January 11, 2021

Board of Directors
International Code Council
500 New Jersey Ave., NW, 6th floor
Washington, DC  20001

Dear Members of the Board:

The City of Minneapolis appreciates the opportunity to comment on proposed changes to the International Energy Conservation Code.

Minneapolis opposes the proposal to transfer power from thousands of government professionals who are responsible for carrying out public policy goals to a standards committee process. The value of the current democratic process is derived from our ability as government officials to ultimately decide what best serves the needs of our communities. In contrast, a standards consensus process would allow only a handful of people to determine the relative importance of energy efficiency in a manner that may not serve the public interest.

Minneapolis, like thousands of other jurisdictions, relies on ICC for modern building codes that help ensure safe, sustainable, affordable, and resilient structures. We added new voting members in 2019 and maintain current ICC memberships in order to participate in the governmental consensus process in support of our city’s greenhouse gas, energy affordability, and public health goals.

After two plus decades and numerous code development cycles, the existing IECC governmental voting process has improved building efficiency over time and led to significant energy savings and financial savings for people, institutions, and businesses nationwide.

Protecting the energy code development process is essential for meeting state and local government goals for climate, affordability, and public health. City of Minneapolis urges the board to continue the successful track record of the IECC and vote against the proposal to remove thousands of your members from the development process.

Thank you for your consideration. We value our ICC membership and look forward to participating in future code development cycles. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions about this matter.

Sincerely,

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