

ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



INTERNATIONAL **March 2024**  Follow @ICC_GR on [Twitter](#).

Chapter Annual Reports are due March 15! [Click here!](#)

[Click here](#) to visit the ICC Government Relations team website.

ICC launches **World Water Awareness** campaign to educate and motivate leaders on water resources

Over the next 50 years, roughly half of U.S. freshwater basins will be at risk of falling short of monthly water demands. By 2050, the number of people facing inadequate access to water is to increase to more than 5 billion. To help raise awareness and spur action to address the global water and sanitation crisis, the Code Council this month is launching its inaugural [World Water Awareness campaign](#), which will feature in-depth articles on water conservation initiatives, the advantages of the International Codes® (I-Codes), including the [International Water Conservation Code Provisions](#)® (IWCCP®), and [podcast episodes that delve into plumbing solutions, water reuse and their vital role](#) in preserving water supplies. Findings from a new University of Miami study examining the critical need for the rapid adoption of modern, updated water conservation standards will be presented March 21 at 9:00 ET at a live streamed event at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The event, *Standards Save: A Water Conservation Summit*, will also feature an array of expert panelists from EPA, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and state and local government. [Read more about the Summit and other World Water Awareness events here.](#)

- **Please join this campaign** by signing, on behalf of your chapter, jurisdiction, or organization, a letter to policymakers highlighting the importance of water conservation resources. [Click here to sign the online letter.](#)

Code Council announces hearing schedule for the 2024 CAH #1 for Group A codes in Orlando April 7-16

The International Codes® (I-Codes) are a family of 15 coordinated, modern building safety codes used throughout the world that protect against disasters like fires, weather events and structural collapse. The [Long Term Code Development Process](#) Committee suggested changes to enhance the [code development process](#). They are now in effect for the development of the 2027 I-Codes. The new process will include two Committee Action Hearings (CAH), one in the Spring and one in the Fall, and will have the same Code Development Committee presiding over both hearings. The Code Council has published the hearing schedule for the 2024 CAH #1 for Group A codes. [Click here to access the monograph](#) of the 2024 Group A proposed changes. The hearings will occur April 7-16 in Orlando [with other Leadership Week](#) events. [Read more here.](#)

Department of Energy to announce 2024 Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation (RECI) program

The Department of Energy's RECI 2024 Grant Program has already allocated \$90 million to date and will make available an additional \$45 million shortly. Funds support state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) governments in the effective implementation of updated energy codes. Local governments must apply with a state agency and partnerships with public and private sector team members are encouraged. The Code Council was involved with eight successful RECI applications in the 2023 cycle, seeing a diverse representation of states and communities across the US benefiting from this funding. To learn more about the Code Council's resilient and efficient codes solutions, access our [factsheet](#). For more information about the RECI grant, review our [FAQs](#). You can also [click here to see the 2024 Building Code Grant Matrix](#), created by ICC staff, that helps break down the various federal grant programs that are currently available to fund building code and energy code adoption and implementation. These programs, many of which are new, have application deadlines in early 2024. Additional funding opportunities may be available later in 2024 and in future years. If you have further questions or are ready to get started with an application and would like help from ICC staff, please email Stella Carr at federalgrants@iccsafe.org.

Utah on the path to be first state to legislatively adopt ICC/MBI Standards 1200 and 1205 for off-site

Utah is now set to become the first state to legislatively adopt ICC/MBI Standards 1200 and 1205 as part of a new statewide program to help facilitate the efficient use of off-site construction. The bill, [SB 168](#),

was the end result of nearly a year of work with a coalition including the Code Council, the Modular Building Institute, modular manufacturers, affordable housing proponents, the Utah League of Cities of Towns, and the Utah Department of Housing and Community Development. It is expected to be signed by Governor Spencer Cox. Salt Lake City was the first jurisdiction to adopt the standards in 2021. For more information on the ICC/MBI 1200 Series standards, [visit iccsafe.org/offsite](https://www.iccsafe.org/offsite).

The Code Council and Modular Building Institute publishes new off-site construction standards

The International Code Council, in partnership with the [Modular Building Institute](#) (MBI), has published a new off-site construction standard that was approved by the [American National Standards Institute](#) on November 3, 2023. [ICC/MBI 1210-2023, Standard for Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Systems, Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation in Off-site Construction](#), addresses mechanical, electrical and plumbing system elements (MEP) used in off-site construction with respect to energy efficiency, water conservation, planning, designing, fabricating, transporting, and assembly within commercial and residential buildings. [Read more here](#).

Code Council signs MOU with EPA to advance initiatives aimed at decentralized wastewater issues

The International Code Council has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) to advance initiatives aimed at addressing decentralized wastewater issues. As part of the MOU, the Code Council will help bolster the EPA's [Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Program](#), which aims to address the disparity in wastewater infrastructure across the U.S. – particularly in underserved communities. [Read more here](#).

Board President Tom encourages Code Council Members to get involved in 30th anniversary events

Code Council Board President Stuart Tom recently advised Code Council Members how they can make ICC's 30th anniversary this year an outstanding success. Here's how you can get involved:

- Share your reflections on what the Code Council and its mission have meant to you by submitting photos, videos and messages to our [digital guestbook](#) or via email to communications@iccsafe.org.
- Visit the [30th anniversary website](#) which features an interactive timeline of major moments in Code Council history, a photo gallery spanning the years and a short documentary video.
- Save the date for the culmination of our celebration at [our 2024 Annual Conference, Expo and Hearings in Long Beach, California, from October 20-31](#).

[Read more here](#).

Code Council's IEBC named for advancing the preservation and sustainability of historic buildings

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) recently adopted its Policy Statement on Housing and Historic Preservation which supports ICC's International Existing Building Code® (IEBC) as a resource for building conversions. The ACHP Policy Statement follows an October 2023 White House [launch](#) of a [new guidebook](#) to facilitate commercial to residential conversions to address post-pandemic office vacancies. Adopted by 45 states, the IEBC encourages the continued use and reuse of existing buildings, including historic buildings, by enabling changes in occupancy and use types without requiring full compliance with building features otherwise required for new construction. [Read more here](#).

Public comment period deadline is March 18 on proposed ASHRAE/ICC Standard 240P

The International Code Council and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) have announced the release of the full publication public review draft for the proposed ASHRAE/ICC Standard 240P – Quantification of Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Buildings. The proposed standard aims to assess and document greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across a building's life cycle. The public comment period is open until March 18, and comments are sought from all interested parties. The committee is seeking comments on the full publication public review draft following the advisory public review period in May 2023. [Read more here](#).

VALIDATION REMINDER: March 8 is a deadline for voter eligibility in the 2024–2026 Code cycle

The International Code Council 2024-2026 code development cycle is officially underway. This year marks the beginning of a reorganized three-year cycle which will culminate in voting on all code changes

at the Public Comment Hearings and Online Governmental Consensus Vote in 2026. For more information on the reorganized process, [click here](#). To be eligible to vote in this cycle, including as part of the ultimate online government consensus votes at the completion of the cycle in 2026, a governmental unit must be one of the following as of March 8:

- A current Code Council Governmental Member, or
- A Code Council Governmental Member that has submitted an application for renewal, or
- A governmental unit that has submitted an application for ICC Governmental Membership

To become a Code Council Governmental Member, [click here](#). To renew your Code Council Governmental Membership, [click here](#). To check your Code Council Governmental Membership status, [click here](#). Both new governmental members, after completion of their application, and existing members, must validate their Governmental Member Voting Representatives for the 2024-2026 cycle through their designated primary representative. [Read more here](#).

March 15 is deadline to submit nominations to honor achievements with 2024 Code Council Awards

The 2024 Code Council Awards Program is now open and accepting nominations through **March 15**. We encourage you to [fill out a nomination form](#) for one or more of the awards. If you know someone whose hard work and dedication should be celebrated, visit our website, and nominate them for a Code Council award today. [Read more here](#).

PUBLISHED: New guideline covers lessons learned from global approaches to advanced panelization

The Code Council recently published a new [off-site construction](#) resource, [Guideline 6: A Guideline on Advanced Panelization](#), which covers lessons learned from global approaches to advanced panelization. It focuses on utilizing panelized systems to integrate automation into the construction process, aiming to capitalize on advantages such as heightened precision, improved productivity and minimized waste. This Guideline offers a system-based approach to the approval of advanced panelized systems that adhere to advanced fabrication and monitoring criteria, guiding national, state and provincial, and local jurisdictions. It also helps to efficiently verify compliance with existing criteria including building codes, standards and acceptance criteria. [Read more here](#).

FEMA's Mitigation Assessment Team deployed to observe and assess damage from Hurricane Ian

Immediately following Hurricane Ian, the [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) (FEMA) sent experts from its [Building Science Disaster Support Program](#) to Florida to assess the performance of buildings, structures and community lifelines. The International Code Council, through its strategic partnership with FEMA, deployed staff as part of the agency's Mitigation Assessment Team (MAT). The MAT worked closely with federal, state and local partners including building and fire code officials, academia and private sector partners to conduct performance assessments of buildings and related infrastructure to determine the causes of damage and examine the results of successful mitigation activities. Hurricane Ian, a high Category 4 hurricane packing maximum sustained winds of 150 miles per hour, made landfall on Sept. 28, 2022, near Fort Myers, Fla., bringing catastrophic storm surge, widespread flooding and damaging winds. More than 150 people lost their lives during Hurricane Ian, with economic damage exceeding \$112 billion. [Read more here](#).

The second and final part of a series explaining building inspections and code enforcement published

The first part by freelance writer Louis Bedigian last summer explained the process and need for residential and commercial building inspections and code enforcement. Now the second and final part is available online to share with colleagues, friends and the public to educate them on the role building officials play to protect injuries and death and to ensure the integrity and resilience of the buildings where we live, work and shop. It's an excellent resource to share [during the 2024 Building Safety Month](#) and the rest of the year. [Here is Part 1](#) of the series, and [here is part 2](#).

New Mexico adopts 2021 IECC, taking a significant step toward safety, efficiency and resiliency

The New Mexico Construction Industries Commission adopted the International Code Council's 2021 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC®), which addresses energy efficiency and the energy usage of buildings. With this adoption, New Mexico joins communities across nearly 20 states covering more than a third of the U.S. population in providing its residents with state-of-the-art building design

and performance. According to U.S. Department of Energy estimates, residents will save 12 percent on utility bills, which equates to \$266 in [energy savings annually](#). Adoption of the 2021 IECC will also reduce the statewide greenhouse gas emissions by over 20,000 metric tons in the first year and by 11 million metric tons over 30 years. For perspective, the 30-year emissions reduction is equivalent to 2.4 million passenger vehicles or 1.4 million homes. Not only will it result in significant energy, emissions and cost savings for heating, cooling and lighting, but it will also enhance construction quality. [Read more here](#).



ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates

Join the ICC Learn Live for the hybrid presentation ‘Why is Pipe Sizing Important,’ on Monday, March 4

The International Code Council’s Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas (PMG) Technical Resources Team will be hosting an ICC Learn Live, *Why is Pipe Sizing Important*, on Monday, March 4, 2024, from 12:30 to 2:30 PM ET. This Learn Live event will be a hybrid presentation on the history of plumbing; the various methods of pipe sizing for supply, drain and vent systems; and a summary of the research and development of *ICC 815 Standard for Sizing Water Distribution, Sanitary Drainage and Vent Piping Systems*. The session will be hosted by Ramiro Mata, Code Council’s PMG Standards Manager, and Lisa Reiheld, Code Council Director, PMG Technical Resources. [Read more here](#).

Webinar: “Global Pipe-Sizing Collaboration” is set for Tuesday, March 12, as an ICC Learn Live event

This ICC Learn Live event, “Global Pipe-Sizing Collaboration,” will feature speakers from Australia, Germany, New Zealand and the United States who participate on the ICC 815 committee on March 12. Each speaker will provide an overview of the different pipe-sizing methods and the research undertaken in their regions which is being used to inform *ICC 815 Standard for Sizing Water Distribution, Sanitary Drainage and Vent Piping Systems*. [Read more here](#). And if you wish to register, [here is the link](#).

WORLD PLUMBING DAY: March 11 event focuses on essential role of plumbers and plumbing systems

To bring additional attention to the importance of plumbing, sanitation and fresh water, World Plumbing Day — an international event celebrated on March 11 every year — highlights the essential role of plumbers and plumbing systems in improving public health and protecting the environment. [Read more here](#).

[Click here to subscribe](#) to the new ICC PMG bimonthly newsletter!



ICC Community Development Solutions update

Municipity® Assets and Inspections-- A configurable asset management solution

The Assets and Inspections 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

- Tracking assets such as signs, fire hydrants, park benches, and inspections related to the 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](#).

Governmental Member Application and GMVR Validation Deadlines for 2024-2026 Cycle*	
Deadline	Date
Receipt of application for Governmental Membership in order for Governmental Member to be eligible to vote at Group A and B PCH or OGCV in 2026	March 8, 2024 (30 days before CAH)
Receipt of application for Governmental Membership and for validation of GMVR (new or updated) in order for GMVR to be eligible to vote at 2024 ABM	September 21, 2024 (30 days before ABM)
Receipt of application for Governmental Membership and for validation of GMVR (new or updated) in order for GMVR to be eligible to vote at 2025 ABM	September 20, 2025 (30 days before ABM)
Receipt of application for validation of GMVR (new or updated) of eligible Governmental Members** in order for GMVR to be eligible to vote at Group A and B PCH or OGCV	March 20, 2026 (30 days before PCH)
Receipt of application for Governmental Membership and for validation of GMVR (new or updated) in order for GMVR to be eligible to vote at 2026 ABM	September 19, 2026 (30 days before ABM)

* Per [CP #28-05](#), GMVR are only required to be validated once each 3-year code development cycle

** Eligible as of March 8, 2024, deadline

Terms and Acronyms

Governmental Member - a governmental unit, department or agency engaged in the administration, formulation, implementation or enforcement of laws, ordinances, rules or regulations relating to the public health, safety and welfare.

GMVR – Governmental Member Voting Representative - employee or official of the Governmental Member or departments of the Governmental Member, provided that each of the designated voting representatives shall be an employee or a public official actively engaged either full or part time, in the administration, formulation, implementation or enforcement of laws, ordinances, rules or regulations relating to the public health, safety and welfare.

CAH – Committee Action Hearing

PCH – Public Comment Hearing

OGCV – Online Governmental Consensus Vote

ABM – Annual Business Meeting



Celebrate With Us!
See the timeline, leave us a note and more.