



**Request for City Council Committee Action  
From the Department of Operations & Regulatory Services**

Date March 20, 2003  
To Public Safety & Regulatory Services Committee

**Subject Amend Title 5, Chapter 85 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to *Building Code: In General*, to incorporate the Minnesota State Building Code as self-perpetuating**

**Recommendation**

The Department of Operations & Regulatory Services recommends that the City Council amend Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, Chapter 85, Section 85.20 to incorporate the new Minnesota State Building Code as self-perpetuating, and to correlate necessary amendments for consistency.

**Previous Directives**

The subject matter was referred by the City Council to the PS&RS committee and the public hearing was set for their March 26, 2002 meeting.

Prepared by: Connie Fournier, Deputy Director, Construction Inspection Services  
Henry Reimer, Assistant City Attorney

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Merwyn Larson, Director, Inspections

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John Bergquist, Asst. City Coordinator & Director  
Operations & Regulatory Services

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John Moir, City Coordinator

Presenters in Committee: Connie Fournier, Deputy Director, Construction Inspection Services

<p><b>Financial Impact</b> (Check those that apply)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget. (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires use of contingency or reserves</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other financial impact (Explain):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator</p>
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**Community Impact** (use any categories that apply)

Neighborhood Notification

City Goals

Comprehensive Plan

Zoning Code

Other

### **Historical Background**

The 2003 Minnesota State Building Code has been signed by Governor Pawlenty into law and becomes effective the end of this month. Municipalities such as Minneapolis that enforce the State Building Code need to update their local ordinances to incorporate the new code for proper enforcement.

The attached proposed ordinance language adopts the most current edition of the State Building Code in perpetuity. This one-time incorporation will simplify the adoption process for the future. As the State updates or adopts new codes, there will be no need to amend the ordinance unless the City modifies its fee schedules or optional chapters.

Of significant note, this new State Code includes the adoption of the 2000 International Building Code, 2000 International Residential Code and the 2000 Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings. These international documents represent in part the culmination of a national effort starting in 1994 to create one model code for the country. This single set of codes will provide a uniform set of building regulations for design professionals, contractors, developers and regulators alike.

Please note that the Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings will in itself provide easier regulations for remodeling present buildings. These new guidelines will encourage owners to maintain and enhance their properties. This is the document that has been commonly referred to as the "Smart Code".

This State Code adoption follows upon an historic event in code enforcement. On January 21, 2003, at a special ceremony, the International Code Council (ICC) signed an agreement to become one consolidated organization effective February 1st. This action combined into one organization the previous three model code groups: Building Officials and Code Administrators International (BOCA), International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) and Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCCI). ICC will now move forward with one code and as one organization.

