

Ad Hoc Committee on Healthcare (AHC) Meeting #10
July 9-10, 2013
AHC Parking Lot

This report identifies issues which have been compiled since the first AHC meeting which have been categorized as “parking lot issues”. This includes:

- Follow-up to code changes from 2012 Group A (see agenda item 7.0)
- Outstanding code issues
- Code issues outside the scope of the AHC effort
- Non code issues (see also agenda item 9.0)

Follow-up to code changes from 2012 Group A (see agenda item 7.0)

- Energy issues related to MOE lighting and exit lighting: Daylight sensors in exits, etc.
- Fireplaces
- Smoke partition continuity
- Elevator lobbies in hospitals
- Means of egress lighting and emergency lighting – follow up to E34 - 12
- Other – see agenda item 7.0 report

Outstanding code issues

- Photoluminescent devices in a defend in place strategy
- Two way communication and stand-by power for elevators in a defend in place strategy
- Exit strategies of ambulatory care where the facility is only part of the floor
 - For example, should an exit stairway be required within the smoke compartment – easy to do in new construction, but maybe not a tenant build out on a partial floor.
- Prevention of “return through smoke compartment of fire origin” vs. “smoke compartment of travel origin”
- Deletion of the glow-in-the-dark stripes on stairways in hospitals. Decision at the time was not try a change at that time. New York City reps feel that that a defend in place strategy would be a reason to not require the stripes – which would also take away the requirement for the stairways to be lit 24-7.
- Monitor code development activity for changes that may affect the “defend in place” concept.
- Occupancy questions.
 - The multitude of different types of outpatient clinics can be confusing. AHJ’s need assistance in determining occupancy classification.
 - A hospital building is a combination of several different types of spaces
 - Admin offices
 - Outpatient services
 - ASC/ Emergency dept
 - Inpatient Care
 - Storage, Mercantile, Assembly
 - ...from a big picture perspective, are the current rules regarding mixed use appropriate?

- Evacuation for all hazards not just fire.
- Information on how elevators are used during different emergencies.
- Doors – swing, size, corridor overlap, break out, smoke seal, maneuvering clearances
- Develop a code for 'safe' buildings
- Ongoing involvement. The group has identified that an ongoing forum for healthcare focused topics is important and should be considered. Potential benefits include:
 - Response to new developments within the healthcare industry/ delivery system
 - Preserve some of the institutional knowledge from the past 3 years.

Code issues outside the scope of the AHC effort

- Residential care facilities. This is out of our scope. The ICC CTC study group on Care Facilities will continue to work on this arena. We should monitor code requirements for nursing homes and other healthcare facilities to ensure that there is no overlap.
- Work of other code bodies. What input can we give to other code bodies in their development process? How do other codes (NFPA, ASCE, ASHRAE 170, etc) affect the mechanical code?
 - Determination to reference a standard IS within the scope of this effort. Be aware that this standard must meet the requirements of ICC (CP-28 compliance)
 - Modification of a standard is out of the scope of the ICC family of codes and this committee.

Non code issues (see also agenda item 9.0)

- Existing facility survey tool. Create a single “document” to be used in existing facility surveys. ICC Guides could be used as a method to create the fire code survey tool. ICC Council Policy 33
 - The relaxation of hard standards in lieu of a fire plan must be accompanied by an expectation of regular governmental oversight and survey.
- Educational tools. Encourage the creation of educational/interpretive material for healthcare codes to foster consistency in application.
 - Develop tools to aid code enforcement.
 - Clarify that hospitals and ASCs rely on balanced protection: active systems, passive systems, staff response, and regular survey of existing buildings.
 - The relaxation of hard standards in lieu of a fire plan must be accompanied by an expectation of regular governmental oversight and survey.
 - Clarify how to deal with use changes and renovations within existing buildings.