



Aluminum Association of Florida, Inc.

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May 22, 2020

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

The Florida Building Commission

Thomas Campbell, Executive Director

2601 Blairstone Road

Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Mr. Campbell:

We were informed there has been a request for a delay in implementing the FBC 7th Edition (2020) to allow manufacturers the time to obtain product approvals which may be delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After speaking with engineers and manufacturers, we believe it would be in the best interest of the Aluminum Construction Industry to stay with the current implementation date of midnight, December 31, 2020.

Many businesses have already been hurt economically with the current pandemic. Delaying the implementation would only impede the efforts to get the State back to work. Engineers and manufacturers alike have already geared up for the change – even offering discounts for new code updates. These deals could be lost as a result of a delay.

Putting off implementation will result in a disservice to the public caused by the delay of more stringent wind loads for roof connections and enhanced underlay provisions, known links leading to damage and failures in hurricanes. In addition, it would result in a delay of future edition implementation dates – a 2 ½ year interval between the 7th and 8th Editions – and may violate the Florida Statute calling for a triennial update of the code.

Other states are moving forward with the adoption of the IBC 2018 with updated standards. Florida has adopted these same updated standards in the FBC 7th Edition. A delay will create problems for architects, engineers, builders, developers, and manufacturers with operations outside the State of Florida. A delay in implementation will prevent the use of updated standards within the state. Many designers and manufacturers have begun using the updated standards based on the long-established FBC and widely advertised implementation date.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider these points. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss anything, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Davenport', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and extends to the right.

Randy Davenport

AAF President