

# ICC Code Development Process

People Helping People  
Build a Safer World™

# ICC Vision

**Protect the health, safety and welfare of people by creating safe buildings and communities**

# ICC Mission

**To provide the highest quality codes, standards, products and services for all concerned with the safety and performance of the built environment**

# The I-Codes

## 15 Codes

- **Building, Residential: IBC, IRC**
- **Fire, Wildland-Urban Interface: IFC, IWUIC**
- **Fuel Gas, Mechanical, Plumbing, Pool: IFGC, IMC, IPC, IPSDC, ISPSC**
- **Existing Buildings, Property Maintenance: IEBC, IPMC**
- **Energy, Green, Performance, Zoning: IECC, IgCC, ICC Performance (ICC PC), IZC**

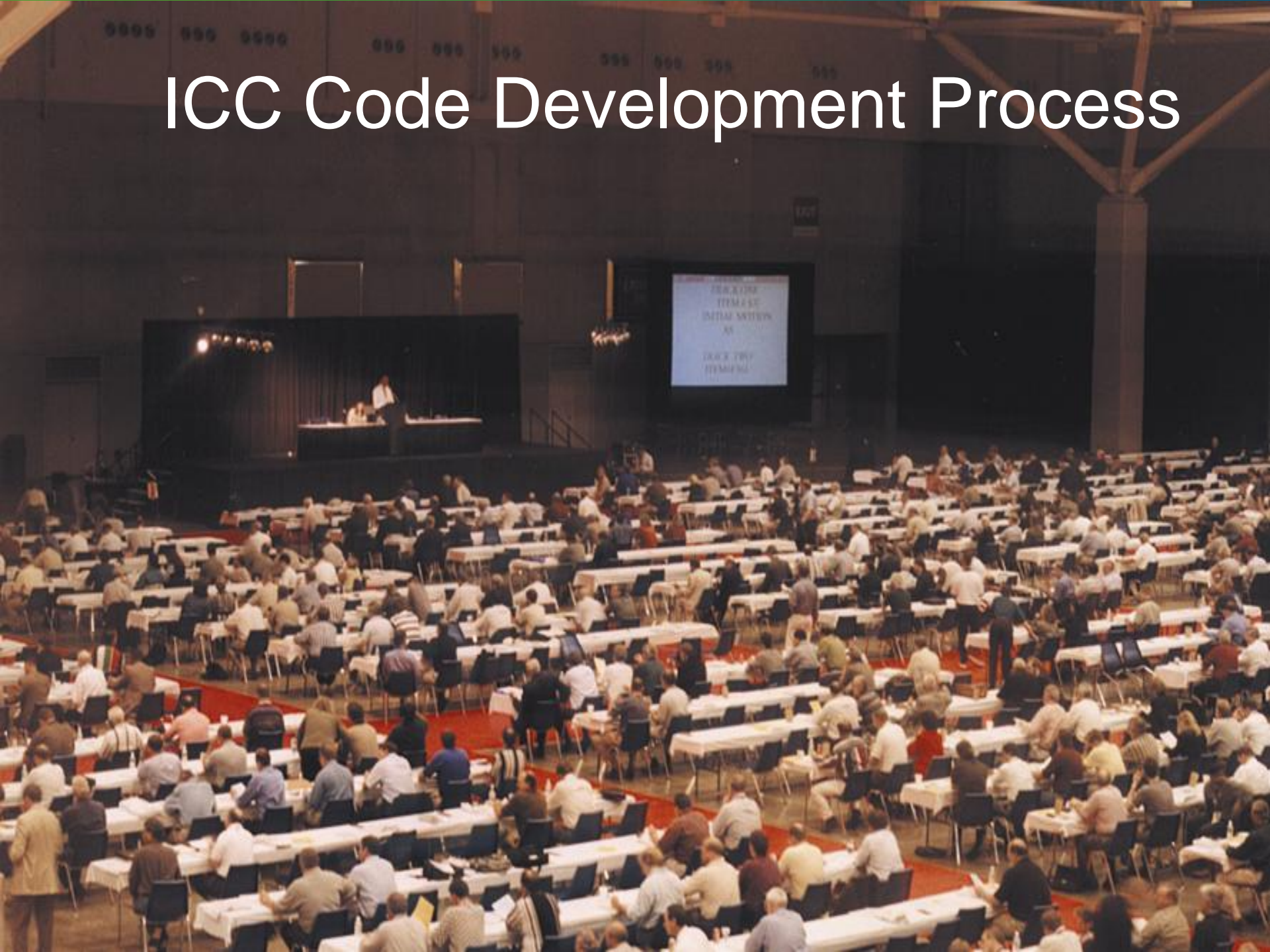
# The I-Codes

- **Each code is comprehensive**
- **All codes are coordinated and compatible with each other**
- **All codes are developed according to the same process in the same forum**
- **All codes reference consensus standards developed by Standard Developing Organizations (SDO's)**

# Coordination of I-Codes

- **Defined scope of each code**
- **Interdependence and reliance on the entire family of codes**
  - **Cross referencing and duplication of provisions within code scopes**
- **Issues resolved in a single and central public forum**

# ICC Code Development Process



# Goal

Utilize a process open to all parties with safeguards to avoid domination by proprietary interests. ICC Governmental Consensus Process achieves this with the final vote resting with those administering, formulating or enforcing regulations relating to public health, safety and welfare.



# Code Committees

- **Representation of interests**
- **General: Consumers, Regulators**
- **Producer: Builders, Contractors, Manufacturers, Material Associations, SDO's, Testing Labs**
- **User: Academia, Designers, Research Labs, Owners, Product Certifiers**
- **Not less than 33% of each committee are Regulators**

# Code Committees

- **Appointed by the ICC Board of Directors**
- **Call for committee posted in January of year proceeding cycle**
  - **2012/2013/2014 Cycle: Post January/2011**
- **Applications due in June of year proceeding cycle**
  - **2012/2013/2014 Cycle: Due June/2011**

# Code Committees

- **19 Code Committees. One for each code, except:**
  - IBC 4 Subcommittees
  - IFC & IWUIC combined
  - IgCC 2 Subcommittees
  - IPC & IPSDC combined
  - IPMC & IZC combined
  - IRC 2 Subcommittees
  - Energy – 2 Committees: Commercial (IECC); Residential (IRC & IECC)
  - Administrative Provisions Committee - Chapter 1 of all I-Codes (with exceptions such as IRC) and updates to currently Referenced Standards

# The Players

- **Code officials**
- **Design professionals**
- **Code consultants**
- **Trade associations**
- **Builders/contractors**
- **Manufacturers/suppliers**
- **Government agencies**
- **Anyone with an interest**

# The Process

- **Open**
- **Transparent**
- **Balance of Interest**
- **Due Process**
- **Consensus**
- **Appeals Process**

# I-Code Coordination

- **Code Correlation Committee (CCC)** determines which committee to hear code change (“scoping”)
- **Duplication between codes - maintained by one code committee**
  - **Fire sprinklers : Identical provisions in IFC Section 903 and IBC Section 903. In Section 903 of the IBC, there is an “[F]” prior to the section number. This indicates that code changes are heard by the IFC Code Committee.**

# The Procedures

- All aspects of the ICC Code Development Process are regulated by published procedures which are approved by the ICC Board of Directors. Link:  
<http://www.iccsafe.org/Policies>
- Council Policy (CP) 28 - Code Development
- CP 7 - Committees and Members
- CP 1 - Appeals

# The Procedures

- **Code edition every 3 years**
- **2009/2010 Cycle: Transition cycle from previous two – 18 month cycles to one - 12 month cycle between editions for each code: 2012 Editions**
- **2012/2013/2014 Cycle: Codes in three groups, Group A, B and C, resulting in 3 one year periods of code development: 2015 Editions**

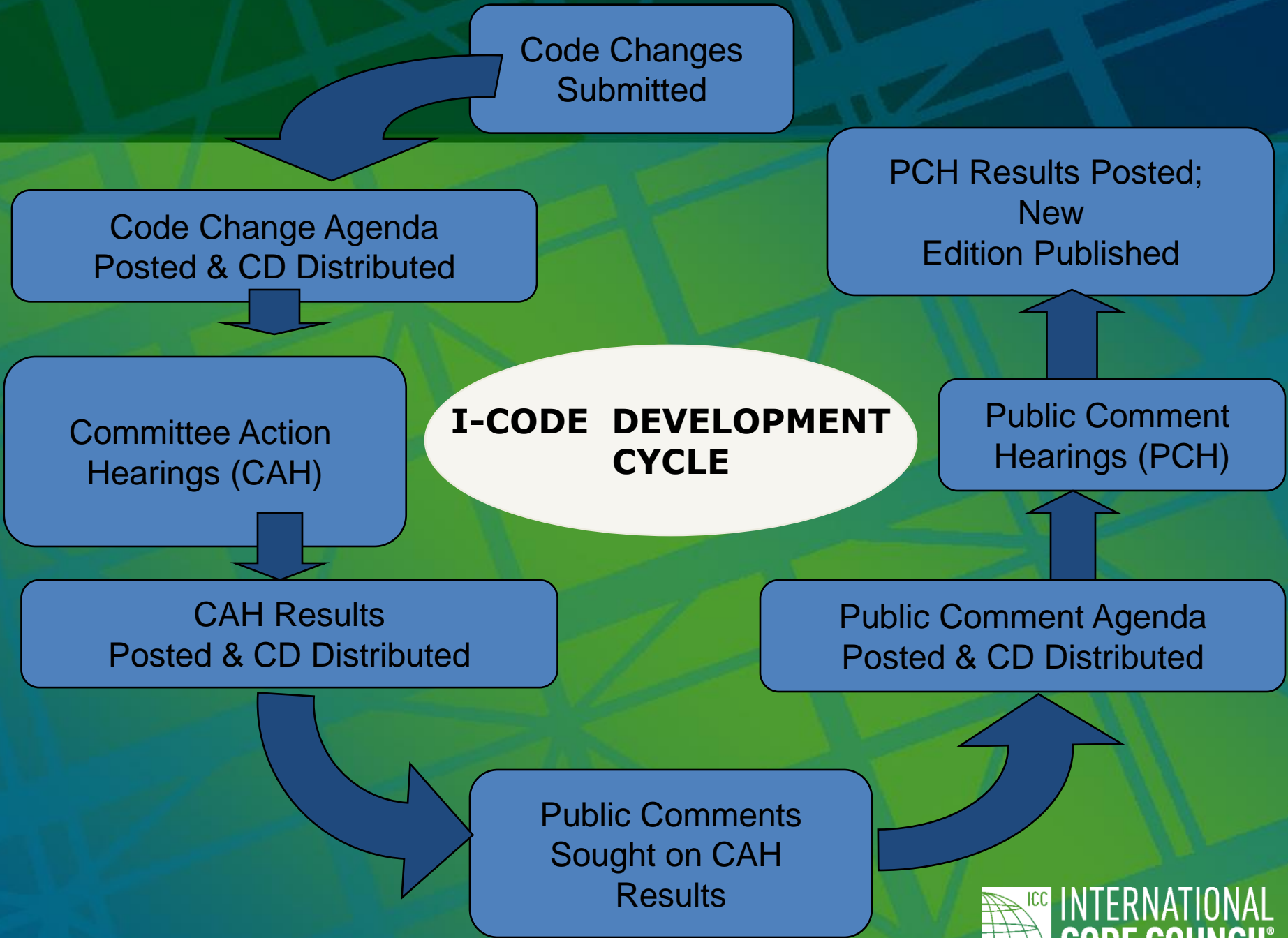


# The Procedures

- **2015/2016/2017 Cycle: Codes in three groups, Group A, B and C, resulting in 3 one year periods of code development: 2018 Editions**
- **2015/2016/2017 Cycle starts with Call for Committee in January/2014. Applications due June 1, 2014.**
- **Code changes due 1/5/2015 for Group A**

# Cycle Goals

- Reduce number of days of hearings
- Public Comment Hearings (formerly called Final Action Hearings) always held in conjunction with ICC Annual Conference
- Edition published approximately 6 - 8 months prior to subsequent cycle (except IgCC)
- Support products and services available earlier



# Typical Cycle Snapshot

- **Code Change deadline: First working day in January (with flexibility to accommodate Holidays)**
- **Committee Action Hearings (formerly called Code Development Hearings):  
Apr-May**
- **Public Comment Hearings (formerly called Final Action Hearings): Oct-Nov**

# Typical Cycle Snapshot

- **Edition published**
  - **2015 Edition in 2014 (all except IgCC)**
- **Repeat**
- **2015/2016/2017 Cycle**
  - **Group A: CC due Jan 5, 2015**
  - **Group B: CC due Jan 4, 2016**
  - **Group C: CC due Jan 4, 2017**

# Current Code Groupings

- **Group A codes**
  - IBC, IFGC, IMC, IPC & IPSDC
- **Group B codes**
  - All Codes except IBC, IFGC, IgCC, IMC, IPC, IPSDC
  - Chapter 1 of all Codes except IgCC; updates to currently Referenced Standards
- **Group C codes**
  - IgCC

# I-Code Scoping

- Review code to be updated
- Look for [X] next to section number
- Identify code with maintenance responsibility based on “X”
- Review Preface of code for identification of code committee “X”
- Submit code change to code group with maintenance responsibility

# Scoping – Within Group [B]

- **Code: IMC (Group A)**
- **Section: [B] 607 DUCT AND TRANSFER OPENINGS**
- **[B] indicates IMC Section 607 maintained by an IBC Code Committee (Group A)**
- **Code changes to this IMC section to be submitted with IMC code changes as part of Group A codes – due 1/3/2012**



# Scoping – Out of Group [B]

- **Code: IFC (Group B)**
- **Section: [B] 1003 GENERAL MEANS OF EGRESS**
- **[B] indicates IFC Section 1003 maintained by an IBC Code Committee (Group A)**
- **Code changes to this IFC section to be submitted with IBC code changes as part of Group A codes – due 1/3/2012**

# Scoping – Out of Group [F]

- **Code: IBC (Group A)**
- **Section: [F] 903.1 General.....**
- **[F] indicates IBC Section 903.1 maintained by the IFC Code Committee (Group B)**
- **Code changes to this IBC section to be submitted with IFC code changes as part of Group B codes – due 1/3/2013**

# Scoping – Chapter 1 [A]

- **Code changes to Chapter 1 of all codes (with exceptions such as IRC) heard by Administrative Provisions Committee in Group B – due 1/3/2013**
- **Code changes to Chapter 1 of IRC heard by IRC Committee in Group B – due 1/3/2013**

# Scoping by Committee

- A document has been posted on the ICC website entitled “Group A, Group B and Group B Code Development Responsibilities” which outlines scoping considerations
- Document is also linked from the Code Change Proposal Form
- Link: <http://www.iccsafe.org/CDC>  
[Responsibilities](http://www.iccsafe.org/CDC)

# Code Change Submittal

- Code change deadline posted
- Anyone can submit a code change
- Download code change form
- Name and entity represented
- Copyright release
- Proposed language:
  - Legislative revisions to current text: Underline proposed new text and ~~strike-out~~ text to be deleted
- Substantiate change with reasons and supporting documentation
- Email file as an attachment to ICC – instructions on form

# Reference Standards

- **Currently Referenced Standards**
  - ICC contacts SDO's to determine which standards will be updated and completed by December 1<sup>st</sup> of third year in cycle (per CP 28)
  - ICC publishes list of standards as an Administrative Provisions (Group B) code change

# Reference Standards

- **Proposed new Reference Standard**
  - Submitted as a code change with the scope and application of the proposed standard identified in the code text
  - Code change submitted to the applicable Group A, B or C code
  - Standard must be completed and published by the Public Comment Hearings for the applicable code group

# Code Change Submittal

- **Staff review for compliance with code development procedures (CP 28)**
  - **Form and format: Based on current text and in legislative format**
  - **Reason/Documentation**
  - **I-Code coordination**
  - **Bibliography**
  - **Cost impact**
  - **New referenced standard compliance**
  - **Copyright release**



# Code Change Submittal

- Staff contacts code change proponent as necessary to assist in processing the code change
- Editorial code changes reviewed/acted on by Code Correlation Committee
- Code changes posted/CD distributed
  - Website posting: approx. 45 days prior to Committee Action Hearings
  - CD: CD mailed approx. 30 days prior to Committee Action Hearings

# Committee Action Hearings

- **Public hearing**
- **Applicable Group A, B or C code committee presides over hearing**
- **Anyone can attend and participate/testify**
- **No cost to attend/participate/testify**
- **All committee actions and reasons for action published**

# Committee Action Hearings

- **Committee action (50% majority)**
  - **Approval as Submitted (AS)**
  - **Approval as Modified (AM)**
    - **Modifications to code changes as suggested in hearing testimony, must be within scope of original proposal**
    - **Committee Chair rules modification in or out of order to facilitate further testimony on the modification**
    - **If ruled in order, committee decides whether or not to consider action on the modification**
  - **Disapproval (D)**

# Committee Action Hearings

- **Assembly action**
  - All members of ICC can vote in response to committee action
  - Successful assembly action (simple majority) results in an automatic public comment to be considered at the Public Comment Hearings
  - Assembly action included in the Public Comment Agenda but initial motion at Public Comment Hearings is the committee action

# Report of Committee Action Hearings

- **Committee action**
- **Committee modifications, if any**
- **Reason for committee action**
- **Assembly action, if any**
- **Deadline for public comments**
- **Electronic Post/CD**
  - **Website posting: approx. 30 days after Committee Action Hearings**
  - **CD: CD mailed approx. 45 days after Committee Action Hearings**

# Public Comment Submittal

- **Public Comments on Report of Committee Action Hearings – due approximately 60 days after report posted**
- **Allows anyone to submit a comment in response to the results of the Committee Action Hearings**

# Public Comment Submittal

- **Download Public Comment form**
- **Note disagreement with the committee action and why**
- **Note disagreement with the assembly action and why**
- **Propose revisions to the code change. Revisions must be within scope of original proposal. Revisions proposed in legislative format with supporting reasons and documentation**
- **Copyright release**

# Public Comment Submittal

- **Staff review (CP 28)**
  - **Form and format: Based on proposed code change with legislative revisions to code change**
  - **Scope consistent with original code change or committee/assembly action**
  - **Reason/Documentation**
  - **Copyright release**
  - **Staff contacts commenter as necessary to assist in processing the comment**



# Public Comment Agenda

- **Original code change with the committee action and assembly action (if any)**
- **Public commenters requested action, including modifications to the code change in legislative format, with reasons and documentation**
- **Electronic Post/CD**
  - **Website posting: approx. 45 days prior to Public Comment Hearings**
  - **CD: CD mailed approx. 30 days prior to Public Comment Hearings**

# Public Comment Hearings

- **Public hearing**
- **Anyone can attend and testify. No cost to attend and participate/testify at the hearings**
- **Agenda**
  - **Consent agenda: Block vote on all code changes which did not receive a public comment or successful assembly action**
  - **Individual Consideration Agenda: Vote individually on each code change which received a public comment or successful assembly action**

# Public Comment Hearings

**Final vote on whether or not to change the code rests with the ICC Governmental Member Representatives – those who administer, formulate or enforce the regulations and are charged with the public's health, safety and welfare**

# Hearing Webcasts

- **Debut at 2002 Committee Action Hearings**
- **All subsequent hearings (Committee Action and Public Comment) webcast**
- **Streaming video and audio**
- **Internet access on your computer**

# Results

- **First edition of full family of I-Codes in 2000**
- **Editions follow every 3 years**
- **2012 Edition published in 2011**
- **2015 Edition to be published in 2014 (except IgCC)**
- **2015 IgCC to be published in 2015**

# ICC Website

- As part of ICC's Green Initiative, all code development documents are posted. Hard copies no longer published
- All information including schedules, procedures, code change forms, public comment forms and a historical record of past cycles is posted
- Link: [http://www.iccsafe.org/Code Development](http://www.iccsafe.org/CodeDevelopment)

# cdpACCESS™ in 2014 - IgCC

- **On line collaboration**
  - Opportunity to “discuss” code change and public comment submittals
  - Opportunity to compare notes relative to CAH and PCH preparation
- **On line code change and public comment submittal**
  - Codes compiled in dBase
  - Develop code change/public comment and submit on line

# cdpACCESS™ in 2014 - IgCC

- **Remote voting**
  - On assembly motions made at the Committee Action Hearings. Vote to occur following the hearings. All ICC members.
  - On Public Comment Hearings outcome. Vote to occur following the hearings. Governmental members only.
- **For more information on cdpACCESS™ go to the following link:**  
<http://www.iccsafe.org/cdpACCESS>



# Conclusion

**The ICC remains dedicated to a single family of comprehensive and coordinated model codes. The ICC code development process allows all interests to actively participate in the update of each and every I-Code.**