

Date: May 14, 2025

To: Mark Israelson, City Manager
Jack Carr, Deputy City Manager

From: Selso Mata, Chief Building Official

Re: Code Adoption Process

We are currently under the 2021 International Codes published by the International Code Council (ICC). ICC is a non-profit organization that develops model building codes and standards used in the construction industry. These codes, known as the I-Codes are reviewed every 3 years. Code adoption requires a regulatory process which could be viewed in 4 steps. In summary they are:

1. International Code Council (ICC)

At the national level, each code is vetted in an open process where anyone may present a new code item or ask for clarification on existing sections. Public hearings are conducted with committee reviews and recommendations. This process can take up to 2 ½ years. A final vote occurs on each proposal and then the following codes are released for publication.

2024 International Building Code (IBC)	2024 International Residential Code (IRC)
2024 International Existing Building Code (IEBC)	2024 International Fire Code (IFC)
2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)	2024 International Mechanical Code (IMC)
2024 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC)	2024 International Plumbing Code (IPC)
2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC)	2024 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)

2023 National Electric Code (*follows same process but is released through National Fire Protection Agency*)

2. North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Upon release of the ICC codes, our regional review in the DFW area begins at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). As Texas allows home-rule cities to enact ordinances and address local issues, building codes can be amended for regional building practices. Upon completion of all regional amendments a final vote occurs by the Executive NCTCOG Board, and the COG amendments are then disseminated to all area cities for local adoption.

3. Building Standards Commission (BSC)

At the local level, staff reviews the COG amendments with the Building Standards Commission (BSC). Any local Plano amendments may be evaluated and added to the COG amendments for recommendation to the BSC. This year, the BSC finished its review in 4 months, from January to April.

4. City Council

The final step, in compliance with the 87th State Legislature H.B. 738, which specifically addresses the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC), requires that these local amendments have a public hearing by City Council before adoption by ordinance.

Let me know of any questions.