

# ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



INTERNATIONAL  
CODE COUNCIL®  
30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

July 2024

[Click here](#) for the ICC GR team website.

## Opening session panel at 2024 Annual Conference to share insights on future of building safety

The Opening Session of the [2024 International Code Council's Annual Conference](#) will feature keynote speaker Erik Qualman, an expert on artificial intelligence and digital transformation, futurist and bestselling author, who will speak on digital leadership. The Annual Business Meeting will feature a panel of industry experts to discuss the future of the building safety profession. **Looking Forward:**

**Building Industry Leaders Share Their Insights on the Next 30 Years** panelists are:

- Sandra Benson, Vice President of Industry Transformation, Procore Technologies, Inc.
- Dominic Sims, CBO, Chief Executive Officer, International Code Council
- Jim Tobin, Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Home Builders
- Henry Chamberlain, President & Chief Operating Officer, BOMA International
- Lakisha Woods, Chief Executive Officer, American Institute of Architects
- Jeff Littleton, EVP/Chief Staff Officer, ASHRAE

[Read more here](#) on the variety of events at this year's ICC Annual Conference. Voter validation is required to vote at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). All governmental voting representatives planning to attend the 2024 ABM must be validated in order to vote on Code Council business such as elections, bylaw amendments, and member resolutions. View the [Voter Validation Process FAQs](#) for more information. The [deadline for validating voters is September 21](#).

## Highly popular Day of Service features two projects in the Los Angeles area on Saturday, October 19

Women in Code Enforcement Development, Permit Tech Nation and the International Code Council will offer a Day of Service for conference participants to give back to the local community. Volunteers are needed to assist the Century Villages of Cabrillo, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity for Los Angeles, with two exciting projects Saturday, October 19:

- Build two playhouses for the children affected by homelessness (spots have been filled)
- Beautification project of their Veterans' family campus community – [Sign Up Today!](#)

All volunteers will earn 0.7 ICC CEUs. Bus transportation, lunch and a special volunteer t-shirt will be provided. [Read more here](#).



## Ron Burton Golf Outing fundraises to assist the next generation of code officials

The Code Council's Past Presiding Officers will host its annual fundraising event, the Ron Burton Annual Golf Outing, in conjunction with the ICC 2024 Annual Conference. Proceeds will go towards training and resources for the next generation of code officials. The Ron Burton Golf Outing celebrates the life and work of William Ronald "Ron" Burton, a renowned code expert who worked on many code-related projects for ICC, BOMA and NAHB. The tournament will shotgun-start at 8 a.m. on Sunday, October 20, at the [Harding Golf Course](#), 5500 Griffith Park Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027. Transportation, breakfast, lunch and beverage cart will be provided. [Read more here](#).

## Federal government's largest civilian real estate provider requires ICC off-site construction standards and reaffirms its support for the International Plumbing Code®

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) finalized the 2024 edition of the Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service (P100). The 2024 standard marks the continued use of the International Codes® (I-Codes) as the building codes used for GSA owned buildings, and establishes them as the standard upon which other codes are to be considered. The GSA is the federal government's largest civilian real estate provider and owns and leases over 363 million square feet of space in 8,397 buildings in more than 2,200 communities nationwide. This year's newly announced P100 edition requires for the first time the International Code Council and Modular Building Institute's (MBI) co-created ICC/MBI 1200 and ICC/MBI 1205 Standards for projects using off-site construction. [Read more here](#).

### **Interested public invited to attend July 11 webinar on the “Humanization of Architecture Nowadays”**

The interested public is invited to attend a special webinar titled, “A Simple Way to Understand the Humanization of Architecture Nowadays,” sponsored by the ICC Global Membership Council. It will start at 1 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday, July 11, and features special guest Glauca Ito, Architect and Founder of Maki Architecture. He will cover:

- The crucial role of architecture in enhancing our well-being
- The power of simplicity in making architecture a significant part of our lives
- Understanding and simplifying humanization in architecture

With seven years of experience in residential and retail projects, Glauca is dedicated to highlighting how architecture, well-being, and sustainability can accommodate and benefit everyone. This meeting is open to the public; all International Code Council members and Global Membership Council members are encouraged to register and participate. **You can [register here](#).**

### **Code Council’s Technical Training Program helps St. George’s Technical High School students excel**

A high school in Middletown, Delaware, has achieved notable success with the implementation of the [International Code Council’s Technical Training Program](#) (TTP), a significant step toward shaping the next generation of building safety professionals. The journey began before the COVID-19 pandemic when the New Castle County Land Use Department introduced the TTP to other vocational schools. Although the pandemic temporarily paused these efforts, the county remained dedicated to building safety education after seeing the value the TTP provided students. [Read more here](#). And don’t miss this new feature story on [the development of the TTP](#) over the years.

### **Newest webinar on chapter leadership development focuses on the Chapter Education Benefit**

The Code Council recently introduced a new series of quarterly chapter webinars developed to assist you in planning, growing, and maintaining your ICC Chapter. This quarter’s webinar focused on the Chapter Education Benefit Day. Chapter leaders now can view the recorded session at their earliest convenience as it provides information they won’t want to miss. [Find this valuable recording here!](#)

### **2021’s Surfside Condo Collapse continues to provide essential lessons for design and construction**

Building codes are an invaluable part of the construction process and provide an essential guide for ensuring that every building is as safe as possible. They inform everything from the [architectural design](#) to the structure’s safety and stability. That said, nothing is foolproof. The June 2021 condo collapse in Surfside, Florida, is an important reminder of this. Nearly 100 people were killed when Champlain Towers South, a 12-floor condominium complex, partially but suddenly [collapsed](#). The anniversary of the Surfside Condo Collapse reminds us of the importance of compliance with codes in initial construction, annual inspections and making appropriate corrections. [Here is a clip from the Code Council’s 30th-anniversary documentary discussing this tragedy](#). The Code Council’s **Existing Building Safety – A Guideline for Inspection (G7-202x) Guideline Development Committee** (GDC) is a guideline for the inspection of existing buildings, based on an initial draft of the Existing Building Safety Inspection Guideline. Its goal is to guide contractors, property owners, building managers, design professionals and code professionals regarding maintenance and milestone inspections on existing buildings.

### **Illinois introduces state’s first custom energy code based on International Energy Conservation Code®**

The state of Illinois released its first integrated, custom energy code with plans in place for the release of an additional stretch energy code later this year. The new energy code was derived from the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC) and positions the state as a national leader in energy conservation. “Illinois is committed to reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions,” said the Capital Development Board Executive Director TJ Edwards. “The new 2021 Illinois Energy Conservation Code puts Illinois at the forefront of energy efficient building construction and saves the average new homeowner almost 10% on utility bills.” [Read more here](#).

### **Code Council and HUD co-presented the 2024 Innovation Housing Showcase, focusing on solutions**

The [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD) recently hosted the [2024 Innovative Housing Showcase](#) in Washington, D.C., which was co-presented by the International Code Council. This

event brought together building safety professionals and policymakers from across the nation to promote solutions addressing the affordable housing crisis. The showcase highlighted innovative and affordable housing designs and technologies with the potential to increase housing supply, lower construction costs, enhance energy efficiency and resilience, and reduce housing expenses for owners and renters. More than 40 exhibitors from across the U.S. presented their innovative housing products and strategies. The event also featured educational sessions on topics such as off-site construction, building codes, manufactured housing, decarbonization, zoning, public and multifamily housing, resilience and finance. [Read more here.](#)

### **NIBS report, 2024 Moving Forward Report: Housing Affordability, finds significant increases in costs**

The National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) released a new report, 2024 Moving Forward Report: Housing Affordability, addressing the escalating housing affordability crisis in the U.S. The report highlights the growing challenge of supplying affordable housing, for both rental and for-sale homes, and its widespread impact across different income levels and communities. The third quarter [2023 Housing Affordability Report by ATTOM Data Solutions](#) found that median home prices in 99 percent of U.S. counties were less affordable than historical averages. Additionally, rents in professionally managed buildings increased by 24 percent from 2020 to 2023, according to the [2023 report by the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University](#). [Read more here.](#)

### **Collaboration aims to develop digital enforcement solutions to support energy code implementation**

The Code Council and project partners, including the [New York State Department of State](#), the [Association of Towns of the State of New York](#), [Clarkson University](#), [Resource Refocus](#), and [+LAB Architects](#) and funding under the [U.S. Department of Energy's Resilient and Efficient Codes Initiative \(RECI\)](#), have launched the [Code Official Digitization and Efficiency Support Initiative \(CODES\) project](#). This collaboration aims to develop and implement digital enforcement solutions to support modern energy code implementation, specifically targeting resource-constrained and underserved communities. The team will create a digitization roadmap to support jurisdictions in transitioning to electronic code enforcement processes. This roadmap will be informed by feedback from jurisdictions with diverse characteristics and through consultations with relevant stakeholders. [Read more here.](#)

### **ICC files lawsuit against DrJ Engineering, LLC, alleging trademark infringement and false advertising**

The International Code Council and its subsidiary ICC Evaluation Service, LLC (ICC-ES) have filed a [lawsuit](#) against DrJ Engineering, LLC in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. The lawsuit asserts that DrJ Engineering has infringed the Code Council trademarks and made false or misleading statements regarding the Code Council and ICC-ES on DrJ Engineering's website. The lawsuit asserts various misconduct on the part of DrJ Engineering, including falsely describing its goods and services as "ICC-Approved" and posting a document bearing the Code Council's registered trademark that DrJ Engineering describes as an "ICC Product Approval Checklist for Code Officials." [Read more here.](#)

### **Various nations welcome and support the next generation of building safety professionals**

Around the world, there is a drive to increase housing stock and address growing housing affordability issues. One of the principal barriers to this goal is a global shortage of skilled labor across most construction occupations. An occupation is typically considered to be in "shortage" when employers struggle to fill vacancies or face significant difficulty meeting specialized skill requirements within the occupation at the current levels of remuneration and employment conditions in reasonably accessible locations. Let's delve into some statistics from several countries, including the United States, Australia and the United Kingdom, to better understand this global challenge. [Read more here.](#)



## **ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates**

### **Updates reviewed on the Code Council's PMG Standards Activities: ICC 1700, ICC 815 & ICC 825**

The advancement of plumbing codes and standards is vital to ensuring safe and sustainable plumbing systems around the world. In this article, the [International Code Council's Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas \(PMG\) team](#) is sharing insights into the development of the ICC/CHS 1700 Professional Qualifications Standards for Hydrogen Systems in the Built Environment, a guide aimed at establishing

qualifications for professionals in this emerging field. Progress continues on the ICC 815 and ICC 825 standards, with committees diligently drafting guidelines for water distribution and onsite wastewater treatment systems, supported by extensive research and global expertise. [Read more here.](#)

### **International Code Council participated in the 2024 Hydrogen Americas Summit and Exhibition**

As the use of hydrogen technology continues to evolve and grow, the International Code Council is collaborating with partners and stakeholders around the world to ensure that we are all moving forward safely. Over the past year, the Code Council participated in several key events that have helped connect and educate those who have been charged with leading the way. [Read more here.](#)

### **The American Plumber Stories series on YouTube is getting a lot of buzz about its fifth season**

In the vast landscape of digital content, where influencers, celebrities and DIY enthusiasts dominate, a refreshing series is gaining traction by shedding light on an often-overlooked profession: plumbing. YouTube series, [American Plumber Stories](#), has been capturing the essence of the American workforce for four seasons, showcasing the profound narratives of those who keep water flowing and homes functioning. *American Plumber Stories* is more than just a show about plumbing. [Read more here.](#)

### **Code Notes: Review major code requirements found in 2021 IRC/IFGC for underground fuel gas piping**

Fuel gas piping and appliance installation and venting are covered in the International Fuel Gas Code®, and for those buildings under the scope of the International Residential Code®, it is addressed in the IRC® Chapter 24, "Fuel Gas." This CodeNote® will review some of the major code requirements that are found in the 2021 IRC® and the 2021 IFGC® for underground fuel gas piping. [Read more here.](#)



## **ICC Evaluation Services updates**

### **Test laboratories formerly known as ICC-NTA now operate and are industry-recognized as ICC-ES labs**

To solidify ICC-ES as a one-stop-shop for testing, inspection, and certification services, these services offered by the ICC-NTA Building and Plumbing Products division are now being branded as ICC-ES. The acquisition of NTA into the ICC Family of Solutions in 2019 greatly expanded the services the Code Council provides by adding testing and inspection capabilities. This important addition streamlines the technical evaluation process provided by ICC-ES. Both teams working together simplifies the process for clients as verified resources can readily be shared across companies, eliminating the need for additional communication steps. The company is working with the respective accreditors to ensure a seamless transition to the ICC-ES brand and with no disruption to current report holders. The ICC-NTA brand will remain associated with [off-site](#) construction services, including plan review, inspection and certification of modular home systems. [Read more here.](#)

### **IT'S DECK SEASON! ICC-ES provides third-party certification essential to safety and satisfaction**

Having deck boards, railings and composite decking materials certified by a third-party is essential to consumer safety and satisfaction. ICC-ES laboratories are accredited to the ISO 17025 standard and reliably perform a variety of tests as part of our certification program. These thorough tests help ensure your deck and railing product has a clear path through the certification process. Establishing clear standards and criteria is integral in testing and certification. Our expert engineers will guide you through the process to make sure your decking and rails are up to current standards to avoid any delays in your project. Partnering with ICC-ES means accurate testing by expert engineers with a quick turnaround time. Avoid project delays and let our team support you through every step of the testing and certification process and beyond. [Contact ICC-ES to learn more!](#)



## **ICC Community Development Solutions update**

### **Southeast Ohio Building Department found solutions using Muncity to enhance effectiveness**

The [Southeast Ohio Building Department](#) (SEOBD) faced significant financial decisions to keep its code enforcement and community development software program in service. Its new Chief Building Official (CBO) Rick Dostal searched to find a more effective solution. "I already wasn't happy with our software

system because it was cumbersome to use,” said Dostal. “Then, when the company changed hands and announced programming changes requiring us to upgrade with costly software systems, I knew it was time to go to the mothership—the International Code Council.” [Read more here](#).

**Popular June webinar on Digital Codes Premium Revit® Add-In updates is now available as recording**

With the June webinar receiving so much attention and interest, the webinar on the latest [ICC Digital Codes Premium Revit® Add-In](#) updates is now available online. Join us for free upcoming webinars by clicking [here](#) to view and register for one or more of our future webinar sessions.