



AZBO News

Arizona Building Officials

February 2021

Message from the Chair

Greetings,

The Arizona Building Officials (AZBO) is an organization of volunteer building safety professionals that strive to provide the highest quality building code education, development, and networking within the state of Arizona and the greater southwest region.

AZBO is a state Chapter of the International Code Council (ICC) and a member of ICC Region XI, please visit iccsafe.org for more information.

The Education Committee is hard at work to provide the highest quality and best possible education at the Preferred Provider level and to provide training at all levels from learning about building codes, inspections, front counters, to training for certification CEUs and to keep up with current codes.

The Code Development Committee will be getting started back up to participate in the 2024 code development process.

I look forward to what 2021 has in store for all of us.

Brian Uthe
AZBO Chair



The **AZBO Virtual Spring Institute** is coming!
The course curriculum is under construction.
Courses are scheduled to begin Mid-April.
Check AZBO's website/events page or
the EventSquid site for details to be released
when available.



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Survey from the Education Committee

1. Are required to have/maintain certifications for your position?
2. Does your jurisdiction support your attendance at training events to maintain your certifications?
3. Do you plan to attend the AZBO 2021 Virtual Spring Institute?
4. Do you plan to attend Virtual training opportunities provided by others?
5. Are you most likely to attend presentations on:
 - a. Commercial Building
 - b. Residential Building
 - c. Electrical
 - d. Mechanical
 - e. Plumbing
 - f. ADA
 - g. Permit Tech Training (double check with Pat)
 - h. Other?

Attached is a form at the end of the Newsletter that can be complete and emailed directly to azbotraining@gmail.com

Survey ~ Single Family Home Permits

The survey is a mixed format based on the information and how it was provided. See attached spreadsheet after Page 9.

Moving IN and Moving OUT

Keith Eaton joined the Town of Florence as Community Development Director/Fire Marshal, overseeing Building, Planning & Zoning.
Larry Harmer, Planning Manager is retiring to part-time for the Town

Scott Buzan, Director for Gila County retired the end of January.

Chuck King, Building Official, Inspection & Compliance Manager for Town of Oro Valley is retiring March 31, 2021.

City of Buckeye announces the addition of **Mike Izzo** as Building Official.



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In the September/October Newsletter we announced the **2019/2020 AZBO Awards** which were presented at the Virtual AZBO ABM, October 2020.

Reacknowledging with images of recipients.

- Don Councilor**, City of Phoenix - Award of Merit;
- Dennis Chase**, City of Peoria - Special Services Award;
- Debi Green**, Stantec - Brent Snyder Memorial Award;
- Stephanie Johnson**, Yavapai County - Permit Technician of the Year;
- John Tilton**, Town of Gilbert - Plan Reviewer of the Year;
- Glenn Celenza**, UofA - Building Inspector of the Year;
- Amy Palmer**, City of Flagstaff - Building Official of the Year;
- Matt Hazelton**, Southwest Gas - Member of the Year;

Chairman's Awards:

- Andy Kelley**, UofA
- Ted Rodriquez**, Town of Sahuarita
- John Farmer**, Pima County
- Paul Froehlke**, Town of Marana
- David Spurlock**, Town of Marana

Congratulations





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Arizona Permit Tech Committee

The Arizona Permit Tech Committee invited Northern California, Yosemite California, Oregon, and Washington Permit Tech Committees to join us in Virtual Training: **Customer Service During COVID**. Training was presented by AZBO; Steve Burger was our guest speaker.

There were 75 participants!

Training was via AZBO's EventSquid and Zoom accounts. A big thank you for AZBO's continued support of the Committee, AZBO's Annual Sponsors, and coordinating efforts with Shannan & Pat Headington.

And of course ~ Steve Burger for donating his time to Western Permit Tech Training.

No photos. This was a webinar therefore we could not view the participants on screen.



♥ 576 Cards ♥

AZPT, on behalf of AZBO, collected **Valentine's Day Cards for Quarantined Veterans.**

Cards were distributed to Veteran's Housing and domiciliary providers in Northern Arizona Phoenix, Tucson, and Yuma.

Thank you to AZPT Board Members who collected and everyone who contributed



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Contribution from City of Goodyear

Even with the unprecedented year of the Pandemic we experienced no slow down for Goodyear's building and safety division. In the very midst of the initial flare of COVID, we transitioned from a paper-based plan review system for all building construction to a digital review process within a mere 48 hours and then we morphed our digital review process 19 days later to what is our current digital review platform. With these significant adaptations, and all that comes with them, we did not realize any slowdown in construction and inspections throughout the entire year. Conversely, we had our busiest year ever- servicing 8.2 million SF of new commercial and industrial issued and under construction, 1,697 single family homes and scores of remodels for both commercial and residential.

The Goodyear team, like many others, rose to the challenge and continued to provide timely, high quality, valuable services. In order to seamlessly serve our community, we brought on two new building inspectors, **John Ganka** and **Jeff Ross**, we hired a new Building Inspection Supervisor **Tom Paradise** and we were fortunate to also bring back **Eric Bee** as our Plan Review Supervisor. Even with this growth in staffing, we also supplemented additional needs through third party contracts for both Inspectors and Plan Reviewers.

I am proud of our Goodyear team as we have successfully managed incredible local growth- much like other communities throughout the US have done.

I have spent many years being involved with Arizona Building Officials Organization. Through this involvement, I have continued learning, networking, relationship building, mentoring, and serving. Over this past year I have relied on the education, and networking relationships developed through the AZBO organization to meet the challenges rapid growth presented.

I strongly encourage each of you to continue to support AZBO as an organization. Get involved, participate in the educational opportunities, network, develop and foster relationships throughout the organization. One day you too may need to draw on the education, and network you have developed through the AZBO organization to ensure the continued success of your own professional challenges and growth.

BY: **Randy Westacott**, Chief Building Official, Development Services



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Contributions from City of Phoenix

PHOENIX WORKLOAD

The business model for the City of Phoenix Planning and Development Department (PDD) was modified due to COVID-19 starting in March 2020. City Hall and other city buildings required appointments to meet with staff and most meetings were held virtually. The inspection staff and office staff manning the customer service counters reported to work each day using CDC recommended equipment and social distancing. The inspection section established a protocol for managing inspections of construction sites that had reported positive test results for workers and a cleaning protocol was followed for inside city facilities.

The volume of traditional paper plan submittals changed to 75% of the plans being submitted electronically. Prior to COVID, less than 25% were submitted electronically.

The Residential section experienced a 49% increase in single family residence plot plan submittals compared to last fiscal year, combined with a 90% increase in photovoltaic submittals. PDD issued 4,049 single family home permits during 2020 (only 1.5% lower than 2019 with 4,112, and 9% higher than 2018 with 3,716).

PDD completed 46,199 residential inspections, 31,412 commercial inspections and 136,261 total inspections in FY19-20.

City management placed a freeze on filling vacancies and requests for new positions in March 2020, so the Development Division functioned with approximately 15% staff vacancy rate (including plan review and inspections). PDD utilized contract workers and staff worked a lot of overtime to keep up with the workload. The Development Division staff did an amazing job covering all of the work within the 517 square miles of the City of Phoenix.

COVID-Related Projects

The state of Arizona continues to receive hundreds of thousands of COVID vaccines, and as more are on the way the need for the proper storage is essential. The City of Phoenix has been vital to getting the storage facilities up and running, some of which require very specific requirements. The Pfizer vaccine requires cold storage at minus 94 degrees F, far lower than the typical freezers on hand at medical centers for other vaccines. Planning and Development staff expedited the reviews and inspections for both Mayo Clinic Hospital and Langham Logistics.



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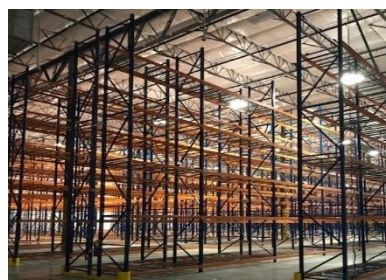
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Mayo had to make some significant electrical upgrades to add 10 new freezers for the storage. The plan review process, which is normally performed in-house, was accommodated in the field. The staff helped contractors work through issues and get the approval of plans immediately to get the freezers up and running and ready for shipments.

Langham Logistics at 7200 W. Roosevelt is a 64,870 square foot warehouse being converted for cold storage use. The large-scale project requires a fast turnaround for plans and for inspections and staff was able to get the facility running under a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy while other items are being finalized.

“It is not just the vaccine, it is everything related to the pandemic,” said Phoenix Building Official Stephen Dudley. “The urgency and scale of the COVID-19 pandemic have required the City of Phoenix Planning and Development Department staff to respond quickly to projects at every phase of the pandemic, including setting up testing sites, building research labs, upgrades to hospital facilities and construction of vaccine cold storage facilities. Our staff has taken great pride in their work on these projects and the contributions they are making to fight this pandemic, knowing the work they do is aimed at saving lives.”

Over the past several months, staff has also been working diligently in similar capacities to help expedite a COVID-19 research lab at 5020 N. Black Canyon and an N95 mask manufacturing facility at 2145 S. 7th Street.



Langham Logistics, 2700 W. Roosevelt, COVID Research Facility at Grand Canyon University Campus



N-95 Mask Manufacturing Plant, 2145 E. 27th Street



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Don Brown, City of Phoenix, was featured in ICC Building Safety Journal in November.

Donald Brown

NOVEMBER 16TH, 2020

by Building Safety Journal staff

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES



Code professionals ensure building safety today, for a stronger tomorrow. As the individuals behind modern codes and standards, these professionals are responsible for ensuring the safety and compliance of codes and standards, shaping the safety of the world around us, and serve as the safety foundation for our buildings. They don't just ensure that buildings are constructed to withstand the stress of everyday use, they are behind the security and stability of every building. They specialize in preventative measures to help communities weather unforeseen natural disasters and ensure that first responders have less to worry about and can do their jobs safely. Code professionals are an essential piece in the building and construction puzzle and are engaged in the building process from the initial building plan to the finished product.

The International Code Council is a member-focused association with over 64,000 members dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in

Read the full article at <https://www.iccsafe.org/building-safety-journal/bsi-perspectives/icc-members-the-individuals-behind-codes-and-safety-donald-brown/>





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AZBO 2020 Annual Sponsors



**If interested in 2021 Annual Sponsorship,
please contact AZBO's Executive Secretary
Shannon Headington
azboexcsec@gmail.com**

2021 Annual Sponsors will be announced in the next Newsletter

Single Family Residence Permit Data (as collected via survey responses January 2021)

City of Buckeye

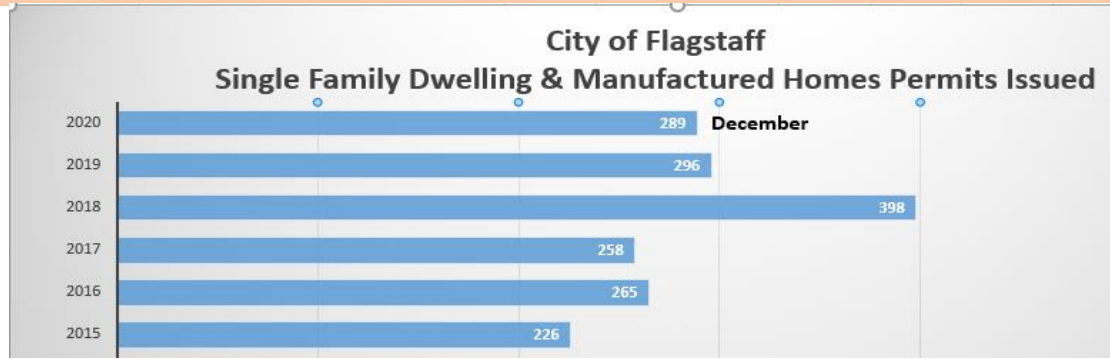
Single Family Residential Permits Issued

2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2020	270	197	349	193	166	229	291	241	394	364	309	340	3,343

City of Chandler

2019	2020												YTD	YTD	Pct Change
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019	2020	from YTD 2019
71	47	72	78	55	28	53	46	66	57	117	67	72	564	758	34%

City of Flagstaff



Town of Gilbert

2019	2020												YTD	YTD	Pct Change
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019	2020	from YTD 2019
48	83	85	107	46	69	109	73	127	150	182	88	108	1,144	1,227	7%

City of Goodyear

2019	2020												YTD	YTD	Pct Change
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019	2020	from YTD 2019
95	111	155	163	87	83	204	196	157	184	150	128	79	1,435	1,697	18%

City of Litchfield Park

No Single Family Residence permits issued in the past three months

2020-2021 Monthly Report		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
PLAN REVIEW SERVICES								
Maricopa County	Plan Apps Received	1220	1,196	1,254	1,226	1,230	1,172	1,205
	Permits							
	Multi-Family	0	2	0	0	0	138	0
	Single-Family	228	295	213	320	251	250	196
	Mobile Home	23	19	26	29	23	40	46

Town of Oro Valley 385 Single Family Residence permits issued on 2020

M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
2019	2020												YTD	YTD	Pct Change from YTD 2019	
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019	2020		
14	11	10	8	4	3	6	6	6	3	7	9	8	83	81		-2%

M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
2019	2020												YTD	YTD	Pct Change from YTD 2019	
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019	2020		
85	105	123	125	86	56	122	124	85	115	115	128	105	1,353	1,289		-5%

RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY PERMITS														
	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	
Jul	280	148	114	132	169	154	115	194	204	300	313	385	341	
Aug	110	131	81	73	153	120	134	223	238	273	350	431	278	
Sep	132	109	83	96	88	134	135	175	164	277	236	386	362	
Oct	116	126	43	94	130	123	93	195	185	273	310	286	393	
Nov	71	93	53	60	124	75	65	157	194	173	283	336	509	
Dec	91	107	44	63	118	120	127	253	170	303	269	211	443	
Jan	71	101	58	94	155	94	102	210	182	311	295	303		
Feb	38	163	61	120	148	144	146	169	191	285	329	322		
Mar	66	203	88	133	153	147	225	276	230	284	401	366		
Apr	111	103	113	194	184	167	183	241	196	380	409	215		
May	135	68	84	176	175	169	185	168	225	323	304	237		
Jun	197	105	97	150	131	220	214	270	300	372	339	280		
	1,418	1,457	919	1,385	1,728	1,667	1,724	2,531	2,479	3,554	3,838	3,758	2326	
% chg	1,418	1,457	919	1,385	1,728	1,667	1,724	2,531	2,479	3,554	3,838	3,758		
	-48%	3%	-37%	51%	25%	-4%	3%	47%	-2%	43%	8%	-2%		

Permits Issued:

- November 2020 – 130 SNEW
- December 2020 – 101 SNEW
- December 2019 – 77 SNEW
- Calendar Year 2020 – 1321 SNEW
- Calendar Year 2019 – 1124 SNEW

Pima County

Pinal County

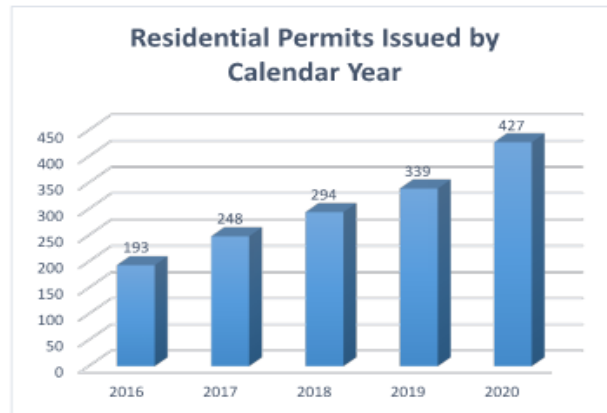
OCTOBER - 194
NOVEMBER - 216
DECEMBER - 163

**Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community**

53 Single Family Residence permits issued in 2020

City of San Luis

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTALS	193	248	294	339	427
% Growth		28%	19%	15%	26%



City of Sedona

November 2020: 5 Single Family Residence permits issued
December 2020: 18 Single Family Residence permits issued
January 2021: 3 Single Family Residence permits issued as of 1-15-21



SURVEY REGARDING EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

Respond directly to: azbotraining@gmail.com

NAME:

Jurisdiction/Company:

1. Are required to have/maintain certifications for your position?
 Yes No
2. Does your jurisdiction support your attendance at training events to maintain your certifications?
 Yes No
3. Do you plan to attend the AZBO 2021 Virtual Spring Institute?
 Yes No
4. Do you plan to attend Virtual training opportunities provided by others?
 Yes No
5. Are you most likely to attend presentations on:
 - a. Commercial Building Yes
 - b. Residential Building Yes
 - c. Electrical Yes
 - d. Mechanical Yes
 - e. Plumbing Yes
 - f. ADA Yes
 - g. Permit Tech Training Yes
 - h. Other? Yes –
Describe:

Email completed form to azbotraining@gmail.com

