

# ICC Government Relations

## Monthly Update

January 2025

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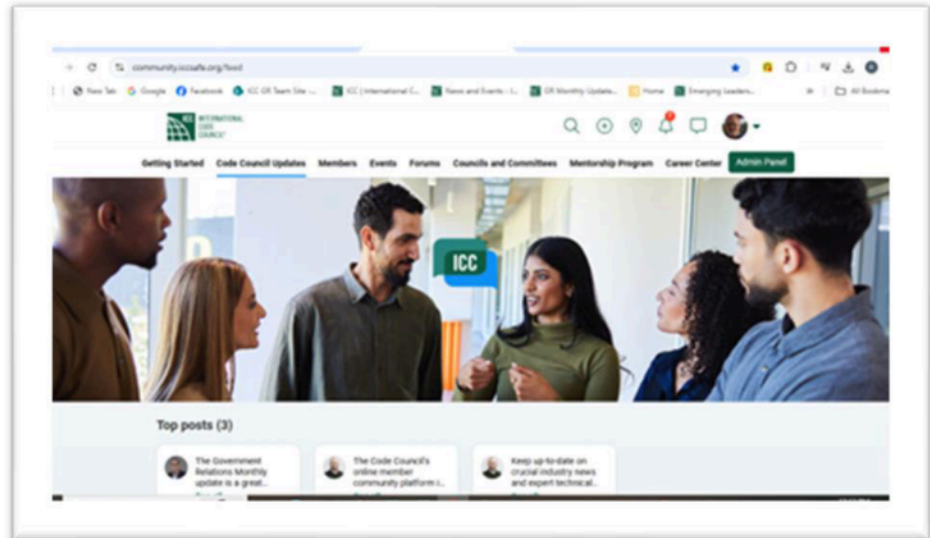
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## ICC's online Member Community platform expected to add new features during 2025

The Code Council recently launched its [exclusive online Member Community](#), a dynamic new platform designed to enhance the benefits of membership while fostering collaboration among building safety professionals. This free resource provides [a central hub for Code Council members](#) to network, share ideas and advance their careers in the rapidly evolving building safety industry. From accessing the latest updates on Code Council news and events to joining professional groups and exchanging insights in forums, the Member Community offers tools and resources tailored to help members maximize their experience as a Code Council member. In 2025, the Code Council will introduce several enhancements to the Member Community. The platform is already thriving, with over 3,500 users engaging in meaningful discussions, mentorships and collaborations. As the Member Community continues to grow, it promises to be an essential tool for building safety professionals, fostering innovation and leadership across the field.

[Read more here](#) →

## YOUR MESSAGE TRULY MATTERS

**Tell FEMA to continue to support modern codes that promote resiliency! Please take a minute to [complete this statement to FEMA](#). It's easy and you can help make a difference. Thank you!**

*Deadline is January 29 to file your message with FEMA.*

## Code Council celebrates Dominic Sims' dynamic legacy of inspired leadership and innovation

Throughout his career, including 14 years as CEO, Dominic Sims has transformed the International Code Council into a dynamic family of solutions that extends far beyond its origins as a code-development organization. Under his leadership, the Code Council's financial stability grew remarkably, with net assets increasing more than fifteenfold, membership expanding by 10 percent, and Code Council chapters growing by 16 percent. Dominic's vision has been instrumental in creating safer and more sustainable communities worldwide and he leaves the Code Council well-positioned to advance its mission for years to come. He served as CEO until the end of 2024 and is [succeeded by John Belcik](#). Here are Dominic's parting words to the building safety community.

[Read more here](#) →



Patti Daul, Division Chief/Fire Marshal, Pechanga Fire Department (Pechanga Band of Indians), makes remarks at the group discussion of the NACO/ICC Summit on Model Building Codes in Denver.

## Historic summit in Denver brought together participants from 19 tribes

The Native American Code Officials (NACO) and the International Code Council recently held an historic Summit *on Model Building Codes – Tribal Sovereignty, Health, Safety and Economic Empowerment*, in Denver, Colorado, at the History Colorado Center. There were representatives from 19 different tribes spanning coast to coast, present for this first-of-its-kind event. The Summit focused on advancing tribal sovereignty, health, safety and economic empowerment by providing tools, such as adaptable building codes, that tribal nations can customize to align with their unique needs and traditions. It aimed to foster peer-to-peer knowledge exchange, strengthen relationships and identify shared opportunities and strategies to help tribal nations achieve their goals through the effective implementation of building codes. “Building codes are not just about compliance—they are about ensuring safety, sustainability and cultural integrity for our communities. It’s a delicate balance between respecting traditions and embracing modern solutions. I was pleased to see so many tribal people come together, sharing wisdom and learning from one another. It was an excellent example of the strength and unity within our communities,” said Ellen White Thunder, Deputy Director, Lakota Funds.

[Read more here](#) →

## Rhode Island is fourth state in 2024 to adopt ICC/MBI standards for offsite

Rhode Island’s Building Code Standards committee approved the adoption of the International Code Council’s and Modular Building Institute’s (MBI) Standards 1200, 1205 and 1210, making it the fourth state to do so in 2024. Rhode Island is the first state to adopt ICC/MBI 1210 Standard for Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Systems, Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation in Off-site Construction. The state joins Virginia, Utah and Montana in adopting ICC/MBI Standards 1200 and 1205 for off-site construction. The Code Council and MBI partnered with experts in building safety, design, construction, and manufacturing to develop the [ICC/MBI 1200-2021 Standard for Off-site Construction: Planning, Design, Fabrication and Assembly](#), [ICC/MBI 1205-2021 Standard for Off-site Construction: Inspection and Regulatory Compliance](#) and [ICC/MBI 1210-2023 Standard for Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Systems, Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation in Off-site Construction](#) to provide best practices based on existing off-site construction programs and support consistency and efficiency in how off-site construction is approved and inspected.

[Read more here](#) →

## DOE: 2024 IECC increases energy efficiency 7.8 percent over 2021 IECC

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a *determination* that the updated model energy code for residential buildings, the [2024 International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\)](#), will increase energy efficiency in residential buildings. DOE technical analysis, performed by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), estimates that buildings meeting the 2024 IECC would result in national *site* energy savings of 7.8 percent and energy *cost* savings of 6.6 percent. Beyond its significant efficiency improvements, the 2024 IECC earned unanimous support from the building industry representatives on the code’s development committee.

[Read more here](#) →



## District Court rules that IAPMO infringed upon ICC's copyrighted materials

The United States District Court for the District of Columbia recently issued a ruling finding that the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) infringed the Code Council's and ICC Evaluation Service's (ICC-ES) copyrighted materials, including ICC-ES proprietary evaluation reports and acceptance criteria. ICC-ES filed this lawsuit after discovering that IAPMO systematically copied ICC-ES's evaluation reports, shared them internally on its internal servers, and used substantial portions of them in its own evaluation reports. Code officials rely on evaluation reports to ensure building products adhere to building safety codes and standards. This ruling affirms the Code Council's efforts to protect the integrity of rigorous processes central to evaluation reports and acceptance criteria, which thousands of designers, manufacturers and building safety and fire prevention professionals rely on to promote the highest construction safety standards across the globe. "The Code Council is committed to ensuring that the products used in the construction of homes and other buildings are safe and meet industry standards. We felt the shortcuts taken by IAPMO in extensively copying ICC content raised serious concerns about their internal processes. The Code Council will continue to work with other industry partners to ensure that third-party testing and evaluation services live up to the trust the public has placed in them and adhere to the highest ethical standards," said Dominic Sims, then CEO of the Code Council.

[Read more here](#) →

## BE PREPARED: Announcements coming up soon on FEMA BRIC grants

Now's the time to prepare yourself and get ready to apply when the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is available. Check out our most recent webinar, [Preparing for the BRIC Codes Plus-Up 2024 Cycle](#), for more information. The Code Council hosted a [webinar](#) last year to help communities take advantage of these resources with FEMA's BRIC program lead (access the presentation slides [here](#)). We also hosted a deep dive into BRIC Building Codes Plus-Up and how to apply in FEMA GO. [Click here](#) to access the recording, [click here](#) to access the presentation slides. Also, check out FEMA's dedicated webpage to route users to numerous FEMA and other federal funding opportunities for state, local, tribal and territorial governments that aid in activities about building codes.

[Read more here](#) →

## Code Council's IECC consensus committees start public meetings series

The International Code Council Board of Directors has appointed the members that will serve on the consensus committees for the development of the 2027 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC). The Commercial Committee will have 39 members and will be chaired by Duane Jonlin from the City of Seattle, Washington. The Residential Committee will seat 36 members and be chaired by Shane Hoyer from the City of Dubuque, Iowa. Rosters for both committees can be found on the committee webpage at the following [link](#). For this cycle, all meetings of the committees will be held virtually. The first public meeting of the Commercial Consensus Committee was December 18 and the first meeting of the Residential Consensus Committee was December 17.

[Read more here](#) →

## Several ICC Chapters honored for outstanding achievements in 2024

Every year, the International Code Council recognizes chapters that reflect and promote the organization's mission and goals. This year, the Code Council honored several outstanding chapters at the Chapter Presidents Meeting on Oct. 21, 2024, during the [Code Council's Annual Conference in Long Beach, California](#). The following [awards](#) were given out:

- Chapter Merit Awards
- Regions Spotlight Award
- Chapter of the Year Award

The Code Council congratulates the following chapters for their accomplishments and contributions.

[Read more here](#) →

## FEMA can fund code administration and enforcement during post disaster

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is empowered by statute to provide federal funding to support the increase in code administration and enforcement activities following a presidentially-declared disaster. Covered activities include, for example, substantial damage assessments or determinations, permitting. These efforts can receive federal funding, etc.) for up to 180 days following the disaster declaration. [FEMA Policy FP 204-079-01](#) defines the framework and requirements for consistent and appropriate implementation of this funding. **Resources:**

[DRRA Section 1206 Public Assistance Companion Guide](#)  
[Volume 1: DRRA Section 1206 Frequently Asked Questions](#)  
[Volume 2: DRRA Section 1206 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

*If you have questions about DRRA and would like to get connected to resources to support your use of this program, please contact Stella Carr [here](#).*

## ICC-SRCC launches product certification for thermal energy storage device

The Solar Rating & Certification Corporation (ICC-SRCC), recently announced the launch of a new product certification program for thermal energy storage devices, entitled OG-500. The program will provide third-party compliance assessment and performance ratings for products designed to store thermal energy for use in a wide range of applications in residential and commercial buildings. The program launch offers certification to the new ICC 903/SRCC 500 Solar Tank Standard in coordination with ICC-SRCC's existing certifications for solar thermal collectors, systems and solar water heaters.

[Read more here](#) →

## GOT PULSE? Episode 61: The noble path to Master Code Professional

In the final episode of Season 6 of the [ICC Pulse Podcast](#), we discuss the [Master Code Professional](#) (MCP) credential offered by the International Code Council, explaining its criteria, significance and the professional growth opportunities it provides. The episode features insights from industry professionals, personal stories of achieving MCP status and discussions on the career advancements and networking benefits that come with this designation. [Listen to Episode #61 here](#). Guests on this show are:

- Autumn Saylor, ICE-CCP, Director ICC Credentialing
- Valarie Evans, Building Official
- Lucas Pump, Building Inspector

Links to related and referenced topics in this episode:

- [Learn more](#) about the Master Code Professional Designation.
- [View more](#) of the Code Council's credentialing resources.

The International Code Council's Master Code Professional (MCP) designation is the highest level of Code Council certification and is the "gold standard" for demonstrating proficiency in the code profession. Currently, there are more than 900 MCP professionals worldwide, and their achievements are a benefit to the code enforcement profession, as well as their communities. The Code Council has certified thousands of individuals, but only a select number have attained this high level of achievement. As of December 1, more than 75 achieved the MCP status.

[Read more here](#) →

## ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

### Windsor Summit and Declaration: Landmark event for plumbing industry

In a recent historic gathering at Windsor Castle in the United Kingdom, the [Bathroom Manufacturers Association](#) (BMA) hosted the Windsor Summit, bringing together top plumbing and bathroom industry leaders from around the world. The summit aimed to address two critical global challenges: water scarcity and antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The event culminated in the signing of the Windsor Declaration, a landmark pledge to reduce water waste and combat infection risks through innovative solutions and collaborative efforts. The International Code Council is honored to be a signatory of the Windsor Declaration, joining forces with industry leaders across the manufacturing sector to tackle these pressing challenges. Many of the declaration's focus areas align closely with initiatives where the Code Council has demonstrated leadership for many years.

[Read more here](#) →

### PMG Award recognizes dedication to reducing swimming pool accidents

Kenneth Gregory, compliance and safety manager for Pentair Water Quality Systems, with more than 40 years of experience in the design, sales, construction management and maintenance of residential and commercial pools, was honored with the 2024 PMG Leadership Award.

[Read more here](#) →

### Plumbing played an essential role in the Code Council's 30-year history

When Jay Peters joined the International Code Council in 2007, he helped create the Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas (PMG) program with the goal of educating the world about one thing: it all begins with sanitation. "You go back and look at history – any country that begins developing the standards around water and sanitation develops a thousand times faster [than those that don't]," said Peters, who served the Code Council as its first PMG Executive Director. "People don't realize how important the plumber is." Plumbing has been front and center from the Code Council's inception in 1994 and is an essential part of its [30th Anniversary](#) celebration. The [International Plumbing Code](#)® (IPC) became the Code Council's first model code when it was published in 1995.

[Read more here](#) →