

## International Code Council Government Relations Update – July 2017

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### Early bird registration deadline is Aug.4 for the 2017 ICC Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio

The International Code Council's (ICC's) 2017 Annual Conference and Expo is Sept. 10 – 13 in Columbus, Ohio, and [you can add value to your experience](#). This year's conference features [industry-leading educational sessions](#), networking, historic tours, the Building Safety & Design Expo and inspiring keynote speakers such as the only two-time winner of the prestigious Heisman Trophy, **Archie Griffin** at the Members' Luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 12. This year's conference will be a great opportunity to engage with building industry experts, share ideas, expand your code knowledge and take home information you can use on the job the next day. Spread the word among chapter members and industry colleagues by forwarding them the conference registration link [www.iccsafe.org/conference](http://www.iccsafe.org/conference).

### Applications are due July 13 for ICC Board elections to be held Sept. 11 at ICC Annual Conference

Applications are currently being accepted for individuals to serve on the 2017-2018 International Code Council Board of Directors. [Applications, letters of interest and other related information must be submitted by July 13](#). Elections to the ICC Board will be held Sept. 11 during the Annual Business Meeting at the 2017 Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio.

### Deadline extended to July 17 for Governing Committee positions on four Membership Councils

The [Building Official Membership Council](#), [Emerging Leaders Member Council](#), [PMG Official Membership Council](#), and the [Sustainability Membership Council](#) extended deadlines to apply for open positions on the Councils' Governing Committees. The deadline is now **July 17, 2017**. [Click here](#) for an application. The elections will be held at the Membership Councils Annual Meeting on Sept. 11 in Columbus, Ohio. Each Council will have vacant positions whose terms begin Jan. 1. Members of each Membership Council present at the Council's Annual Meeting must select candidates to fill these open positions. The candidates' names will then be presented to the ICC Board of Directors for ratification.

### The deadline is Aug. 31 to get early bird pricing on 2018 I-Codes

The 2018 I-Codes are expected in September and many states and communities are anxious to get their first sets and start updating. Updated codes are your communities' best protections to remain resilient to human-caused and natural threats. Developed through ICC's highly-respected consensus code development process that draws upon the expertise of hundreds of plumbing, building, and safety experts, the 2018s are supported by a wide range of ICC technical references, top-rate training through ICC University, and unmatched credentialing service. [Click here for your early bird prices!](#)

### ICC members eligible to obtain read-only copies of ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria

Read-only copies of ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria are now available to code officials with a valid ICC membership number through the ICC-ES website. The new access policy was initiated by ICC-ES approximately one month ago. Further announcements about the new policy are being delayed while ES staff monitors the new process during the coming months. Once it is determined that the portal is functioning as intended, additional announcements about the new program will be distributed. To access an individual Acceptance Criteria, go to the ICC-ES website ([www.icc-es.org](http://www.icc-es.org)) and click Approved Criteria, then List Criteria on the far left side of the home page. From the list that appears, click on the desired Acceptance Criteria to display the option to download the read-only copy.

### Brock Long confirmed by U.S. Senate to serve as the new FEMA Director

The [U.S. Senate confirmed William B. "Brock" Long in a 94-4 vote to lead the Federal Emergency Management Agency](#). Long has more than 16 years of emergency management experience, including as

the Director of the Alabama Emergency Management Agency from 2008 -2011. He developed Alabama's response to the H1N1 influenza and served as the state incident commander during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. FEMA's mission is to coordinate the federal government's disaster response, preparedness and mitigation efforts. The agency oversees the U.S. Fire Administration and a number of first responder grant programs, including the Assistance to Firefighters and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant programs.

#### **August 11 is deadline to apply for openings on ICC-ES Evaluation Committee**

The ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) seeks to fill openings on the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee, with qualified individuals who will evaluate proposed acceptance criteria prepared by staff concerning building products. Applications will be accepted until Aug. 11, 2017. For more information and how to apply [click here](#).

#### **IPMC adoptions are helpful in protecting our communities from Zika transmission**

Summer's officially arrived and so have the mosquitos that can carry the threat of Zika virus transmission. While there's still much for us to learn about the virus, we can [mitigate the spread through adoption and enforcement of the International Property Maintenance Code](#).

#### **U.S. Fire Administration issues three new residential building fire reports covering 2013-2015**

Three new reports from the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Data Center explore the characteristics of residential building fires from 2013-2015, with an emphasis on one- and two-family and multifamily buildings. [Download the free reports](#).

#### **NIBS publicizes report on workforce development and water resources**

The National Institute of Building Sciences' (NIBS) Consultative Council released its 2016 report, [Moving Forward: Findings and Recommendations from the Consultative Council](#), at its annual conference in Washington, D.C. It contains detailed recommendations reflecting the consensus of the construction community on the topics of workforce development and water resources. Among the 19 specific recommendations contained in the Water Resources section is a call for re-establishing the plumbing research laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, that was disbanded in the 1980s due to budgetary constraints, and U.S. Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-Penn.) reintroduced legislation that would do so — H.R. 301 — on Jan. 5. The report was delivered to Congress and the President.

#### **MBI & ICC to develop modular construction guidelines & resources to meet industry's rapid growth**

The Modular Building Institute (MBI) and the International Code Council are the driving force behind efforts to accelerate the use of modular construction and eliminate barriers in the industry by [developing a series of modular-themed guidelines and resources for code officials](#). Already successful in getting new language included in the 2018 International Building Code specifically addressing relocatable buildings—a significant portion of the modular construction industry—MBI's new collaborative effort with ICC will focus more on permanent modular construction, bathroom pods and containerized structures. "The current content of the I-Codes and referenced standards must be updated to address the rapidly growing modular construction industry," said MBI Executive Director Tom Hardiman. "We are extremely pleased to be working with the ICC to help code officials become better informed on this off-site construction process."

#### **More than 1,000 have Certificate of Achievement in High School Technical Training Program's six years**

The 2016-17 school year ended in June with the issuance of 283 Certificates of Achievement to students who completed ICC's [High School Technical Training Program](#) (HSTTP). Jim Ellwood, HSTTP Consultant, said they are included in the grand total of 1,083 certificates since the program started six years ago. In

his June report, Ellwood said more and more professionals and educators are learning about HSTTP's benefits for students who have taken I-Codes training in their construction technical courses. The HSTTP has been featured in each bi-monthly issue of Building Safety Journal, was the cover feature story in Municipal Magazine and got plenty of buzz at the highly popular SkillsUSA Competition in Louisville.

### **How to start an ICC High School Technical Training Program in your jurisdiction**

Jim Ellwood, HSTTP Consultant, will conduct a presentation on how to start a High School Technical Training Program at a high school in your jurisdiction. The presentation will be held during the ICC Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio. It will begin at 3:15 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20. Local code officials have been important to the growth of HSTTP in high schools and technical schools across the United States. Their cooperation and help are greatly appreciated. For more information, contact Jim Ellwood, ICC HSTTP Consultant at [jellwood@iccsafe.org](mailto:jellwood@iccsafe.org).

### **ICC Board advances ICC through partnerships, committee members & code development changes**

The International Code Council Board of Directors met May 11 in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with a series of meetings held by the Inter-Jurisdictional Regulatory Collaboration Committee. The Council [approved new strategic partnerships, appointed new committee members and reviewed changes to the code development process](#).

### **New ICC A117.1 provides greater accessibility to buildings for persons with physical disabilities**

The International Code Council (ICC) released an update to the 2009 [ICC A117.1 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities standard](#) that provides greater accessibility to buildings for persons with physical disabilities and incorporates new elements of building design. The 2017 standard is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) American National Standard and was developed through a consensus-based process that brings together all the stakeholders, including disability-rights groups, code officials, product manufacturers, design professionals, and facility owners and managers. This updated edition of the standard continues to meet or exceed provisions with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines and the Fair Housing Design Guidelines. The standard includes:

- Enhanced dimensions for clear floor space, turning space, and accessible routes for new buildings and additions.
- Provisions incorporating many of the latest public right-of-way criteria for curb cuts, blended transitions, detectable warnings, diagonal parking and street parking.
- New provisions to improve safety for accessible routes through parking lots, and to address accessibility at electric vehicle charging stations.
- New provisions to facilitate the charging of powered wheelchairs in areas such as accessible hotel rooms and wheelchair seating in assembly spaces.
- New provisions for water bottle filling stations, and spaces for sign language interpreter stations and video booths.
- A new section addressing classroom acoustics to reduce the intrusion of noises from outside the classroom and improve room acoustics.

To learn more about the new standard, visit [www.iccsafe.org/icc-asc-a117](http://www.iccsafe.org/icc-asc-a117).

### **Texas students achieve career opportunities through ICC program**

Members of the [Bluebonnet Chapter of the ICC](#) in Texas presented achievement certificates to students at Texas State Technical College who completed and passed the International Residential Code building and energy exam. Instructors Michael Carillo and Tony Chaffin added the Certificate of Achievement program into the Building Construction Technology courses to help provide their students with career opportunities. City of Waco Inspection Supervisor Bobby Horner, International Code Council Board Director Shirley Ellis and Building Officials Association of Texas Board Member Mike Olson provided

additional support and encouragement to the students. With the motivation and inspiration from these leaders, the [High School Technical Training Program](#) is expected to grow in Texas.

#### **Plan Review Institute based on 2015 I-Codes to be offered in Myrtle Beach and Chicago**

Dates and locations will be [Aug. 7-11 in Myrtle Beach](#), S.C., and [Oct. 2-6 in Chicago](#), Ill., for ICC's Plan Review Institute to increase participants' efficiency in determining if a given set of plans and specifications complies with the 2015 I-Codes. This five-day event will cover the step-by-step processes that will help you perform structural, nonstructural and residential plan reviews in compliance with the 2015 International Residential Code® (IRC®) and 2015 International Building Code® (IBC®).

After completing the Plan Review Institute, you will be able to better:

- Apply the 2015 IBC and IRC to the plan review process
- Identify where minimum code requirements have not been met and cite applicable code sections
- Review plans for code compliant building planning

#### **Applied Technology Council offers free webinar July 19 on “Building Codes – Why They Matter”**

A free webinar on building codes as the foundation for community resilience will be held July 19 for non-technical audiences, such as decision makers, such as city officials. Engineers and building professionals who are interested in communicating the importance of building codes to decision-makers may also find this webinar useful. Click [here](#) to register. There is a limit of 2,000 attendees. The presenter will be Michael J. Griffin, P.E. He is a Principal and Partner at CCS Group, Inc. in Chesterfield, Missouri. Griffin has over 30 years of extensive experience in the assessment of natural hazards—earthquake and high wind, for structures and nonstructural components, equipment, and systems.

#### **American Wood Council offers three online courses this summer with complementary registrations**

ICC members can obtain complementary registrations to [three online courses offered through the American Wood Council](#), an ICC Preferred Education Provider. They are:

- July 13, 1:55-3:30 p.m. Eastern - **Fire Protection During Construction (BCD235)**
- August 17, 1:55-3:30 p.m. Eastern - **Resolving Wood Shear Wall Design Puzzles with Force Transfer Around Openings (DES415)**
- September 21, 1:55-3:30 p.m. - **Mass Timber Construction – Primer for Fire Resistance Rated Construction (DES602)**

#### **Free course on flood resistant design and construction offered Aug. 28-31**

A [free course on the FEMA Coastal Construction Manual is being offered Aug. 28-31](#). Designed to provide a comprehensive approach to planning, siting, designing, constructing and maintaining homes in the coastal environment, this course is perfectly timed for the apex of hurricane season. Contact Course Manager [Prasad Inmula](#) at 301-447-1374 for details.

#### **RESNET's Cross Border Challenge inspires energy efficiency competition between Canada and USA**

The [RESNET Cross Border Challenge is a friendly competition between American and Canadian home builders](#) to determine just how energy efficient builders can get. Based on achieving the lowest HERS Index Score — the nationally recognized system for inspecting and calculating a home's energy performance — builders have until **Jan. 26, 2018**, to submit builder information, a Home Energy Rating Certificate Report (including HERS Index Score), and a house photo to [rod@renewability.com](mailto:rod@renewability.com).

#### **International Code Council to be top sponsor for Building Innovation 2018 Jan. 8-11**

The International Code Council (ICC) has renewed its commitment to serve as the Conference Sponsor for [Building Innovation 2018: The National Institute of Building Sciences Sixth Annual Conference and Expo](#). To be held Jan. 8-11, 2018, at the Mandarin Oriental in Washington, D.C., **Building Innovation**

**2018** unites representatives from across the industry to discuss strategies and seek solutions to *Sustain, Strengthen, Secure*. A Sustaining Organization Member of the Institute, ICC participates in leadership roles on a number of Institute councils and committees and ICC members serve on the Institute Board of Directors. Since the Institute's founding more than four decades ago, ICC and the Institute have collaborated on numerous projects to improve the safety of U.S. communities. This is the third year in a row that the ICC has taken the lead sponsorship role in the Building Innovation Conference series.

**Top ICC officials help celebrate NAHB's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala at the Washington Hilton**

International Code Council Board Members and staff joined Lowe's, Kohler, Wells Fargo, Professional Builder and others from the building community to celebrate the National Association of Home Builders' (NAHB) [75th Anniversary gala](#). NAHB is one of ICC's founding strategic partners and shares a common mission to create safe buildings and resilient communities. Joint projects include the project to distribute the TechNotes series developed by NAHB's Construction Technology Research Subcommittee and Innovation Research Lab. [Click here for more](#) on the TechNotes series project.