January 11, 2021

Board of Directors  
International Code Council  
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW, 6th Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear ICC Board Members:

I am writing to express my grave concern about the changes that the International Code Council (ICC) Board is considering for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) development process. Changing the IECC from a code to a standard and eliminating the ability for state and local governments to vote and participate in the code development process will disenfranchise a large constituency of stakeholders who make the ultimate decision to adopt and enforce building codes, while empowering building industry stakeholders. By removing the state and local government voice, the public interest purpose of the code development process will be substantially weakened.

As a home rule city, Denver has significant authority over building codes. We adopt the full suite of I-Codes every 3 years and make Denver specific amendments, including amendments to the energy code to take the code towards our goal of net zero energy new buildings and homes by 2030. We need the national IECC to continue to allow our work towards net zero energy and to enable Denver’s surrounding communities also move with us toward net zero energy. Enacting the latest model energy codes is a critical policy strategy for municipalities to ensure energy-efficient, healthy and resilient new construction.

I urge the ICC Board to cease this attempt to disenfranchise state and local governments in the code development process. I appreciate your dedication to a fair and open code development process, and thank you for your leadership in establishing trusted and safe model building codes.

Sincerely,

Grace Rink  
Executive Director  
Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency  
City & County of Denver