

The list of electives essentially begins to create the framework for a green building code within the Reach Code (using the components of the IGCC). While I support the incorporation of a high-performance building code in Oregon, and I believe the IGCC is the current best option, at this time, I do not support expanding the authority of the Reach Code beyond energy-related elements, regardless of mandatory or elective requirements.

The initial legislative intent of the Reach Code was to continuously raise the bar for energy-use standards of buildings in Oregon. Through the legislative and rule making process, the IGCC became a component of the Reach Code. While there is logic in the decision to follow the structure of the IGCC, the legislative authority of the Oregon Reach Code was limited to energy-related items. Incorporating broader high-performance requirements, such as Indoor Air Quality standards, views from work areas to the exterior, and recycled content of materials as placeholder items can lead to confusion with the purpose and application of the Oregon Reach Code. These placeholder items are not complete, therefore this is a fragmented approach to a high performance code.

I want to stress that I fully support the principles of the a high performance building and will continue to work through AIAO for the ultimate adoption of a high performance building code in Oregon. However, I believe the Oregon Reach Code at this time is stronger if it is limited to energy-related requirements. I encourage the Oregon Reach Code Task Force to not incorporate the electives that are not part of Chapter 6.

Kate and Franko, as members of the Task Force, I hope you will consider my perspective when you discuss the electives at the meeting today.

Thanks,

Curt

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