

The U.S. Building Code Landscape - Adoption Trends

Sara Yerkes

Senior Vice President of Government Relations

The international Code Council



Coalition for Current Safety Codes (CCSC)

coalition4safety.org

- ▶ Co-chaired by ICC and NFPA.
- ▶ Advocates for adoption of the most current building, sustainability, and life safety codes.
- ▶ Diverse membership of individuals and organizations (over 500 members).
- ▶ Coalition members activated on state and local level to advocate for current building codes.



2018 Code Projections

- ▶ **Arizona:** Local jurisdictions are expected to adopt 2018 codes during 2018 and 2019 as most skipped the 2015 editions.
- ▶ **California:** Review commenced in September 2017 with final comments due in November of 2018. Adoption projection of January 1, 2020.
- ▶ **Colorado:** Local jurisdictions are expected to adopt the 2018s beginning in 2018 and into 2019.
- ▶ **Florida:** Will begin reviewing the 2018 I-Codes for revising the 7th Edition of the Florida codes starting next summer and should be implemented 12/31/2020.
- ▶ **Georgia:** Will begin review in 2018-2019 with projected adoption on January 1, 2020.
- ▶ **Hawaii:** HB 637 (2017 legislative session) requires the 2018 codes be adopted within 24 months of official publication. August 2019 is a potential effective date, but review will begin in 2018.
- ▶ **Illinois:** Committee is currently reviewing 2018 IECC. Statute requires adoption every 3 years by State.
- ▶ **Iowa:** Strong indication that the review process will begin during 2018 to update state codes from 2015 to 2018.

2018 Code Projections - continued

- ▶ **Massachusetts:** 2018 IECC projected to be adopted in 2019.
- ▶ **Maryland:** Under consideration and likely adoption 2018/2019.
- ▶ **Michigan:** Will begin review of 2018s (during 2018) with potential adoption in 2020. IRC could be an exception as it is on flex 3-6 year cycle.
- ▶ **Minnesota:** Review process underway to update 2012 state codes to 2018s. No effective date at this time.
- ▶ **Montana:** Will begin adoption process this fall of 2017. State agency has an aggressive time line and anticipates January 1, 2019 effective date.
- ▶ **New York:** Poised to adopt the 2018s. Department of State Staff briefed the statutory Board that adopts the codes for NYS on the importance of keeping current with the codes.
- ▶ **North Dakota:** Process expected to start review of 2018s in September for state adoption in 2019.
- ▶ **Ohio:** Will begin reviewing the 2018 I-Codes in mid to late 2018 with adoption slated for 2019 or early 2020. The 2018 IRC review has already begun, but no timetable has been established for adoption.

2018 Code Projections - continued

- ▶ **Oregon:** State Fire Marshal projects an April 2018 effective date for the 2018 IFC.
- ▶ **Pennsylvania:** City of Philadelphia will be “immediately” proceeding to the 2018s. They received a legislative carve out for the 2018s and only the 2018s under HB 409 that recently passed the General Assembly. Governor’s signature anticipated. The state won’t adopt 2018 statewide until 2023 under the new process (4.5 year cycle from time of publication).
- ▶ **South Carolina:** Likely to approve review of the 2018 codes at their Nov. 8th meeting. If not legislatively prohibited, the codes should become effective either July 1 of 2019 or January 1 of 2020.
- ▶ **South Dakota:** 2018 IBC will be introduced for passage in the 2018 Legislature, which allows local jurisdictions to begin updating.
- ▶ **Texas:** City of San Antonio is typically the first city to adopt the newest editions of the I-Codes in TX. Adoption is expected in 2018.
- ▶ **Utah:** Likely to occur in early 2019 (except for IRC which will be 2022).
- ▶ **Vermont:** Plans to review 2018 IPC and IECC when released for early 2019 adoption. There is some interest in using IRC provisions.
- ▶ **Washington:** On track to begin review of the 2018 codes in 2018. The state has reformed process and plans to take two years to review and make effective the 2018 codes. July 2020 estimated as an effective date.
- ▶ **Wyoming:** State Fire Marshal projects review beginning January 1, 2018 with local adoptions following in subsequent six months.

Major Challenges

- ▶ **Idaho:** Unclear if legislature will support adoption of the 2018 codes at this time.
- ▶ **Minnesota:** Expect bill to delay code updates if the collective cost of updating all codes increases the cost of house construction by more than \$1,000. Our coalition backed a gubernatorial veto which eradicated the proposal in 2017. Coalition is prepared to oppose again.
- ▶ **South Carolina:** Currently active expanded cycle bill S579. The expanded cycle at this time only addresses the residential code.
- ▶ **Washington:** Anticipating legislation calling for a six year adoption cycle.

CCSC – October 4th Workshop

- ▶ Case studies presented by FEMA; DOE; HUD; CPSC; GAO; OSHA; NIST; DCRA; as well as academic studies from Wharton, Austin College, University of Buffalo.
 - ▶ Focus on economic impacts.
 - ▶ Findings from Economic Value of Stronger Building Codes (Czajowski & Simmons).
 - ▶ “...for every dollar spent on the implementation of the statewide [Florida Building Code] \$7.93 dollars are saved in the form of reduced windstorm losses”
 - ▶ 2014 in response to a 2013 tornado, Moore, OK adopted a similar building code as FL while no other municipality in OK followed suit. The fear is that such an action would drive development to lower cost communities. Findings suggest that “demand for homes in Moore were unaffected by implementing the new code” - paper forthcoming in the *International Journal for Disaster Risk Reduction*
- ▶ Summary of findings and report-out document forthcoming emphasizing:
 - ▶ Application of economic decision tools to evaluate codes and standards.
 - ▶ Best practices for developing cost/benefit analyses in code adoption process.
 - ▶ Will be available on the CCSC website.

Florida HB 299 - a bill to be introduced by Rep. McClain

- ▶ Amends. 553.74, F.S.; revising the membership of the Florida Building Commission
- ▶ The following representatives are being deleted:
- ▶ Air conditioning or mechanical contractor (ASHRAE); Member from Department of Financial Services; 2 Code official positions (BOAF); Disability rep; Manufactured housing ; Mechanical or electrical engineer; Representative of municipality or county (league of cities or association of counties); Member of building products/manufacturers industry; Building Owners and Managers (BOMA); Member of public education; Green building member (USGBC or accredited under IgCC); Natural gas rep; Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Office of Energy; Structural engineer
- ▶

FL HB 299 continued

Members included

Licensed architect w/5 years experience working on design and construction of buildings
(Group R occupancy)

Electrical contractor or engineer

Fire protection rep

General contractor (FL ABC or FL Associated General Contractors)

Plumbing contractor

Roofing or sheet metal contractor

Residential contractor

Code official (deleted that it be nominated by BOAF or Fire Marshals and Inspectors)

Florida Insurance Council

Swimming pool contractor

Thank you!

Sara Yerkes

Senior Vice President of Government Relations

International Code Council

500 New Jersey Avenue NW, 6th Floor

Washington, D.C> 20001

syerkes@iccsafe.org

202-370-1800, ext. 6247

202-327-3177 cell

