

Status of the Code Change Process for the Uniform Statewide Building Code and Related Regulations

Presentation to the Virginia Housing Commission

September 29, 2009

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Code Change Process – Affected Regulations



- Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC)
- Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC)
- Virginia Amusement Device Regulations (VADR)
- Virginia Certification Standards (VCS)
- Manufactured Home Safety Regulations (MHSR)
- Industrialized Building Safety Regulations (IBSR)

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Code Change Process – Current Status



- Builds upon a foundation of model codes and standards such as those developed by the International Code Commission
- Subject to special APA requirements
- Process began in March and may extend until a forecast effective date in September 2010
- Extensive opportunities for public participation and comment at each stage of the process, including input by work groups on key issues, input from potentially affected parties, and reviews by the Attorney General and Governor's Office

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Code Change Process – Current Status



- Following its public hearing on the proposed draft regulations in late July, the Board of Housing and Community Development advanced the process to its next step by approving their publication for public comment.
- Publication of proposed regulations in the *Virginia Register* on September 28, 2009 initiated an extended formal public comment period
- Comment period extends until January 2010, culminating in a public hearing by the Board of Housing and Community Development
- Final regulations expected for BHCD action in late spring/early summer 2010

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Code Change Process – Key Issue Areas



- The model code contained new provisions addressing an array of important issues addressing current and future construction and maintenance standards, including:
 - Energy standards
 - Residential sprinkler installations
 - Carbon monoxide detection
 - Water conservation/gray water systems

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Code Change Process – Tracking progress



- The progress of the code change cycle can be followed by monitoring developments via:
 - Regulatory Town Hall--
<http://townhall.virginia.gov/>
 - Agency web site--
<http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/StateBuildingCodesandRegulations/2009CodeChangeCycle.htm>