

# ICC Government Relations

July 2025

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## Legislation awaits Illinois Governor's signature to require storm shelters in new warehouses

In the last hours of its 2025 spring session, the Illinois General Assembly [passed legislation](#) that requires all warehouses in the state craft a tornado safety plan and build storm shelters in newly constructed warehouses. It also requires county and city building officials inspecting these buildings to hold a certification from the International Code Council. The legislation is the result of three years of studies and hearings conducted in response to the December 10, 2021, [EF-3 tornado](#) that destroyed an Amazon warehouse near Edwardsville, Illinois, and killed six people in the facility. The legislation was sent to the Governor for his signature.

[Read more here](#) →

## UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

[2025 Annual Conference, Expo & Committee](#)

[Action Hearings](#)

[October 19–30](#)

Huntington Convention Center  
Cleveland, OH

## YOUR HELP IS ESSENTIAL: Pro Codes Act seeks to protect your work to create meaningful codes

America's codes and standards are vital to ensuring public health and safety and are developed by and for building safety professionals like you. In recent years, for-profit companies that contribute nothing to code development have decided that they can simply take and sell your work to others without having developed or paid for it themselves. A coalition of standards organizations and a bipartisan group of lawmakers created the [Pro Codes Act](#), H.R. 4072. This legislation aims to protect the code development process and to prevent unauthorized and erroneous copies of codes from being published. Your help is urgently needed. [Click here to ask your member of Congress to protect your work and co-sponsor the Pro Codes Act \(H.R. 4072\) today!](#)

## How Helene redefined preparedness for major storms

Hurricane Helene became an ominous warning about America's lack of preparedness. FRONTLINE and National Public Radio draw on a decade of reporting on disasters and their aftermath to examine how and why the United States is more vulnerable than ever to future storms [in this video documentary](#). You can also [listen to another report](#) on this issue on NPR. Both pieces focus on the political challenges to strengthening, or even just maintaining, strong construction standards during post-disaster reconstruction.

## Surfside anniversary reminds us of the critical importance of building codes

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 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](#) in June of 2021. 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.

[Read more here](#) →

## Code Council publishes a case study on Florida's statewide building code

For more than 20 years, the Florida Building Code (FBC) has helped save lives, protect property and safeguard Floridians' way of life by improving building resiliency and ensuring that new construction is built to withstand Florida's challenging climate. Florida's experience offers several key lessons for policymakers, builders and community leaders aiming to strengthen their built environment through effective code development and implementation. The International Code Council has [published a case study](#) about the development of Florida's statewide building code, its impacts to the region and how it can serve as a blueprint for other states to develop their own statewide codes.

[Read more here](#) →

## ICC and ASHRAE announce second review period for proposed standard

The International Code Council and [The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers](#) (ASHRAE) have recently announced the opening of a second public review period for proposed Standard 240P – *Quantification of Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Buildings*. This standard is designed to establish a consistent methodology for quantifying both embodied and operational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions over the entire life cycle of buildings and their sites. It also outlines minimum requirements for documentation of those emissions. The goal of the standard is to provide a unified platform that enables building industry professionals, government agencies and the finance and investment sectors to measure, report and act on GHG emissions in a clear and coordinated manner. The draft of Standard 240P is available for public comment through July 21.

[Read more here](#) →

## Process starting for the Off-Site Modular Tiny Homes standard committee

The Off-Site Modular Tiny Houses (IS-OSMTH) committee is actively progressing on the development of standard *ICC 1215 Design, Construction, Inspection and Regulation of Small Residential Units (SRU) and Tiny Houses for Permanent Occupancy*, which establishes minimum safety requirements for the built environment of tiny houses and SRUs with an anticipated completion date in Spring 2026. This effort follows the International Code Council's Standard Development Consensus Procedures outlined in [CP-12A](#).

[Read more here](#) →

## Andy Higgins appointed to the Code Council's Board of Directors

The International Code Council appointed Andy Higgins, Customer Success Division Executive Director for the City of Seattle, Washington, Department of Construction and Inspections, to its 2024-2025 Board of Directors. Appointed by Code Council Board President David Spencer, CBO, and ratified by the full Board, Higgins assumed a vacated Director At Large seat on June 10. Higgins brings more than 28 years of experience in permitting, construction management and building inspection to the Board. Higgins was also the 2023 recipient of the Code Council's prestigious Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship.

[Read more here](#) →

## Maximize your ICC membership for FREE with this members' platform

FREE with ICC membership, this self-service tool helps building safety professionals network with each other, create and share events, ask questions or share stories in [Talkin' Shop](#) with Steve Jones and more. With 8,700-plus users so far, the new platform is the place to be to maximize your membership experience! Check it out! And watch [this video of Patti Daul](#), Division Chief and Fire Marshal for the Pechanga Fire Department in Temecula, California, highlighting how the "Events" section in the Code Council's online member community is the hub where Code Council members can browse events hosted by fellow members and post their own events. Code Council members can join the FREE member community, [here](#) (use existing myICC username and password).

[Read more here](#) →

## Kristin Scroggin will keynote the 2025 ICC Annual Conference in Cleveland

Attend the Code Council's [premier event of the year](#) and access career resources, learn from top code experts, earn valuable CEUs in daily education offerings, connect with other professionals from around the globe, explore exhibits on emerging technology, and much more. This year's keynote speaker is generational consultant Kristin Scroggin

who will enlighten, entertain, and leave you buzzing with inspiration and achievable takeaways for transforming your workplace into a thriving collaboration hub. For a limited time, get your early bird discount and free polo shirt when you purchase the Full Access Pass.

[Read more here](#) →

## Code of Honor Scholarship deadline is July 17 to receive travel funding

The Code of Honor Scholarship is an annual key benefit of Code Council membership as it provides individuals the opportunity to actively participate in the development of building codes through the Committee Action Hearings (CAH). The application period for the 2025 CAH (Group B #2) which will be held from October 22–30, 2025, in Cleveland, Ohio, is now open. **The application deadline is July 17.** Applicants may apply for more than one type of Code of Honor scholarship; however, only one scholarship per year will be awarded to each award winner.

[Read more here](#) →

## Maryia Lackansingh awarded with the 2024 Emory R. Rodgers Fellowship

Maryia Lackansingh, Code Specialist III in the Commercial Building Division of Land Development Service for [Fairfax County, Virginia](#), has received numerous awards and accolades throughout her career, including Fairfax County's Outstanding Performance Award in both 2020 and 2023 and was voted the City of Alexandria's Most Valuable Team Player in 2016. In 2024 she took home the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association (VBCOA) Jack A Proctor Meritorious Service Award for her work with Women in Code Enforcement and Development (WICED) both nationally and in Virginia (WICED of VA). She serves the National WICED Chapter as Vice President and is the immediate past president of WICED of VA, which received the [2024 ICC Chapter of the Year Award](#), thanks to Lackansingh's hard work and commitment. And, earlier this year, Lackansingh was among the [Northern Virginia 40 Under 40 Honorees](#). She is also the proud recipient of the International Code Council's 2024 [Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship](#). The fellowship was created to honor Emory R. Rodgers, who devoted more than 40 years to building safety. Recipients receive up to \$20,000 to cover the cost of an educational program and any associated travel, allowing them to learn and grow as they advance their careers. The application period for the 2025 **Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship** ends December 15.

[Read more here](#) →

## Five steps for a successful transition from code official to code consultant

The journey to become a code official is one that requires patience, persistence and a commitment to achieving and maintaining building safety. It is a challenging but [rewarding](#) career with [multiple avenues](#) for growth. There are code officials who love the job so much that they [never retire](#), and some who do can't help but [come back](#). As code officials grow in their career, they may have the opportunity to guide their district or municipality in a leadership role. They may also decide to focus on a different part of building safety than they had previously. And they can serve on committees to help shape the future of building safety from within. But those are not the only ways for code officials to elevate their work. Many choose to evolve their careers – or extend them following retirement – by consulting full- or part-time. While consulting is not for everyone, there are some notable benefits, including a flexible work schedule.

[Read more here](#) →

## How building officials can prepare their successors to become successful

The job of a building official can be both rewarding and trying. Anyone in this field will tell you that [no two days are ever the same](#). For building officials, the experiences are even more varied, demanding and inspiring. Jason Bush, CBO, Building Official for four cities in Oregon (Cottage Grove, Veneta, Creswell and Coburg), has found that soft skills are especially important to the success of any building official. These are some of the things Bush, the recipient of the [2021 ICC Raising the Profile Award](#), thinks about when he ponders his retirement. He has his eye set on a very specific date: January 2, 2027. This gives him another couple of years to prepare Melany Klemmer to take his place.

[Read more here](#) →

## ICC Global Membership Council invites you to a free webinar July 8

**“Building Inclusion: What Needs to Change for a Safer Built Environment”** is the title of the free webinar Tuesday, July 8, featuring **Marsha Ramroop**, FRSA, FIEDP, UK-based award-winning organizational inclusion strategist, author and speaker. The event, sponsored by the Code Council's Global Membership Council, starts at 10 a.m. Eastern. The built environment faces unique challenges and opportunities when it comes to inclusion. From diversifying who enters and grows within the industry, to designing buildings with all people in mind, inclusion must be embedded at every stage:

- Attract: Draw people from a wide range of backgrounds to the industry
- Retain: Create workplace cultures that support and sustain diversity
- Create: Design products and services that consider diverse needs
- Engage: Collaborate meaningfully with a broad mix of external communities, clients and stakeholders

This meeting is open to the interested public; all International Code Council members and Global Membership Council members are encouraged to register and participate. [Click here to register.](#)

## Phoenix becomes latest major city to adopt all 15 of the 2024 I-Codes

The City of Phoenix, Arizona, recently voted to adopt the 2024 Phoenix Building Construction Code (PBCC), becoming the latest major city to adopt all 15 of the [2024 International Codes®](#) (I-Codes®). This decision comes after careful consideration by the Phoenix City Council and aligns the City's standards with the latest construction codes and local priorities.

[Read more here](#) →

## GOT PULSE? Episode 64: Elevating construction through partnership

In this episode of the [ICC Pulse Podcast](#), we explore building science in the [International Residential Code®](#) and the need for collaboration between builders and code officials – emphasizing the importance of smarter building practices. Host Beau Hanson sits down with home builder Matt Risinger, host of the [The Build Show](#) and founding partner of [Risinger Build](#), who discusses how evolving codes, construction and architectural trends impact the sustainability and resiliency of the industry.

[Read more here](#) →

## ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

### EPA assistance is rare opportunity for no-cost assistance to correct failures

The EPA's *Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap* technical assistance initiative is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for no-cost assistance to address longstanding wastewater infrastructure failures in small and rural communities across the country – and connect those communities to an unprecedented amount of funding still available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. EPA is expanding the Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Initiative to assist 150 communities.

[Read more here](#) →

### ICC joins industry pledge to tackle water scarcity, antimicrobial resistance

As the caretakers of services that impact the water we use to drink, wash, rinse and flush, plumbers are at the forefront of health and safety within their communities. Their importance cannot be understated, and as we face new water-related challenges, plumbers will become even more critical to the future of water use. [The rise of antimicrobial resistance](#) (AMR) is a current threat, and plumbers will be involved in mitigating the associated risks. As the name suggests, AMR pathogens are microorganisms that have a greater resistance to antimicrobial medicines. AMR pathogens can potentially travel through water fixtures, including the faucets used to wash hands and dishes, and may even [spread through toilet plumes](#). Water scarcity and water stress are other major problems that must be addressed. While it has been talked about at length for many years, water stress remains a significant challenge that continues to outpace the ability for old solutions to mitigate. Virtually every country is affected in one way or another, including countries that aren't typically associated with water scarcity issues. The United Kingdom is currently facing a leaky toilet crisis that, per the [BBC](#), wastes billions of liters of water every week. The average leak wastes 200-400 liters per toilet per day while some waste as much as 8,000 liters per day. Between the growth in population (which has led to an increase in water use) and the unintended increase in water waste, there are concerns that parts of the UK could run out of water in 20 years if water waste is not reduced. Water scarcity stretches far beyond leaky toilets and primarily impacts parts of the world that experience drought and areas that lack proper sanitation. According to [UNICEF](#), four billion people experience severe water scarcity for at least one month each year, and by 2040, approximately one in four children worldwide will be living in areas of extremely high water stress.

[Read more here](#) →

## ICC Family of Solutions Updates

### The new Muncity NextGen cloud-based platform is now available

See the new Muncity NextGen cloud-based platform

Have you seen the new [Muncity NextGen](#)? Muncity NextGen is the Code Council's cloud-based platform built on 20 years of expertise that streamlines permitting and code compliance with an intuitive interface, customizable workflows, integrated plan review tools, and a built-in ICC Code lookup. It's everything your department needs, all in one place. [Watch a video about the new look and new features offered in Muncity Next Gen](#). For more information or a demo, contact [Sales Manager Sandy Hess](#) or [General Manager Dan Foster](#).