



December 3, 2008

Energy Efficiency Plans and Programs Study Committee  
State Energy/Building Code Perspective

Dear Energy Efficiency Plans and Programs Study Committee:

Currently it is difficult to determine how the 947 cities in the state are treating building and energy codes, especially the smaller communities. With 51% of cities under 500 in population, 71% of cities under 1,000 and 96% under 10,000 it is evident that small communities make up a large proportion of the cities in the state.

In response to a request from the Commission on Energy Efficiency Standards and Practices the Iowa League of Cities is compiling a survey instrument which will be presented to the Commission at their second meeting on December 4th, 2008. The contents of this survey will be determined by the commission, but a draft copy is provided on the following pages.

The purpose of this survey is to provide insight into how cities are currently handling building and energy codes in their communities. It also highlights possible enforcement mechanisms that cities could be using in regards to both types of codes.

Sincerely,

Shannon Paseka  
Research & Fiscal Analyst

SLP:sb

*Serving Iowa's cities since 1898*

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## General Information

Which city are you representing?

Population of your city as of the 2000 Census, or Special Census

What is your name?

What is your title? (EX: City Clerk)

## Building Requirement Information

Does your city issue building permits for construction projects?

Yes

No

Does your city issue another type of permit for construction projects? If Yes, please explain:

Has your city adopted the State Building Code by local ordinance?

Yes

No

Has your city adopted a local building code?

Yes

No

Does your local building code include the adoption by reference of any nationally recognized codes, such as the following: (Check all that apply and indicate what edition is in effect)

	Edition:
Adopted International Building Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted International Residential Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted International Existing Building Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted International Mechanical Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted Plumbing Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted International Fire Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted Other International Codes	<input type="text"/>
Adopted National Electrical Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted NFPA 5000 Building Construction and Safety Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted Uniform Plumbing Code	<input type="text"/>
Adopted Uniform Mechanical Code	<input type="text"/>

Has your city authorized the use of a building code adopted by your county?

Yes

No

## Enforcement of Building Codes

Does your city have any type of enforcement mechanism for your building code?

Yes

No

Does your city review construction plans of building projects?

Yes

No

Does your city require that those construction plans go through an approval process?

Yes

No

Does your city go to the site of the construction project and perform an inspection?

Yes

No

Typically, how many times during the construction project does a representative from your city go to the site and perform an inspection?

Provide any additional comments on the enforcement process in your city:

## State Energy Code Information

Under Iowa Code Chapter 103A, the State Energy Code, which is found in 661 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 303, establishes requirements for energy conservation in construction which now apply statewide.

If your city reviews construction plans, does this review include checking for compliance with energy conservation requirements?

Yes

No

If your city conducts inspections, do these inspections include checking for compliance with energy conservation requirements?

Yes

No

What barriers does your city face in the process to enforce the State's Energy Code?