

Ad Hoc Committee on Building Safety and Security Draft Scope

Building safety and security is an issue of utmost importance to families, communities, the fire service and responding emergency personnel. Many states and local jurisdictions are developing legislation and policies in response to recent emergency events. Due to the complex and unpredictable nature of such events, it is imperative that all aspects of the built environment be thoroughly analyzed in order to develop a comprehensive response. Recognizing this critical threat to both new and existing construction, the International Code Council Board of Directors created a new Ad Hoc Committee on Building Safety and Security.

The design and layout in new and existing buildings can have a significant impact on safety and security. Safety and security touches a myriad of code regulations as well as considerations which fall outside the purview of the code. Accordingly, a comprehensive assessment must go beyond minimum code compliance.

Goal: Provide comprehensive, sound and valuable tools for local and state leaders to guide them in keeping occupants of buildings, including schools, safe from intruders and other life-safety hazards in the built environment.

Scope: The scope of this effort is likely to evolve over time in response to the complexity of the issues raised by the committee members. The Code Council anticipates that the outcome of the effort will include:

- A comprehensive review of current building and fire code requirements as they relate to developing the necessary balance between building security and fire safety considerations. Any suggested revisions to current building and fire code requirements based on this assessment will be processed as proposed code changes to the International Codes.
- A comprehensive review of existing guides, white papers, reports and standards (e.g. NFPA 3000™ (PS) Standard for an Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Program), as they relate to design standards, event preparedness, emergency response and recovery.
- Identification of best practices and guides to address the design and layout of new buildings as well as how to evaluate and modify existing buildings.
- A comprehensive package of public information materials.

The new committee will include a broad cross section of experts from:



- Education and security fields
- School administrators
- Building owners and facility managers
- Code officials
- Architects
- Engineers
- Standards developing organizations
- Construction industry

To fill this new committee, a call for committee applications will be posted and the resulting ad hoc committee will be appointed by the ICC President. As with all committees, there will be ample opportunity for all stakeholders to participate in this effort.