

**From:** Jennifer Steel <[jsteel@newtonma.gov](mailto:jsteel@newtonma.gov)>

**Sent:** Saturday, January 9, 2021 10:09 PM

**To:** Member Input <[memberinput@iccsafe.org](mailto:memberinput@iccsafe.org)>; Dominic Sims <[DSims@iccsafe.org](mailto:DSims@iccsafe.org)>

**Subject:** Public Comment Period on the IECC

January 9, 2021

ICC Board of Directors Via email: [memberinput@iccsafe.org](mailto:memberinput@iccsafe.org)

Dominic Sims CEO, International Code Council Via email: [DSims@iccsafe.org](mailto:DSims@iccsafe.org)

RE: Public Comment Period on the IECC

Dear ICC Board of Directors and Mr. Sims:

I oppose the Code Council Board's proposed framework for updating the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) using the ICC standards process. The final determination of International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) provisions should remain in the hands of local officials. Please uphold the current structure of the online governmental consensus vote (OGCV) and reject the proposed framework for switching the IECC to the ICC standards process.

Newton participated in the 2019 OGCV process and voted on the IECC due to its importance to our community. Newton is invested in safe, healthy, and efficient buildings; reduced building operational costs; reduced greenhouse gas emissions; protection of vulnerable residents; improved public health; and resilience. Newton follows the Stretch Code. As you know, the IECC directly impacts local building policy. The Massachusetts State Building Energy Code and the Stretch Energy Code are based on the IECC with state-specific amendments. Massachusetts is required to begin the adoption of new I-Codes within one year of their publication, and all cities and towns must comply with either the Base or Stretch Building Energy Code. A strong IECC helps to ensure that progress can continue to be made toward Newton's greenhouse gas mitigation commitments. Local governmental members should continue to have a direct role in developing the content of the IECC.

I strongly urge you to uphold the current role of local governmental stakeholders in IECC final voting and reject any attempt to replace this with an ICC standards process or to otherwise weaken the input of governmental members.

Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Sincerely,

*Jennifer Steel*

*Chief Environmental Planner*

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