

PMGCAC proposals for BCAC  
12-7-2020

Proposal	Topic	Co-sponsor
PMGCAC Item 29	IBC 1202.5 (IMC 402.1)	
PMGCAC Item 35	IBC 1202.1	
PMGCAC Item 36	IRC 303.5.1	

## PMGCAC Item 29:

**Sections:** IBC 1202.5 (IMC 402.1)

**Proponents:** BCAC and PMGCAC

**Revise as follows:**

**IBC 1202.5 (IMC 402.1) Natural ventilation.** Natural *ventilation* of an occupied space shall be ~~through windows, doors, louvers or other openings to the outdoors. The operating mechanism for such openings shall be provided with ready access so that the openings are readily controllable by the building occupants.~~ in accordance with ASHRAE 62.1.

**Delete without substitution:** IBC Sections 1202.5.1, 1202.5.1.1 and 1202.5.1.2. (IMC Sections 402.2 through 402.4)

**Add standard to reference standards chapter:**

ASHRAE 62.1-2019 Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality

*Staff note: The 2021 IMC already references ASHRAE 62.1-2019 so this addition will not be a new standard to the I-codes.*

**Reason:** The current natural ventilation requirements do not fully address the subject matter which results in inadequate ventilation by natural means. Addendum L of ASHRAE standard is a more comprehensive approach.

## PMGCAC Item 35:

**Sections:** IBC 1202.1

**Proponents:** BCAC and PMGCAC

**Revise as follows:**

**1202.1 General.** Buildings shall be provided with natural ventilation in accordance with Section 1202.5, or mechanical ventilation in accordance with the International Mechanical Code. ~~Where the air infiltration rate in a dwelling unit is less than 5 air changes per hour when tested with a blower door at a pressure 0.2 inch w.c. (50 Pa) in accordance with Section 402.4.1.2 of the International Energy Conservation Code—Residential Provisions, the Dwelling units complying with the air leakage~~

requirements of the International Energy Conservation Code or ASHRAE 90.1 shall be ventilated by mechanical means in accordance with Section 403 of the International Mechanical Code. Ambulatory care facilities and Group I-2 occupancies shall be ventilated by mechanical means in accordance with Section 407 of the International Mechanical Code.

**Reason:** The IBC should mirror the conditional IMC requirements for mechanical ventilation of dwelling units.

## **PMGCAC Item 36:**

**Sections:** IRC R303.5.1

**Proponents:** BCAC and PMGCAC

**Revise as follows:**

**IRC R303.5.1 Intake openings.** Outdoor air intake openings shall be provided with access for maintenance. Mechanical and gravity outdoor air intake openings shall be located not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) from any hazardous or noxious contaminant, such as vents, chimneys, plumbing vents, streets, alleys, parking lots and loading docks. For the purpose of this section, the exhaust from dwelling unit toilet rooms, bathrooms and kitchens shall not be considered as hazardous or noxious.

**Exceptions:**

1. The 10-foot (3048 mm) separation is not required where the intake opening is located 3 feet (914 mm) or greater below the contaminant source.
2. Vents and chimneys serving fuel-burning appliances shall be terminated in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapters 18 and 24.
3. Clothes dryer exhaust ducts shall be terminated in accordance with Section M1502.3.

**Reason:** Outdoor air intakes for ventilation systems should be accessible for maintenance. A coordinate proposal is submitted to the IMC.