



**INDIANA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

Dale Henson, Executive Director

P.O. Box 305

Camby, IN 46113-0305

Office: 317.856.1850

Toll Free: 877.733.1850

Cell: 317.339.2473

Fax: 317.856.5949

dhenson@indfirechiefs.org

November 25, 2020

Fire Prevention & Building Safety Commission  
C/O Mr. Doug Boyle, Director - FP&BSC  
Indiana Department of Homeland Security  
Indiana Government Center South, Rm. E208  
302 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Code Updates

Dear Mr. Boyle,

We are writing to encourage the support of the Fire Prevention & Building Safety Commission to mandate updates to the family of building codes, specifically the IBC, IFC, IMC, IPC and IFGC. Indiana is currently operating on the International Code Council 2012 edition with Indiana amendments and even older NFPA standards. As noted by other parties, Indiana is substantially behind compared to our neighbors and the rest of the country.

At the risk of over-simplifying the discussion, community risk reduction can be divided into two basic categories – human behavior and passive measures. The fire service will continue to provide programming to educate the public to mitigate accidents before they happen. Passive measures include building design elements with products and safety systems that offer inherent safety measures that are prescribed by a family of codes that complement each other. With an updated comprehensive family of codes, the building industry is able to incorporate current lessons learned, new products and materials, engineering best practices, etc. Active and passive measures working together offer the best opportunity for successful disaster prevention efforts.

We strongly urge the Commission to appoint code committees to update the basic code family in 2021 in addition to the most pressing NFPA standards updates.

Faithfully Serving,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Orusa".

Chief Steve Orusa

President,

Indiana Fire Chief's Association