

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Executive Office of the Mayor

Office of Communications



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, March 26, 2014

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District of Columbia to Publish New Construction Codes

Adoption of New Construction Codes Puts District at Forefront of Sustainable Building Practices

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) -- Mayor Vincent C. Gray announced today that the District of Columbia will adopt the 2013 D.C. Construction Codes this Friday, March 28, 2014. The new codes reflect some of the most modern, sustainable, and energy- and water-efficient building practices, and will replace the District's 2008 Construction Codes.

By adopting the 2013 D.C. Green Construction Code and the 2013 D.C. Energy Conservation Code as mandatory codes applicable to public- and private-sector buildings, the District has achieved a national leadership role in fostering green-building practices. Both codes will fundamentally transform the way buildings are constructed in the District.

The 2013 Energy Conservation Code will require that new buildings perform as much as 30 percent more efficiently, and the District's inaugural Green Construction Code will extend the building practices legislated by the D.C. Green Building Act of 2006 to most construction projects. The new codes will result in energy and water savings as well as a greener and healthier city environment. Adoption of the new codes represents a significant step toward meeting the goals of [Mayor Gray's Sustainable DC initiative](#).

"The District's new Construction Codes make clear our commitment to sustainable building practices and to our Sustainable DC vision," said Mayor Gray. ***"The new codes will greatly reduce our carbon emissions, conserve our natural resources, and help property owners save substantial amounts of money on their energy bills."***

The 2013 Construction Codes are based on the 2012 model codes published by the International Code Council (ICC), and the 2011 National Electrical Code published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), with amendments to reflect unique District policies and characteristics.

The new codes incorporate more than 500 local D.C. amendments to the ICC and NFPA Codes. The Construction Codes Coordinating Board (CCCB), which is housed in the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) and whose membership includes District government and private-industry experts, drafted the changes. More than 100 individuals, including architects, engineers, contractors, property

managers, real estate developers and government regulators, contributed their time, through Technical Advisory Group meetings, to ensure the most appropriate codes possible.

“The CCCB, its Technical Advisory Groups, and DCRA staff have spent thousands of hours reviewing each provision in the 2012 ICC and 2011 NFPA Codes to ensure that they reflect the best practices for the District,” said DCRA Director Nicholas Majett. “Their diligent work has enabled us to achieve the Mayor’s vision for modern, environmentally sustainable codes.”

In addition to the 2012 International Green Construction Code and the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code, the District has adopted the 2012 editions of the International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Property Maintenance Code, International Fire Code, International Existing Building Code, International Mechanical Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Plumbing Code, and the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, and the 2011 edition of the National Electrical Code.

The Construction Codes will be effective upon publication in the *D.C. Register* on Friday, March 28.

For more information on the District’s sustainability plan, Sustainable DC, visit www.sustainable.dc.gov or follow #SustainableDC on Twitter.

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