exceed the requirements of the 2021 IECC. Already industry leaders like Architecture 2030, the Institute for Market Transformation, Energy Efficient Codes Coalition, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, National Electrical Manufacturers Association and Responsible Energy Codes Alliance have shown their support for the initiative. [Read more here](#).

## **Code Council's Government Relations Senior Vice President Sara Yerkes announces next phase**

Government Relations Senior Vice President Sara Yerkes announced her retirement will be at the end of the year. For more than 20 years, Sara Yerkes has served as the top officer of the Code Council's Government Relations Department. Leading a team of national and regional managers, subject matter experts and field coordinators, Yerkes is a recognized leading voice for the local, state and federal adoption of the Code Council's building codes and standards. In her succession plan Sara has mentored

Gabe Maser to assume the leadership of the Department. Gabe, an attorney, has led the Code Council's federal engagement and national strategic efforts for the last three years. [Read more here.](#)

**Who's running for the Code Council's Board of Directors in Pittsburgh? Click on the link and find out.**

Learn more about who is running for the 2021–2022 Code Council's Board of Directors on a special candidate webpage set up for membership and the Nominating Committee to view support letters and other materials prior to the Annual Business Meeting on Sept. 20, 2021. [See the candidates here.](#)

**COMMENT HERE: August 16 is the deadline for public input on electrical vehicle (EV) charging resource**

the Code Council is seeking public input on an electrical vehicle (EV) charging resource, the first in a series of energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission resources as outlined in the Code Council's framework. Covering residential, commercial and multifamily applications, the resource provides communities flexibility in determining the best combination of EV-Installed, EV-Ready and EV-Capable spaces. The Code Council staff draft is based on input from stakeholders, code change proposals considered for the 2021 IECC and policies already implemented in some jurisdictions. It also captures information on approaches states and localities have already taken to help support other jurisdictions considering use of the language and provides communities with model language coordinated with the International Codes (I-Codes) to help achieve additional GHG reductions. Comments on the EV resource are due August 16<sup>th</sup>. Access the draft and instructions for commenting: [here.](#)

**BOMA, ICC and NIBS convene a panel to develop policy guidelines learned from Surfside disaster**

The Building Owners and Managers Association International, the International Code Council and the National Institute of Building Sciences will convene a panel discussion in West Palm Beach, Florida, on the Surfside building collapse. Hosted by the Building Officials Association of Florida, this dialogue will focus on how communities monitor the safety of existing buildings, what guidance exists for building owners, and how future catastrophes can be avoided. The goal is to establish a channel for the building safety community to have a dialogue and develop information that could inform policymakers as they consider questions raised by the tragic collapse of Champlain Towers South. [Read more here.](#)

**Code change proposal submittals are being accepted for the 2024 IECC and Chapter 11 of the 2024 IRC**

The International Code Council is now accepting code change proposals for the development of its 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and Chapter 11 of the International Residential Code (IRC). As established through the Code Council's recently released energy efficiency framework, *Leading the Way to Energy Efficiency: A Path Forward on Energy and Sustainability to Confront a Changing Climate*, the 2024 IECC and Chapter 11 of the IRC will be updated using the Code Council's American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approved standards process. [Code change proposals will be accepted until 11:59 pm PT on October 12.](#) To submit a code change proposal, visit the new energy only version of cdpACCESS [here.](#) For additional information on the Code Council's energy initiatives, the framework and related FAQs, visit [www.iccsafe.org/energy](http://www.iccsafe.org/energy). [Read more here.](#)

**Code Council raises awareness around wildfire safety with three new fire prevention resources**

As the pace of wildfire season increases throughout the United States, ICC is emphasizing the importance of fire safety through its three newly released fire prevention titles: *2021 IWUIC® Code and Commentary*, *Significant Changes to the International Fire Code, 2021 Edition*, and the *2019 California Fire Code Amendments Handbook*. The [Congressional Research Service](#) recently cited Wildland Fire Summary and Statistics from the National Interagency Coordination Center (updated May 2021) that since 1960, the three largest wildfires in total acreage burned have occurred in the last five years. The report also notes people are increasingly finding themselves within or moving to wildland urban interface (WUI) zones. [Read more here.](#)

**Alliance for National & Community Resilience awards first resilience designation to Martinsville, VA**

The Alliance for National & Community Resilience (ANCR) issued its first community resilience designation to Martinsville, Virginia, at a recent meeting of the City Council. Martinsville was selected as the initial pilot city for ANCR's Community Resilience Benchmarks (CRB) for buildings and housing. The

city was awarded an essential designation for its building-related activities and an enhanced designation for its housing-related initiatives. [Read more here.](#)

### **Digital Code's Premium Mobile App puts over 400 latest codes and standards just a tap away**

The Code Council recently introduced its Digital Code's new Premium Mobile App (Beta) for iOS and Android devices that offers the same premium features that are accessible on the ICC website. Now it's easier than ever for Premium Subscribers to search over 400 of the latest codes and standards, find individual code sections, save searches, view notes, significant code changes, share access and more using its interactive tools and advance features that are only a tap away. Plus, as an added feature, Digital Codes Premium now links 2021 I-codes to the Group A code changes. By clicking on the blue "CDP" icon, you can find the proposed code change for that section. [Read more here.](#)

### **2021 IgCC provides a whole-systems approach to the design, construction and operation of buildings**

In support of continuously improving the built environment, the International Code Council, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) released the anticipated 2021 International Green Construction Code (IgCC). The IgCC provides communities with model code language to assist communities in achieving sustainability in their building stock. Green codes help fulfill the mission of providing for the health, life and safety of the built environment; increasing the economic and resource efficiency of buildings; reducing the effects of climate change through more resilient buildings, communities and cities; and providing for the best buildings of today without compromising the needs of future generations. The IgCC is coordinated with modern model codes — including the International Building Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code and International Fire Code — used around the world. [Read more here.](#)

### **The call for committee for the new ICC 903/SRCC 500 standard seeks applications until September 30**

The Code Council is currently accepting applications until September 30 for the Solar Thermal Standard Consensus Committee (IS-STSC). As an ANSI-accredited, standards-developing organization, the Code Council is seeking applicants to serve on the IS-STSC Technical Committee in order to produce a new standard, ICC 903/SRCC 500, Solar Hot Water Storage Tanks. This committee will have primary responsibility for developing a standard to safeguard the public health, safety and general welfare through design, construction and testing requirements for solar hot water storage tanks intended for use in solar water heating systems. [Read more here.](#)

### **Deadline is August 17 for Remote Virtual Inspection for Energy and Water Performance standard**

The Code Council is currently accepting applications for the Remote Virtual Inspection for Energy and Water Performance in Buildings Standards Committee (ERVI). The Code Council and RESNET have joined together to develop a new standard that will provide guidance for implementing remote virtual inspection for energy code compliance and for building water and energy efficiency performance. The deadline to submit applications is August 17, 2021. [Apply here.](#)

### **California launches RESNET water efficiency rating program, developed in partnership with ICC**

The California Energy Commission's accredited rating providers, CalCERTS and CHEERS, were recently approved by the Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) as official HERSH2O providers — paving the way for the launch of the water efficiency rating program in California. [Read more here.](#)

### ***GOT PULSE?* ICC's Judy Zakreski hosts podcast discussion on IBQC Guidelines for Developing Countries**

In the final episode of Season 3 of the ICC Pulse Podcast, [Judy Zakreski](#), Code Council Vice President of Global Services talks with [Professor Kim Lovegrove](#) and [Professor Alfred Omenya](#) on the newly-released *Good Practice Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Building Regulations in Low Income Countries*. The Guidelines were developed by the IBQC as a follow up to the more general *IBQC Principles for Good Practice Building Regulation*, published in September 2020. [Give it a listen!](#)

**Upcoming from the Code Council Learning Center: Institutes, training, webinars, etc.**

Online learning is available from the [ICC Learning Center](#). Find course [listings you'd like to attend](#) in the ICC Learning Center using the Search function. Single-day training events are an opportunity to focus on topics to ensure your code knowledge stays up to date, with some seminars offering a Virtual Classroom option so you can participate in the event from any location with an internet connection:

- **August 6 - Leadership Webinar Series: [Challenging Discussions](#).**
- **August 9-12 - [Code Official Institute](#).**
- **August 10-12 - [2018 Residential Plumbing Inspector - P1](#).**
- **August 12 - [Fire Safety within the International Building Code \(IBC\) - From Design to Reality - Overview](#).**
- **August 17-18 - [When Disaster Strikes](#).**
- **August 18 - [2021 IBC Significant Changes](#).**
- **August 19 - [2018 IBC Essentials](#).**
- **August 24-26 - [2018 Fire & Life Safety Institute](#).**
- **August 25 - [Customer Service and Code Enforcement](#).**
- **August 31 - [2021 IRC Significant Changes](#).**
- **September 1 - 2021 Residential Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Administration and Adoption](#).**
- **September 1-2 - [2018 Permit Technician Institute](#).**
- **September 2 - [2021 IFC Significant Changes](#).**
- **September 2 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Building Planning](#).**
- **September 3 - [Report Writing for the Code Official](#).**
- **September 8 - 2021 Residential Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Building Planning, Part I](#).**
- **September 9 - [Officer Safety Procedures: HazMat, Hoarding & Joint Enforcement Safety](#).**
- **September 9 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Footings and Foundations](#).**
- **September 13-17 - [2018 Residential Building Inspection Institute](#).**
- **September 15 - 2021 Residential Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Building Planning, Part II](#).**
- **September 16 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Wall Construction](#).**
- **September 22 - 2021 Residential Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Chapters 4–10, Part I](#).**
- **September 23 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Public Safety and Special Construction, Part I](#).**
- **September 29 - 2021 Residential Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Chapters 4–10, Part II](#).**
- **September 30 - [Millennials in Code Enforcement](#).**
- **September 30 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Public Safety and Special Construction, Part II](#).**
- **October 4-8 - [2018 Residential Building Inspector B1 Certification Test Academy](#).**
- **October 6 - [Complaint Management from Start to Finish](#).**
- **October 6 - 2021 Residential Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Existing Buildings](#).**

Check out more [upcoming learning opportunities here](#).