



# FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY REPORT OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2021 FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA WEBINAR AND TELECONFERENCE

PROCESS DESIGN, CONSENSUS-BUILDING AND FACILITATION BY



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# FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION

# FEBRUARY 9, 2021 FACILITATOR'S MEETING SUMMARY REPORT

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# FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION FEBRUARY 9, 2021 FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY REPORT



# **OVERVIEW OF COMMISSION'S KEY ACTIONS AND DECISIONS**

# TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

#### I. PLENARY SESSION SUMMARY AND OVERVIEW

In response to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission conducts their February 9, 2021 meeting as a virtual meeting via webinar and teleconference. At the February 9, 2021 virtual meeting the Commission considered and decided on Chair's issues and recommendations, Executive Director's announcements and discussions, accessibility waiver requests, product and entity approvals, applications for accreditor and course approvals, and recommendations from the Commission's various committees. The Commission received training on the Commission's consensus building process, meeting management and participation guideline, and roles for meeting participants. Specific actions included voting unanimously to: 1.) Select the 2021 I-Codes and the 2020 NEC as the model codes for conducting the Commission's model code update review process for development of the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023), Florida Building Code; and, 3.) Initiate rulemaking for Rule 61G-20-6.002 (Commission Approval and Accreditation of Advanced Building Code Training Courses) and to conduct a rule development workshop at the April 13, 2021 meeting.

(Attachment 1—Meeting Evaluation Results)

## II. CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chairman Schock welcomed the Commission, DBPR staff and the public to the February 9, 2021 virtual meeting conducted via webinar and teleconference plenary session of the Florida Building Commission.

The Chair noted that in addition to considering regular procedural issues, updates, and reports, the primary purpose of the February 9, 2021 meeting was to approve the Workplan and Schedule for development of the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023), Florida Building Code, and to select the model codes to be used for conducting the Commission's model code update review for the 2023 Code Update Process.

The Chair explained, as always the Commission would provide an opportunity for public comment on each of the Commission's substantive discussion topics. Commissioner Schock explained that if one wants to comment on a specific substantive Commission agenda item, they should wait until the

facilitator requests public comment and stacks a list of names at the appropriate times during the meeting. The Chair noted that public input is welcome, but should be offered before there is a formal motion on the floor.

### **III. COMMISSION ATTENDANCE**

The following Commissioners participated in the Tuesday, February 9, 2021 virtual meeting conducted via webinar and teleconference:

Jim Schock (Chair), James Batts, Michael Bourré, David Compton, Nan Dean, Charles Fisher, David Gilson, Jeff Gross, Rodney Hershberger, Paul Jones, Brian Langille, Grey Marker, Brad Schiffer, and Brian Swope.

(15 of the 16 currently seated Commissioners attended—94%).

Absent Commissioners:

David John.

#### **DBPR STAFF PARTICIPATING**

Thomas Campbell, Jim Hammers, Chris Howell, Mo Madani, and Justin Vogel.

#### MEETING FACILITATION

Meetings are facilitated, and meeting reports drafted by Jeff Blair from Facilitated Solutions, LLC. Information at: <u>http://facilitatedsolutions.org</u>.



## **PROJECT WEBPAGE**

Information on the Florida Building Commission project, including agenda packets, meeting reports, and related documents may be found at the Commission Webpage. Located at the following URL: <a href="http://floridabuilding.org/c/default.aspx">http://floridabuilding.org/c/default.aspx</a>

#### IV. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve the agenda for the February 9, 2021 meeting as posted/presented. Following are the key agenda items approved for consideration:

- To Approve Regular Procedural Topics (Agenda and Minutes).
- To Consider/Decide on Chair's Discussion Issues/Recommendations.
- To Consider/Decide on Executive Director Announcements and Discussions.
- To Review/Approve Proposed Workplan for the Florida Building Code, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023).
- To Receive Training on the Commission's Consensus Building Processes.
- To Review and Discuss Possible Changes to Rule 61G20-6.002.
- To Consider/Decide on Accessibility Waiver Applications.
- To Consider/Decide on Approvals/Revocations of Products & Product Approval Entities.

- To Consider Applications for Accreditor and Course Approval.
- To Receive a Legal Report Briefing.
- To Receive/Decide on Reports and Recommendations from Committees.
- To Hear Commissioner and Public Comment.
- To Identify Needed Next Steps, Assignments, and Agenda Items for Next Meetings (April 13, 2021 virtual meetings).

#### Amendments to the Posted Agenda:

There were no amendments to the posted agenda.

(Attachment 2—February 9, 2021 Commission Agenda)

# V. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 12, 2021 FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY REPORT AND MEETING MINUTES

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve the January 12, 2021 Facilitator's Summary Report and Meeting Minutes as posted/presented.

Amendments: There was no amendment offered to the meeting minutes.

#### VI. CHAIR'S DISCUSSION ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Appointments

Chairman Schock announced that he had appointed Michael Bourré as the Commission's Vice-Chair. The Chair thanked Michael for agreeing to serve as the Commission's Vice-Chair.

The Chair also reported that he made a number of appointments to Commission's various TACs, POCs, and workgroups including appointing new chairs as needed. All of the appointments are linked to the BCIS linked to Chair's Issues agenda item. There was one change to the posted list: the Chair appointed Brian Luksik to replace Scott Ranck on the Energy TAC. The Chair thanked all of the committee members that rolled off and welcomed new appointments. On behalf of the Commission the Chair appreciated them for their service to the citizens of Florida.

#### Closing Roll Call Update

The Chair reported that DBPR staff had determined that there is no requirement to conduct a closing roll call for the Commission's virtual meetings, and that the Commission has never conducted them for in-person meetings. The Chair explained that he and staff decided the Commission will only do an opening roll call and not a closing roll call for all Commission and committee meetings going forward.

#### **Updated Commission Milestones**

The Chair reminded participants that the Updated Commission Milestones document (updated as of January 12, 2021) is linked to the February 9, 2021 FBC Agenda on the BCIS.

#### VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Tom Campbell, FBC Executive Director, briefed the Commission on the following issues:

### Legislative Update for 2021 Legislative Session-Bill Matrix

Tom reported as follows:

#### Review of HB 401—Florida Building Code

The proposed legislation:

- Creates a nonbinding advisory opinion process for the Florida Building Commission to consider petitions from individuals who believe a local regulation is a local technical amendment to the Florida Building Code.
- Creates a process which would allow the Florida Building Commission to correct demonstrated errors in the Florida Building Code by issuing errata.
- Grants the Florida Building Commission authority to develop criteria for the approval of evaluation entities for the Commission's statewide product approval program.

#### Review of HB 488—Product Evaluation

The proposed legislation:

• Adds NEMO ETC, LLC. to the list of approved evaluation entities for the Commission's statewide product approval program.

#### Future Commission Meeting Dates

Tom reported that the Commission will be meeting on April 13, 2021 starting at 8:30 AM, and the meeting will be a virtual meeting conducted by webinar. Following are the remaining regularly bimonthly Commission meeting dates scheduled to date:

• June 8, 2020, Hyatt Regency Sarasota, or by webinar TBD.

## VIII. 8<sup>TH</sup> EDITION (2023), FLORIDA BUILDING CODE WORKPLAN APPROVAL

The Chair indicated that the I-Codes are now available for review on the ICC webpage. In addition, a special webpage with the I-Codes and associated monographs will be available by February 25, 2021. As a result, staff prepared a proposed Workplan and Schedule for development of the 2023 Code Update for the Commission's approval. In addition, the Commission will select the model codes to be used for conducting the Commission's model code update review for the 2023 Code Update Process. Mo Madani provided the Commission with a review of the proposed Workplan and Schedule for development of the 2023 Code Update Process.—8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023), Florida Building Code.

Following the opportunity provided for questions and answers, public comment, and Commission discussion, the Commission took the following actions:

#### Commission Actions:

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to select the 2021 I-Codes and the 2020 NEC as the model codes for conducting the Commission's model code update review process for development of the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023), Florida Building Code.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve the Workplan and Schedule for the 2023 Code Update Process—8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023), Florida Building Code.

#### IX. Commission Consensus Building and Meeting Management and Participation Guidelines Training

Jeff Blair, Commission Facilitator, provided the Commission with training on the Commission's consensus building and decision making process, meeting participant roles, and meeting management and participation guidelines. Jeff noted that the presentation and a more detailed Guidance Document is linked to the associated agenda item on the BCIS. The Guidance Document provides a more detailed review of the Commission's consensus building and decision making process, participant roles, and meeting management and participation guidelines.

#### X. POSSIBLE CHANGES TO RULE 61G20-6.002 DISCUSSION

Tom Campbell provided the Commission with a summary of proposed changes to the Education Rule (Rule 61G20-6.002 - Commission Approval and Accreditation of Advanced Building Code Training Courses) and the Education POC's recommendations regarding the proposed changes. Commissioner Dean noted the Education POC recommended that the Commission initiate rulemaking to consider proposed revisions to the Rule.

Following the opportunity provided for questions and answers, public comment, and Commission discussion, the Commission took the following actions:

#### Commission Actions:

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to initiate rulemaking for Rule 61G-20-6.002, and to conduct a rule development workshop at the April 13, 2021 meeting, and to delegate authority to Thomas Campbell to sign rulemaking documents on behalf of the Chairman of the Florida Building Commission.

#### XI. CONSIDERATION OF ACCESSIBILITY WAIVER APPLICATIONS

Justin Vogel, Accessibility Advisory Council legal advisor, presented the Accessibility Advisory Council's recommendations for all waiver applications, and the Commission reviewed and decided on the waiver applications submitted for their consideration.

#### Commission Actions Regarding Accessibility Waiver Applications:

# 1. Bernard Cap Warehouse Renovations – Waiver 494 - 620 W 27th Street, Hialeah 33010

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to grant the waiver for vertical accessibility to the second floor based on the grounds of economic hardship.

#### 2. Bodega Taqueria y Tequila - Waiver 503 - 3419 Main Highway, Miami 33133

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to grant the waiver for vertical accessibility to the mezzanine level on the grounds of economic hardship.

#### XII. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR PRODUCT AND ENTITY APPROVAL

Jeff Blair presented the Product Approval Oversight Committee's recommendations for entities and product approvals on the consent agenda for approval, and product approvals with comments and/or discussion.

## Commission Actions on the Consent Agendas for Approval:

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve the consent agenda of product approval entities (13) as posted/presented.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve the consent agenda of products (385) recommended for approval to the 2020 Code as amended\*.

## Commission Action on Products Pulled from Consent Agenda:

Product FL 36968\* was pulled from the consent agenda for individual consideration at the request of DBPR staff and as recommended by the POC.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to conditionally approve FL 36968 to allow the applicant to change or reestablish the quality assurance entity for the product.

# Commission Actions Regarding Product Approval Applications With Comments—2020 Code:

1.) Members of the public were offered an opportunity to comment on the consent agenda of products with comments recommended for approval (1), commissioners were offered an opportunity to pull products off of the consent agenda, and then a vote was taken on the consent agenda for approval and subsequently on any products pulled for individual consideration.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve the consent agenda of products with comments (1) recommended for approval to the 2020 Code.

## Commission Actions Regarding DBPR Applications:

There was no Commission action required regarding the February 2021 DBPR Applications. The complete results of Commission decisions regarding applications for product and entity approvals are available on the BCIS. *(See BCIS Website for Linked Committee Report)* 

## XIII. CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR ACCREDITOR AND COURSE APPROVAL

Commissioner Dean presented the applications, and the Commission reviewed and decided on the accreditor and course applications submitted for their consideration as follows:

#### Commission Actions:

*MOTION*—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 – 0 in favor, to approve advanced accredited course numbers: 1016.0, 1030.0, 1031.0, 1032.0, 1029.0, 1018.0, 1037.0, 1040.0, and 1041.0.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to conditionally approve advanced accredited course number: 1042.0.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve advanced accredited course number: 1036.0.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to deny approval of advanced accredited course number: 1028.0.

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve administratively approved updated courses numbers: 653.3, and 817.2.

*MOTION*—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to approve administratively approved updated course with one change number: 292.2.

## XIV. LEGAL REPORT

Justin indicated that there were no new relevant legal updates to report to the Commission for the February 2021 meeting, and rulemaking initiatives approved by the Commission are ongoing.

#### XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman Schock requested TAC and POC chairs to confine their reports to a brief summary of any key recommendations, emphasizing any issues requiring an action from the Commission. The Chair requested if the TAC/POC requires Commission action, to frame the needed action in the form of a proposed motion. This will ensure that the Commission understands exactly what the TACs and POCs are recommending, and the subsequent action requested of the Commission. Acceptance of a committee report does not approve any recommendations contained within the report, and specific recommendations must be considered by separate motions.

Committee reports are linked to the following URL (Linked to Commission's February 9, 2021 Agenda):

http://www.floridabuilding.org/fbc/commission/FBC\_0221/index.htm

#### **Education POC**

Commissioner Dean presented the POC's report and recommendations.

#### Commission Action:

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to accept the POC's report as presented/posted (February 2, 2021).

#### Hurricane Research Advisory Committee (HRAC)

Jeff Blair presented the HRAC's report and recommendations.

#### Commission Action:

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to accept the HRAC's report as presented/posted (January 28, 2021).

#### **Product Approval POC**

Commissioner Hershberger presented the POC's report and recommendations.

#### Commission Action:

**MOTION**—The Commission voted unanimously, 15 - 0 in favor, to accept the POC's report and Facilitator's summary report as presented/posted (February 2, 2021).

#### XVI. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS AND ISSUES

Chairman Schock invited Commission members to offer any general comments to the Commission, or identify any issues or agenda items for the next Commission meeting.

#### Commissioner Comments:

• None were offered.

#### XVII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public were offered an opportunity to provide comment during each of the Commission's substantive discussion agenda items. In addition, Chairman Schock invited members of the public to address the Commission on any issues under the Commission's purview.

#### Public Comments:

• None were offered.

#### XVIII. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING OVERVIEW AND ISSUES

The April 13, 2021 meeting will focus on the Commission's regular procedural and substantive issues, and rule development initiatives. The April meeting will be conducted as a virtual meeting via webinar.

(Attachment 5—Commission Meeting Schedule)

#### **OTHER COMMISSION ACTIONS**

All Commission actions taken during the February 9, 2021 meeting are reflected within specific agenda items.

#### STAFF ASSIGNMENTS FROM THE FEBRUARY 9, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING

All Commission actions taken during the February 9, 2021 meeting are reflected within specific agenda items.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The Chair thanked Commission members, staff and the public for their participation, and adjourned the meeting at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

#### XIX. New Commissioner Training

The Chair explained that when new commissioners are appointed to the Commission DBPR Staff provides the new Commissioners with a briefing on key components of the Building Code System. The Chair explained that DBPR staff would provide the new commissioners with a briefing on the Product Approval System and the Accessibility Waiver application process for the February meeting, and with a briefing on other components of the Building Code System at the April meeting. The new commissioners were subsequently provided with a briefing on the Product Approval System and the Accessibility Waiver application process by Mo Madani.

# ATTACHMENT 1

# FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION MEETING EVALUATION RESULTS

#### FEBRUARY 9, 2021—VIRTUAL MEETING VIA WEBINAR AND TELECONFERENCE

Average rank using a 0 to 10 scale, where 0 means totally disagree and 10 means totally agree.

Number of Respondents: 7 of 15 (47% response rate) Commissioners participating in the virtual meeting completed meeting evaluations.

#### 1. OVERALL MEETING ASSESSMENT.

- <u>9.9</u> The background information was very useful.
- 9.9 The agenda packet was very useful.
- <u>9.9</u> The objectives for the meeting were stated at the outset.
- <u>9.9</u> Overall, the objectives of the meeting were fully achieved.

#### 2. Commissioners level of agreement that the meeting objectives were achieved.

- 9.9 Chair's Discussion Issues and Recommendations.
- 9.9 Executive Director's Announcements and Discussions.
- 9.9 8th Edition (2022), Florida Building Code Workplan Approval.
- 9.9 Commission Consensus Building Process and Participation Guidelines Training.
- 9.9 Changes to Rule 61G20-6.002 Discussion.
- 9.9 Applications for Accessibility Waiver Applications Approvals.
- 9.9 Applications for Products and Product Approval Entities Approvals.
- <u>9.9</u> Applications for Accreditor and Course Approvals.
- 9.9 TAC, POC, Committee, and Workgroup Reports and Recommendations.

#### 3. How well the Facilitator helped the Commissioners engage in the meeting.

- 9.9 The members followed the direction of the Facilitator.
- <u>9.9</u> The Facilitator made sure the concerns of all members were heard.
- 9.9 The Facilitator helped us arrange our time well.
- 9.9 Commission actions were documented accurately in Facilitator's Report (previous meeting).

#### 4. Commissioners level of satisfaction with the meeting.

- 9.9 Overall, I am very satisfied with the meeting.
- <u>9.9</u> I was very satisfied with the services provided by the Facilitator.
- <u>9.9</u> I am satisfied with the outcome of the meeting.

#### 5. How well the next steps were communicated.

- <u>9.9</u> I know what the next steps following this meeting will be.
- <u>9.9</u> I know who is responsible for the next steps.

# 6. WHAT COMMISSIONERS LIKED BEST ABOUT THE MEETING.

- Great job as always Jeff.
- Very well done.
- Everyone on the agenda was prepared and the meeting moved along at a nice pace.

# 7. Comments Regarding How the Meeting Could Have Been Improved.

- Nothing.
- No suggestions.

# 8. FEEDBACK ON HOW THE VIRTUAL MEETING WORKED AND COULD BE IMPROVED.

- The format has been working well and I think everyone is used to it now.
- Meetings are running very good.
- I think virtual meetings are difficult due to the inability to create stronger relationships with our fellow commissioners, however they are necessary during this pandemic times.
- Exceptionally good job in keeping background noise out of the meeting. Keep up the good work.

# SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS FROM THE COMMENTS PROVIDED ABOVE

• None offered.

# ATTACHMENT 2 February 9, 2021 Meeting Agenda

# FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION PLENARY SESSION FEBRUARY 9, 2021 TELECONFERENCE/WEBINAR

## **MEETING OBJECTIVES**

- > To Approve Regular Procedural Topics (Agenda and Minutes).
- > To Consider/Decide on Chair's Discussion Issues/Recommendations.
- > To Consider/Decide on Executive Director Announcements and Discussions.
- ➤ To Review/Approve Proposed Workplan for the Florida Building Code, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023).
- > To Receive Training on the Commission's Consensus Building Processes.
- ➤ To Review and Discuss Possible Changes to Rule 61G20-6.002.
- > To Consider/Decide on Accessibility Waiver Applications.
- > To Consider/Decide on Approvals/Revocations of Products & Product Approval Entities.
- > To Consider Applications for Accreditor and Course Approval.
- ➢ To Receive a Legal Report Briefing.
- > To Receive/Decide on Reports and Recommendations from Committees.
- > To Hear Commissioner and Public Comment.
- To Identify Needed Next Steps, Assignments, and Agenda Items for Next Meetings (April 13, 2021 virtual meetings).

# COMMISSION COMMITTEES—WEBINAR AND TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS

January 28, 2021	10:00 a.m.	Hurricane Research Advisory Committee
February 2, 2021	8:30 a.m.	Education Program Oversight Committee
February 2, 2021	10:00 a.m.	Product Approval Program Oversight Committee
February 2, 2021	2:00 p.m.	Accessibility Advisory Council

MEETING AGENDA—FEBRUARY 9, 2021			
	All Agenda Times—Including Adjournment—Are Approximate and Subject to Change		
8:30	1.)	Welcome and Opening, Roll Call	
a.m.		Virtual Meeting Participation Process Guidelines	
	2.)	Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda	
	3.)	Review and Approval of January 12, 2021 Facilitator's Summary Report and Meeting Minutes	
	4.)	Chair's Discussion Issues:	
		Appointments	
		Closing Roll Call	

1	Updated Milestones
5.)	Executive Director Announcements and Discussions:
	2021 Legislative Update
	Future Meetings:
	April 13, 2021-Webinar or TBD June 8, 2020 - Hyatt Regency, Sarasota
 6.)	Discussion and Approval of the Florida Building Code, 8 <sup>th</sup> Edition, (2023)
0.)	Workplan.
 7.)	Training on the Commission's Consensus Building Processes.
,	
	Florida Building Commission Consensus Building Process Presentation
	Additional Information:
	Guidance for Commission Committee Chairs, Commissioners, and Committee
	Members
8.)	Discussion of Possible Changes to Rule 61G20-6.002.
	Request for Changes to Rule 61G20-6.002
	Request for Changes to Rule 01020-0.002
	Additional Information:
	Current Rule Language for Rule 61G20-6.002
	Section 553.841, Florida Statutes
	Form FBCED 2003-03
 9.)	Accessibility Waiver Applications: (Accessibility Advisory Council Report)
 ,	
10.)	Applications for Product (2020) and Entity Approval.
11.)	Applications for Accreditor and Course Approval.
12.)	Legal Report:
13.)	Committee Reports:
14.)	Commissioner Comment
15.)	Public Comment
 16.)	Adjourn Commission Plenary Session
17.)	New Commissioner Training
	1. Product Approval Program
	2. Accessibility Waiver Applications

# ATTACHMENT 3 Key to Common Acronyms

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
ADA	Americans With Disabilities Act
ADAAG	ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities
BCSA	Florida Building Code System Assessment
BOAF	Building Officials Association of Florida
DACS or FDACS	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
DBPR	Department of Business and Professional Regulations
DCA	Department of Community Affairs (Abolished 2011)
DEP or FDEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
DOH or FDOH	Florida Department of Health
DOJ	U.S. Department of Justice
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FACBC	Florida Accessibility Code for Building Construction
FAR	Florida Administrative Register (previously FAW)
FBC	Florida Building Code
FBC	Florida Building Commission
FECC	Florida Energy and Conservation Code
IBC	International Building Code
ICC	International Code Council
РОС	Program Oversight Committee (Education and Product Approval)
SAD	ADA Standards for Accessibility Design
ТАС	Technical Advisory Committee

# ATTACHMENT 4 Florida Building Commission History and Overview

#### HISTORY

Following Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and Hurricane Opal in 1995, Florida experienced record-breaking insurance losses resulting in a crisis affecting every homeowner in the state. The Governor appointed a Building Code Study Commission, and the Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium designed and facilitated a two-year study and deliberation process with the 28 members representing a range of interests in the public and private sectors, through which the Commission evaluated the building code system.

The study revealed that building code adoption and enforcement was inconsistent throughout the state and even local codes thought to be the strongest proved inadequate when tested by major hurricane events. The consequences were devastation to lives and economies and a statewide property insurance crisis. The Commission recommended reform of the state building construction system which placed emphasis on uniformity and accountability. The Study Commission recommended a Florida Building Code System comprised of *Five Foundations for a Better Built Environment* described as: I. The Code; II. The Commission; III. Local Administration of the Code; IV. Strengthening Compliance and Enforcement; and, V. Product Approval.

The legislature enacted the consensus recommendations into law in 1998. In late 1998, the FCRC Consensus Center was asked by the Commission's chair to assist the newly created Florida Building Commission in its effort to build consensus for a uniform building code proposal. A complex consensus building process was put in place that included designing and facilitating meetings of 12 balanced technical advisory groups of 11 members each appointed by the Commission, as well as the Commission's meetings. Facilitated Solutions, LLC continues to work with the Commission by providing facilitation and consensus-building services using the same process and facilitator.

#### **OVERVIEW**

**COMMISSION REPRESENTATION.** The Florida Building Commission has consisted of as many as 27 members, and as of January 1, 2021 is a 19-member representative stakeholder group who successfully created, implemented, and maintains and updates the new statewide Florida Building Code. The Commission is comprised 19 members appointed by the Governor to represent specific stakeholder groups. They are as follows: three municipal, county, or district code officials; an architect; a persons with disabilities representative; a structural engineer; an air conditioning or mechanical contractor, or mechanical engineer; an electrical contractor or electrical engineer; a manufactured buildings industry representative; a certified general or building contractor; a certified residential contractor; a plumbing contractor; a roofing or sheet metal contractor; a swimming pool contractor; a building products manufacturing industry representative; and the Governor's Chief Resilience Officer or designee.

**CONSENSUS PROCESS.** The Florida Building Commission (FBC) seeks to develop consensus decisions on its recommendations and policy decisions. General consensus is a participatory process whereby, on matters of substance, the members strive for agreements which all of the members can accept, support, live with or agree not to oppose. In instances where, after vigorously exploring possible ways to enhance the members' support for the final decision on substantive decisions, and the Commission finds that 100 percent acceptance or support is not achievable, final decisions require at least 75 percent favorable vote of all members present and voting. This super majority decision rule underscores the importance of actively developing consensus throughout the process on substantive issues with the participation of all members and which all can live with and support.

The Commission's consensus process is conducted as an open public process with multiple opportunities for the public to provide input to the Commission on substantive issues. At each Commission meeting, the public is welcome to speak during the public comment opportunity provided for each substantive issue under consideration, as well as general public comment periods provided at the end of each meeting. In addition, most substantive issues before the Commission go through a technical advisory committee review or workgroup process where consensus recommendations are developed by appointed representative stakeholder groups, providing additional opportunities for public input. In addition many of the Commission's decisions require rule development to implement, affording additional entry points for public comment.

Since its formation in July of 1998, the Commission has demonstrated a commitment to working with affected interests to build consensus on complex issues. The adoption of the first edition of the Florida Building Code (2001 Edition), developed from September 1998 through January of 2001, involved 27 Commission meetings, dozens of facilitated public workshops and hundreds of TAC meetings. The Commission has consistently worked with all affected interests to build the best possible consensus-based decisions for the citizens of Florida. Through its committees and workgroups comprised of experts, the Commission has always developed its decisions based on the results of the best engineering and science available. Since 1999 the Commission has convened 68 special issue stakeholder workgroups to develop broad based consensus recommendations on issues of concern to stakeholders. Although the Code is by law a minimum building code, the Florida Building Code is the strongest consensus and science based building code in the country. The Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) ranked the Florida Building Code as number one in their 2018 assessment of residential building code enforcement systems for life safety and property protection in hurricane prone regions.

In summary, the Florida Building Commission provides a forum for stakeholders representing key interests to participate in a consensus-building process where issues affecting the construction industry are discussed and evaluated on their technical merits and cost-benefits to the citizens of the State of Florida. In addition, as a result of the Commission's proven consensus-building process and success in developing consensus on tough issues, the Florida Legislature annually assigns policy issues to the Commission for evaluation and implementation.

# ATTACHMENT 5 Commission's Updated Meeting Schedule and 2023 Code Update Workplan Updated February 9, 2021

COMMISSION MEETING DATES FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021			
August 4, 2020	Webinar/Teleconference Virtual Meeting		
October 13, 2020	Webinar/Teleconference Virtual Meeting		
December 15, 2020	Webinar/Teleconference Virtual Meeting		
January 12, 2021	Webinar/Teleconference Virtual Meeting		
February 9, 2021	Webinar/Teleconference Virtual Meeting		
April 13, 2021	Webinar/Teleconference Virtual Meeting		
June 8, 2021	Hyatt Regency Sarasota or virtual meeting TBD		

# COMMISSION'S 2023 CODE UPDATE DEVELOPMENT WORKPLAN

# 8<sup>TH</sup> EDITION (2023) FBC CODE UPDATE DEVELOPMENT TASKS

8 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) Update to the Florida Building Code—		
TASKS	SCHEDULE	
Selection of the model codes:		
2020 NEC published and available to the public;	08/25/2019	
2021 International Codes published and available to the public;	January 2021	
Commission selects 2021 I Codes "model codes" and 2020 NEC to conduct its	2/9/2021	
review		
Review of the model code changes:		
In coordination with ICC, staff post complete listing of the code changes to the I	2/25/2021	
Codes online		
Staff post on Commission website/Building Code Information System (BCIS)	5/17/2021	
analysis of the 2021 I-Code change to provide for identification of the following:		
• Provisions which overlap with the provisions of the FBC.		
• Provisions which correlate directly with the provisions of the FBC.		
• Provisions which provide for energy efficiency standards that meet or exceed		
the national energy standards mandated by Title III of the Energy		
Conservation and Protection Act.		
• Provisions which are necessary to maintain eligibility for federal funding and		
discounts from the National Flood Insurance Program, the Federal		
Emergency management Agency, or the United States Department of Housing		
and Urban Development.		
Residential Construction Cost Impact Workgroup (RCCIWG) reviews the 2021	TBD	
changes to the International Residential Code (IRC) and provides comments to		
the Commission's TACs on impactful code changes.		
RCCIWG meeting – on-site meeting (TBD)		

45 day public review and comment period ends (By Rule -45 day min before TAC review)	7/1/2021
Staff post on Commission website analysis of the 2021 I-Code changes with public comments	8/2/2021
(Tracking Charts and code change monographs)	
TACs review the 2021 changes to the I Codes and make recommendations to the Commission regarding those changes as follows:	9/17-28/2021
That the Commission rejects certain model code provisions by consent agenda.	
(Due to such issues as being unnecessary, negatively impacting the level of public health, safety, or general welfare provided by an existing Florida Building Code provision, diminishing the requirements of provisions related to wind resistance or water intrusion, unnecessarily imposing additional costs, or potentially requiring modification or further investigation before being adopted for use in this state)	
That the Commission approves certain model code provisions by consent agenda.	
(When considering whether to recommend inclusion on a consent agenda for approval, the TACs shall consider such criteria as whether the model code provisions are editorial or organizational in nature, correct an error, provide clarification, provide for alternative design methods, improve the effectiveness of the code, are uncontroversial to affected stakeholders, or are required by law.)	
That the Commission approve or reject certain model code provisions after considering them individually.	
(When recommending individual consideration of model code updates, the TACs shall consider such criteria as whether the update has the potential to impose significant costs, cause confusion or regulatory difficulty, may be unnecessary, is highly controversial to affected stakeholders, or requires further evaluation.)	
TACs meetings – on site - TBD	
Staff post TACs' recommendations online for further public review	10/15/2021
Deadline for requesting amendments (2021 I-Codes changes) to be pulled of the consent agenda for individual consideration	11/19/2021
Commission considers TACs' recommendations regarding the latest changes to the model codes - on site meeting (TBD)	12/14-15/2021
Staff post Commission's recommendations online	1/3/2022
Proposed modification to the foundation code and Commission's approved I –	
Codes changes $116 + 1 + 7^{th} = 116 + (2020) = 106 + 114$	1 / 1 / 2022
Period for public to propose modifications to the 7 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) FBC and the	1/4/2022 - 2/15/2022
Commission's approved I-Codes changes. Proposed amendments reviewed by staff and posted to the Commission website	2/15/2022 3/3/2022
1 <sup>st</sup> 45 day comment period ends (By law -45 day min before TAC review)	4/18/2022
1 45 day comment period ends (by law -45 aay min before IAC review)	4/18/2022

Staff post on Commission website proposed code changes (Tracking Charts and	5/2/2022
Detail Reports)	
TACs consider proposed modifications (1 <sup>st</sup> 45 day comment period)	6/20-24/2022
TACs meetings - 4-day on-site meetings	
TACs recommendations posted to the website Starting date for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> 45 day	7/12/2022
comment period	
Residential Construction Cost Impact Workgroup (RCCIWG) reviews the TACs'	TBD
recommendations with regard to the proposed modifications to the Florida	
Residential Code (FRC) and provides comments to the TACs/Commission on	
impactful code changes.	
RCCIWG meeting – on-site meeting (TBD)	
2 <sup>nd</sup> 45 day comment period ends (by law – 45 day min before Commission	8/26/2022
review)	
Staff post on Commission website proposed code changes with comments	9/21/2022
(Tracking Chats and Details Reports)	
TACs consider public comments on their actions on the proposed mods	10/11-14/2022
TACs meetings – 4-day meetings [2-day on-site (TBD) and 2 – day via	
conference/webinar] – As needed and as applicable	
Staff post on Commission website TACs consideration of public comments	11/10/2022
Commission considers TAC recommendations (2 <sup>nd</sup> 45 day comment period)	12/13-14/2022
Commission – 2-day meeting	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
8 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBC (7 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) FBC, Florida Supplement and	1/19/2023
Commission's approved I Codes) posted online	, ,
Provide Supplements to ICC for integration into the 7 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2020)	
TACs review comments to Rule Development Workshop of March 13, 2020 and	2/22-24/2023
make recommendations to the Commission	_/ / _0_0
TACs meetings - 3-day on-site meetings and 3-day conference call/webinar	
meetings	
Rule development Workshop	March 13, 2023
Commission – 1-day meeting	
Integrated Draft 8 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBC – Posted online	May 22, 2023
<i>Hearing</i> on 8 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBC to consider received comments	TBD
<i>Final Rule Hearing</i> on 8 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBC/Commission approves final	TBD
version of Code	
8 <sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) Florida Fire Prevention Code available in final format	
Rule Submitted to Secretary of State and Supplement/Integrated posted online –	TBD
subject to addressing all JAPC's concerns	
Final FBC -PDF posted	TBD
Printed Code available - subject to negotiation with ICC	TBD
2023 FBC <b>(8<sup>th</sup> edition)</b> effective date (6 – months after publication)	12/31/2023
553.73(7)(e) A rule updating the Florida Building Code in accordance with this subsec	
sooner than 6 months after publication of the updated code. Any amendment to the Flor	

sooner than 6 months after publication of the updated code. Any amendment to the Florida Building Code which is adopted upon a finding by the commission that the amendment is necessary to protect the public from immediate threat of harm takes effect immediately.