



WORKSHOP AGENDA

Washington D.C., USA, May 9, 2017.

Economic Impact of Building Regulations

This workshop will focus upon how building regulations impact the economy.

Tuesday May 9 th		
8:30-8:45	Welcome	Dwayne Garriss, President ICC Board & State Fire Marshal, Georgia
8:45-9:15	Economic Impact of Building Regulations	Lori Parris, Deputy Director, Washington D.C., Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA)
9:15-9:45	Metrics and Tools for Sustainable Buildings	Dr. Eric O'Rear, Economist Applied Economics Office (AEO), Engineering Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
9:45-10:15	Building Regulation for Resilience	Thomas Moullier, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank
10:15-10:45	Coffee break	
10:45-11:15	Economic Impacts of Building Regulations, National Research Council Updates	Phillip Rizcallah, Program Director, National Research Council Canada
11:15-11:45	The Macro and the Micro Economic Impacts of Australian Building Regulation	Neil Savery, General Manager, Australian Building Codes Board, (ABCB) Australia
11:45-12:15	Building Codes: Economic Impact	Cindy Davis, Deputy Director, Division of Building & Fire Regulations, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
12:15-1:15	Lunch	
1:15-1:45	Japanese Experience regarding Economic Impact of Building Regulations	Dr. Wataru Gojo, Executive Director, Building Research Institute, Japan
1:45-2:15	Building Regulations in Norway, History and development	Dr. Vidar Stenstad, Chief Engineer, Norway Building Authority
2:15-2:45	Economic Impact of Building Regulations	Amanda Kimball, Research Director, National Fire Protection Research Foundation
2:45-3:00	Coffee Break	
3:00-3:50	Discussion	Moderators: Brian Meacham and Beth Tubbs
3:50-4:00	Summary and close	Beth Tubbs

Economic Impact of Adopting Building Regulations

The economic impact of adopting the most current building regulations available is a topic that is of high priority to the ICC. We have a unique method of developing and implementing building and fire regulations in the United States. In the US the police power is delegated to the states which leave the ability to regulate buildings to state and local governments. Building regulations are developed by not for profit public benefit organizations. This then becomes a partnership between public and private entities. When building regulations are not updated on a regular basis construction of new buildings may not be able to take advantage of innovative methods and materials. Additionally, the building infrastructure may not be best prepared for hazards such as earthquakes, hurricanes and fire. Building regulations have also been criticized of making building construction to expensive. This argument has especially been focused on housing affordability.

It is understood that the types of regulations vary from country to country and that the US is unique. However, we would like to explore this issue from the different and unique perspectives of IRCC members. It is also understood that in the last 15-20 years many of the IRCC countries have refocused their regulations as performance based. However, much of the time building design and construction is undertaken using approved methods that may be seen as prescriptive. We would like to understand what works well and what has been problematic with your building regulatory systems from a perspective of the economic impact of such regulations. This may be somewhat related to how such codes are implemented and enforced at a local level.