

**INTERNATIONAL CODE  
COUNCIL**



**The ICC Code  
Development Process**

# ICC Vision



**Protecting the health, safety, and welfare of people by creating better buildings and safer communities.**

# ICC Mission



**Providing the highest quality codes, standards, products, and services for all concerned with the safety and performance of the built environment.**

# The I-Codes



## 13 Codes

- **Building: IBC, IRC**
- **Fire: IFC, IWUIC**
- **Fuel Gas, Mechanical, Plumbing: IFGC, IMC, IPC, IPSDC**
- **Existing Buildings: IEBC, IPMC**
- **Specialty: IECC, ICC Performance, IZC**

# Characteristics of International Codes



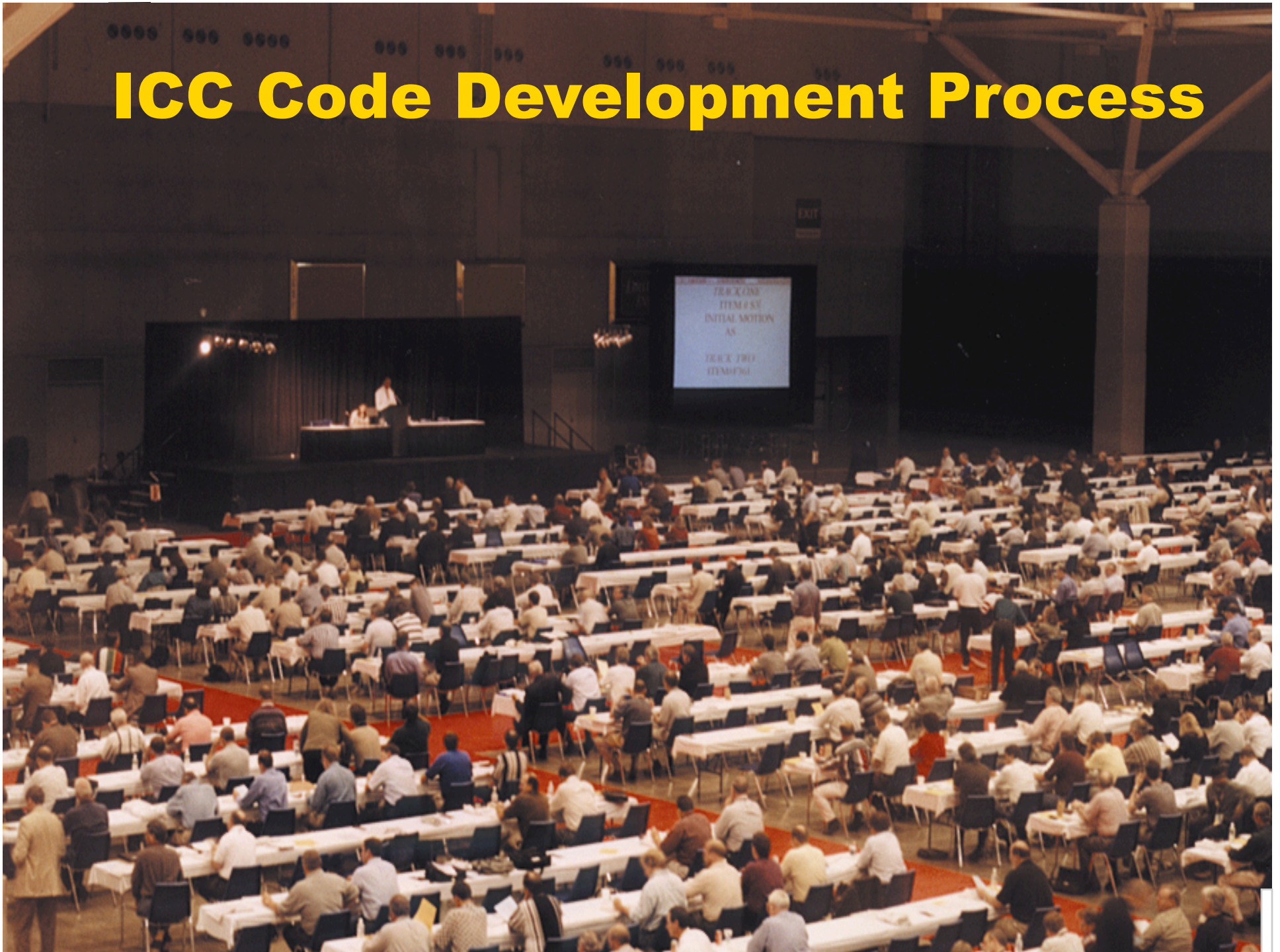
- **Each code is comprehensive**
- **All codes are coordinated and compatible with each other**
- **All codes are developed according to the same process in the same forum**
- **All codes reference consensus national standards**

# Coordination of I-Codes



- **Defined scope of each code**
- **Interdependence and reliance on the entire family of codes - cross referencing and duplication of provisions within code scopes**
- **Issues resolved in a single and central public forum**
- **Single interpretation applies to all codes**

# ICC Code Development Process



# Development Process Goal



**Utilize a process open to all parties with safeguards to avoid domination by proprietary interests. ICC Governmental Consensus Process achieves this with the final vote resting with those enforcing the codes.**



# Code Committees



- **Materially affected interests represented**
- **Not less than 33% of each committee is to be regulators**
- **All meetings in public forum**
- **All actions and reasons for action published**

# The Players



- **Code officials**
- **Design professionals/consultants**
- **Trade associations**
- **Builders/contractors**
- **Manufacturers/suppliers**
- **Government agencies**
- **Anyone with an interest**

# The Process

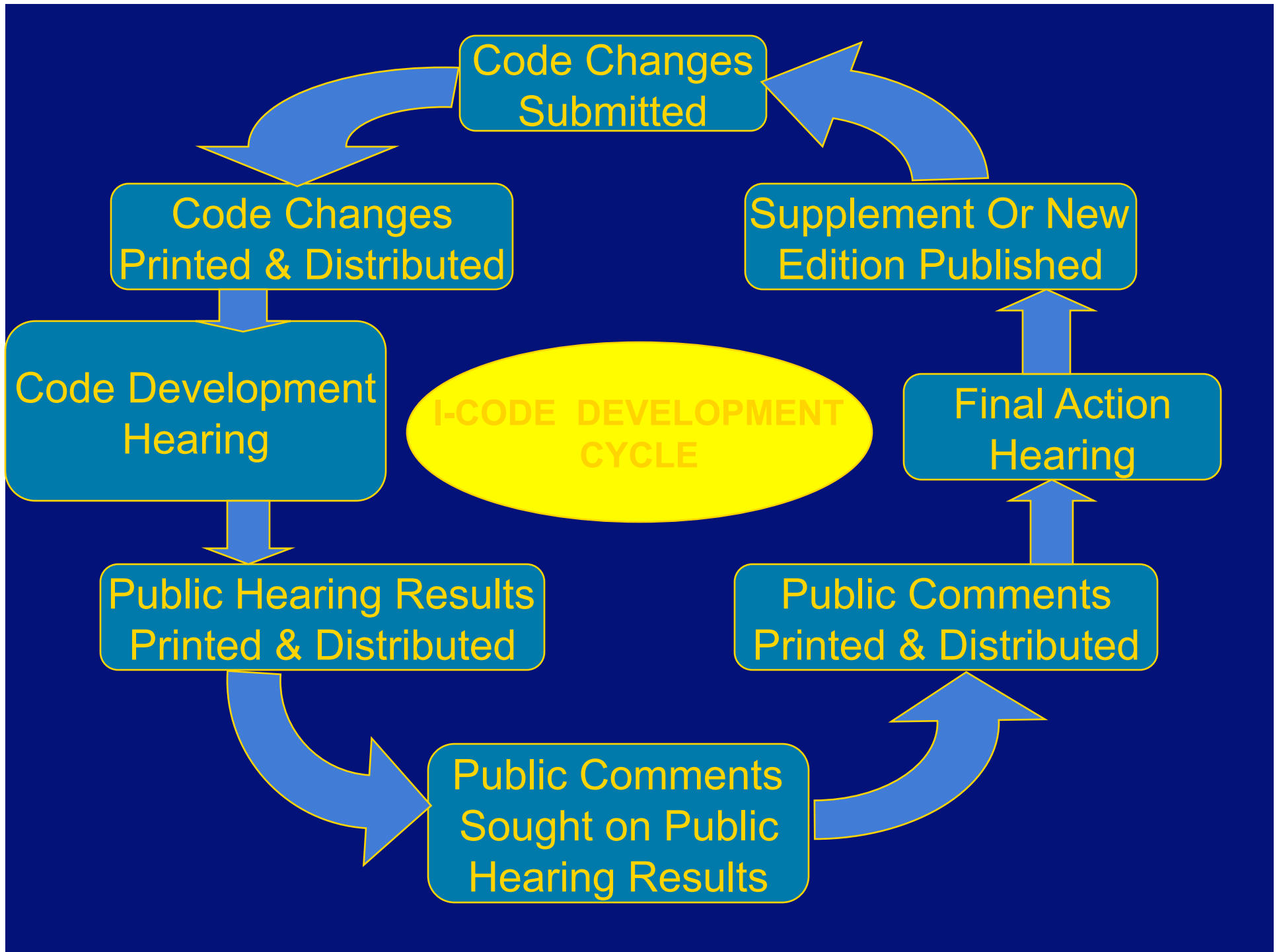


- **Open**
- **Transparent**
- **Balance of Interest**
- **Due Process**
- **Appeals Process**
- **Consensus**

# I-Code Coordination



- **ICC Code Correlation Committee (CCC)**
- **Duplication between codes, maintained by one code**
  - **Example: Sprinklers – Identical provisions in IFC Section 903 and IBC Section 903. In Section 903 of the IBC, there is an “[F]” prior to the section number. This indicates the provisions are maintained by the IFC Code Committee.**



# The Procedures



- **All aspects of the ICC Code Development Process regulated by published procedures**
- **Council Policy (CP) 28 – Code Development**
- **Website link:**
  - <http://www.iccsafe.org/news/about/bylaws.html>

# Steps in a Typical 18 month cycle



- **Code changes due. Announcement posted on the website and other media. Anyone can submit a code change**
- **Staff review**
  - **Form and format: Legislative format**
  - **Proposals must be based on current text**
- **Publish**
  - **Website: Approx. 90 days prior to Code Development Hearing**
  - **Published: Approx. 60 days prior to Code Development Hearing**

# Code Change Submittal



- **Download Public Proposal form**
  - <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/codes/publicforms.html>
- **Name and entity represented**
- **Proposed language:**
  - **Legislative revisions to current text: Underline proposed new text and ~~strike out text to be deleted~~**
- **Reason for change**
- **Email file as an attachment to ICC – instructions on form**



# Code Development Hearing



- **13 Code Committees. One for each code, except:**
  - **IBC 4 Subcommittees**
  - **IFC & IWUIC combined**
  - **IPC & IPSDC combined**
  - **IPMC & IZC combined**
  - **IRC 2 Subcommittees**
- **Anyone can attend and testify. No cost to attend the hearings**

# Code Development Hearing



- **Committee action**
  - Approval as Submitted (AS)
  - Approval as Modified (AM)
  - Disapproval (D)
- **Assembly action**
  - All members of ICC can vote in response to committee action
  - Successful assembly action results in an automatic public comment

# Report of Hearing (ROH)



- **Committee action**
- **Reason for committee action**
- **Assembly action**
- **Publish**
  - **Website: Approx. 30 days after Code Development Hearing**
  - **Published: Approx. 60 days after Code Development Hearing**

# Public Comment Submittal



- **Public Comments on Report of Hearing (ROH) – due approximately 45 days after ROH published.**
- **Allows anyone to submit a comment in response to the results of the Code Development Hearing**

# Public Comment Submittal



- **Download Public Comment form**

<http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/codes/publicforms.html>

- **Disagree with the committee action**
- **Disagree with the assembly action**
- **Propose revisions (“modifications”) to the code change. Further revisions proposed in legislative format.**
- **Published in the Final Action Agenda**

# Final Action Agenda



- **Original code change with the committee action and assembly action (if any)**
- **Public commenters requested action, including any changes to the code change in legislative format**
- **Publish**
  - **Website: Approx. 60 days prior to Final Action Hearing**
  - **Published: Approx. 30 days prior to Final Action Hearing**

# Final Action Hearing



- **Anyone can attend and testify. No cost to attend the hearings.**
- **Agenda:**
  - **Consent agenda: Block vote on all code changes which did not receive a public comment or successful assembly action**
  - **Individual Consideration Agenda: Vote individually on each code change which received a public comment or successful assembly action**

# Final Action Hearing



**Final vote on whether or not to change the code rests with the Governmental Member Representatives – those who enforce the code and are charged with the public's safety**

- Open, fair and objective with no proprietary interest**



# Results of Code Development



- **First edition of full family of I-Codes in 2000**
- **Editions follow every 3 years after 2000**
- **Intervening Supplement between Editions**

# Webcasting



- **Debut at 2002 Code Development Hearings**
- **Followed up in all subsequent hearings**
- **Streaming video and audio**
- **Internet access on your PC**
- **Currently testing remote voting capability**

# Conclusions



**The ICC remains dedicated to a single family of comprehensive and coordinated model codes. The ICC process allows all interests to participate in the code development process.**

# Additional Info



- **If you are interested in code changes submitted in previous code development cycles or the current cycle, be sure to go to the website. All this info is posted.**
  - <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/codes>
- **Questions? Call ICC's Codes & Standards Development Department**
  - **888 – ICC – SAFE x 4340**