



## 2021 VIRTUAL COMMITTEE ACTION HEARING

### PRELIMINARY LOGISTICS (December 1, 2020)

#### ***THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AS THE VIRTUAL HEARING PLANS EVOLVE***

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, the Code Council issued a news releases noting the Code Council Board of Directors decision in the interest of safety to hold the 2021 Committee Action Hearings (CAH) virtually. This document is intended to provide ICC stakeholders and interested parties with the most current information at this time as to the conduct of the hearings. This is preliminary and subject to change as this is uncharted territory in terms of virtual scale and uncertainties with the current and future pandemic environment.

- The release notes the preferable hearing logistics of having ICC staff, the committee and the moderators located at a central location and hearing testimony conducted virtually. A collaborative on-site environment will lead to a more efficient and productive hearing. We are over 4.5 months away from the CAH but at the same time the safety of the participants is of paramount importance. Due to the uncertainties of the future we are looking into social distancing of committee members, moderators and staff as well as physical barriers separating committee members.
- The release further notes a time frame for the hearings of April 11 – May 5, 2021. This is based on the following:
  - Two consecutive tracks with a 3 day break in between.
  - First track to be the building related committees and the pool code: 3 IBC code committees (Fire Safety, General and Means of Egress); IPMC/IZC; and the ISPSC
  - Second track to be the fire related codes and the PMG related codes: IFC/IWUIC; IFGC; IMC; IPC/IPSDC, IRC – M/P
  - It is very important to note that definitive tracks, codes and order of codes can not be established until after to the code change deadline as code change volume plays a significant role in establishing the hearing schedule. As such, this is preliminary. A hearing schedule will be developed as soon as possible.
- We've conducted 4 virtual appeal hearings this past fall, albeit only 4 hours in length and with minimal questions from the appeals board. That being said, they were considered successful in terms of logistics. Key logistical considerations for a virtual CAH include:
  - Maintaining as much as possible the procedural aspects of an in-person hearing including items such as hearing order agenda changes, the ability to table, the ability to raise points of order, etc.
  - Committee members and Moderator video will be streamed live
  - A queuing platform for both virtual testimony as well as committee questions
  - On line modifications submitted via cdpACCESS as in the past cycles
  - An online system of upcoming code change identification, including alerts
  - More frequent committee breaks
- Preparation prior to the CAH
  - Staff will be following up with all the logistical information
  - Chair/Vice Chair/Moderator training will be conducted virtually
  - Conference calls with the committee and staff in advance of the CAH
  - The pre-hearing meeting will be conducted virtually prior to the CAH

This document as well as all other updates will be posted on a dedicated web page to keep stakeholders and participants apprised of the virtual CAH progress/logistics.