Sustainable Building Code Developments in Arizona: International Green Construction Code (IgCC) & AZ Build Green Coalition

Presented By: Anitra Pickett Anthony Floyd Braden Kay
What are Building Codes?

- Set of rules established by a municipality
- Create standards for constructed objects
- Cities adopt a “family” of codes: energy, commercial construction, single family construction, fire, etc.
- Construction projects must comply to receive permits
- Codes are enforceable
- Mandatory, although some cities adopt additional voluntary codes
- AZ is a “home rule” state: no statewide code is adopted and the local government can select any code or even no code
What’s the Difference Between Green Codes & Rating Systems?

**CODES**
IgCC (and other codes IECC, CalGREEN...)
- Baseline/Minimum Standards
- Set of rules to abide by
- Model Code
- Municipality can amend to local conditions or needs
- Enforceable by municipality
- Industry driven

**RATING SYSTEMS**
LEED, Green Globes, Living Building Challenge (ILFI)
- Aspirational
- Usually optional
- Rating/Certification System
- Set system with pre-requisites and then options to achieve certification
- Reporting done by construction team and verified by third party non-profit organization
- Market driven
What is IgCC?
International Green Construction Code

- Administered by ICC (International Code Council) family of codes as solution to go beyond base standards. It is a standard for the design of high performance commercial and multi-family green buildings.

- ICC codes are most widely used codes in North America

- ICC codes are in use or adopted in all 50 states

- IgCC is first green construction code with collaboration between main players: ICC, ASHRAE, USGBC, AIA, IES

- Flexible and adaptable to local climate conditions with amendments and prescriptive or performance options

- Municipalities can use portions of code in specific areas or adopt all of IgCC with amendments.
What is IgCC: 2021 Structure/Chapters

Chapter 1: Scope & Administration
Chapter 2: Reserved
Chapter 3: Definitions, abbreviations and acronyms
Chapter 4: Reserved
**Chapter 5: Site Sustainability**
Chapter 6: Water use efficiency
Chapter 7: Energy efficiency
Chapter 8: Indoor environmental quality
Chapter 9: Materials and resources
Chapter 10: Construction and plans for operation
Chapter 11: Normative references
Appendices A-N

*ICC Green Construction Professional Certification Exam*
Municipalities in AZ with IgCC Initiatives

- **Scottsdale**: 2012, 2015 IgCC Voluntary/Mandatory for projects receiving zoning bonus
  
  2021 IgCC Pending Mandatory (exp. adoption June 2022)

- **Tempe**: 2018 IgCC 3 Projects/Working on code adoption

- **Phoenix**: 2012 IgCC Voluntary

- **Gilbert**: IgCC 2018 Voluntary

- **Kayenta**: IgCC 2010 Voluntary

- Multiple other municipalities with interest
Non-Profit: AZ Build Green Coalition

Raising the floor on high performance building practices in Arizona

• **Goals:**
  - Partnerships
  - Knowledge sharing across municipalities and industry leaders
  - Increased capacity
  - Current updates on new happenings with green code adoptions

• Neutral, non-profit, unbiased resource for green building initiatives specific to the state of Arizona and municipalities within it.

• No political or profitability ties to any particular green building tool.

• Aims to focus and spread information about current green building initiatives within the state, highlighting issues most current and relevant in impact.
Who? Stakeholders & Actors

AZ Build Green Coalition

- Municipalities
- Students
- Architects
- Contractors
- Universities
- Professors
- Non-Profits
- Industry
- Professors
AZ Build Green Coalition
Raising the floor on high performance building practices in Arizona

How to Participate:
1. Add your name to contact list
2. Gain access to Research Repository *coming soon
3. Use resources developed by other municipalities in the state to avoid “remaking the wheel”
4. Participate by contributing resources & ideas
5. Follow current events in the green building code and regulatory world on LinkedIn page *coming soon
Sharing Knowledge and Resources: Two Local Municipalities Using IgCC

- **Scottsdale:**
  - 28 IgCC Projects
  - Pending first adoption in nation of IgCC 2021 as mandatory

- **Tempe:**
  - Climate Action Plan
  - Three Municipal IgCC Pilot Projects
Thank you!

Be a part of raising the floor on our built environment in Arizona!

Contact: 
Anitra Pickett
anitra.pickett@asu.edu