

# FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION



## WORKPLAN PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE RESULTS 2013

PROCESS DESIGN, CONSENSUS-BUILDING AND FACILITATION BY



CONSENSUS CENTER

COMPILED BY JEFF A. BLAIR  
FCRC CONSENSUS CENTER  
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY



[jblair@fsu.edu](mailto:jblair@fsu.edu)  
[http:// consensus.fsu.edu](http://consensus.fsu.edu)

*This document is available in alternate formats upon request to DBPR, Codes & Standards,  
1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0772, (850) 487-1824.*

**FBC 2013 WORKPLAN PRIORITIZATION RANKING EXERCISE RESULTS**

Commissioners were asked to rank each of eight (8) key *Workplan* tasks on a five-point continuum/scale where a

5 equals the highest level of priority and a 1 equals the lowest level of priority. Members were asked to rank the priority of each task independently and not in relation to the other tasks. Each of the *Workplan* task’s rankings were tallied and arranged in order of highest priority (1) to lowest priority (8). The ranking results ranged from a high of 4.57 to a low of 3.14 out of 5.

*The exercise was completed by the following 15 of 20 Commissioners:*

Dick Browdy (Chair), Bob Boyer, Nan Dean, Kevin Flanagan, Herminio Gonzalez, Ken Gregory, Dale Greiner, Jeffery Gross, Jon Hamrick, Rafael Palacios, Brad Schiffer, James Schock, Drew Smith, Jeff Stone, and Tim Tolbert.

*Following are the results of the Commission’s prioritization exercise for 2013:*

<b>WORKPLAN PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE RESULTS 2013</b>		
<b>WORKPLAN TOPICS (TASK/TOPIC #)</b>	<b>AVERAGE (5 TO 1)</b>	<b>OVERALL RANKING</b>
Certification of Florida Accessibility Code (DOJ)	1	4.57
2013 Code Update Process	2	4.43
Glitch amendments to 2013 Code	3	4.36
Report to 2014 Legislature	4	4.21
Building Code System Uniform Interpretation Evaluation process	5	4.14
Threshold inspections existing buildings	6	3.50
Amend rules to establish fees: waivers/declaratory statements/binding/non-binding opinions	7	3.36
Recommendations: increase recycling and composting, and recyclable construction materials (directed by Legislature)	8	3.14

**ADDITIONAL WORKPLAN TASKS PROPOSED BY COMMISSIONERS**

- Discussion is needed on ADA Declaratory statement process.
- Need to consider the adoption of the ICC green code, and discussion is needed on how this would be implemented.

## COMMENTS ON WORKPLAN ISSUES

### Legislative/Governor Directives Issues Comments

- While these demand the highest level, they are not as easy or as simple as the Legislature may think. We take the risk of just simply having too much code or too many rules.
- Codes should not be written by the Legislature.
- The Commission should have the opportunity to weigh in on any possible directive that relates to Building Construction in Florida before it becomes a mandate. I give the example of the mandated Hurricane Mitigation Retrofits for site built single family structures when it first became required.

### Code Development Process Comments

- We have worked long and hard on the code development process----it can, and should always be improved. We need to work harder at elimination of code items "unique" to Florida. Anything that is covered in the ICC should be eliminated from the Florida "unique" list.
- I believe the Florida Building Code should have its base code update every 6 years instead of every 3.

### Code Enforcement/Implementation Comments

- The Commission and staff are hampered with issues that could be handled at the local level.
- Building Officials these days seem to be reluctant to make a judgment call when the Florida Building Code doesn't specifically address a certain circumstance or issue. I believe it's a result of DBPR's history of heavy-handed investigation and enforcement.
- There should be a serious effort to place septic tank permitting under the local Building Inspection Departments. Service as a whole would be more efficient and cheaper. There has been some talk of this and plenty of opposition but I've not heard an argument from the opposition of why it's not a good idea.

### Interagency Collaboration Issues Comments

- There appears to be confusion on the threshold process with regard to alterations of threshold buildings as well as what work should be included in the threshold inspection process.
- All I need to say is Department of Health.