

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The American Institute of Architects to Participate in Green Construction Code Development Meetings in Denver *Code Expected to Increase Energy Efficiency, Reduce Carbon Footprint for Commercial Buildings*

DENVER (August 25, 2009)—The International Code Council (ICC) recently launched its International Green Construction Code (IGCC) initiative, which will reduce energy usage and the carbon footprint of commercial buildings. This important new code is being co-authored by AIA in full partnership with ICC. The ICC Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC) will hold its second series of meetings in Denver on August 27, 28 and 29, to continue development of the first draft of the code. The meetings are open to the public and media is encouraged to attend.

The meetings will be held from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Aug. 27-28, and 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Aug. 29, at the Doubletree Hotel (3203 Quebec St., Denver). ICC executives and AIA Colorado members are available for in-person and phone interviews through the media contact above.

Entitled “IGCC: Safe and Sustainable By the Book,” the initiative is committed to developing a model code focused on new and existing commercial buildings. It will focus on building design and performance. Buildings consume approximately 40 percent of energy used nationwide and produce about the same amount of the nation’s carbon emissions.

SBTC Vice Chair Chris Green, AIA, LEED AP, an architect from Avon, Colo. noted, “As an architect, the opportunity to be involved with and influence the creation of a green building code is a significant and exciting opportunity. This code will establish the foundation for minimum green building standards for adoption by all our communities in the United States. In fact, this code will help shape the future practice of our profession and reinforce the sustainable paradigm architect’s are currently working toward.”

“We believe the time has come for us to develop a code that will stand as a useful and credible regulatory framework for creating a greener commercial building stock,” said ICC Chief Executive Officer Richard P. Weiland. “We applaud and plan to utilize the good work of those who have developed systems, guidelines and standards to address green buildings.” Both AIA and ASTM International will have visible participation in the code development process. Weiland referenced the compatibility of the AIA 2030 carbon neutrality goals with the green code initiative, and emphasized the importance of design, architects and architecture in creating a useful tool for AIA members as well as the ICC membership.

“AIA commends the leadership of ICC and is delighted to join with them and other stakeholders in working collaboratively toward the goal of a model green construction code,” said AIA Executive Vice President/CEO, Christine McEntee. “It is important for the private sector to be proactive and take a leadership position in the development of building codes and standards and this initiative makes a strong statement regarding the usefulness and necessity of the International Green Construction Code in fulfilling that goal. As the team leader in determining the performance of buildings, architects welcome the prospect of a reliable and quantifiable tool that will be a valuable resource in helping advance our steadfast commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030.”

For more information on IGCC, visit www.iccsafe.org/IGCC.

About The International Code Council

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety, fire prevention and energy efficiency, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. Most U.S. cities, counties and states choose the International Codes, building safety codes developed by the International Code Council. Visit www.iccsafe.org.

About The American Institute of Architects

For more than 150 years, members of The American Institute of Architects have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. By using sustainable design practices, materials, and techniques, AIA architects are uniquely poised to provide the leadership and guidance needed to provide solutions to address climate change. AIA architects walk the walk on sustainable design. Visit www.aia.org/walkthewalk.

About ASTM International

Established in 1898, ASTM International is one of the largest international standards development and delivery systems in the world. ASTM International meets the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles for the development of international standards: coherence, consensus, development dimension, effectiveness, impartiality, openness, relevance and transparency. ASTM standards are accepted and used in research and development, product testing, quality systems and commercial transactions around the globe. For more information, please visit www.astm.org.