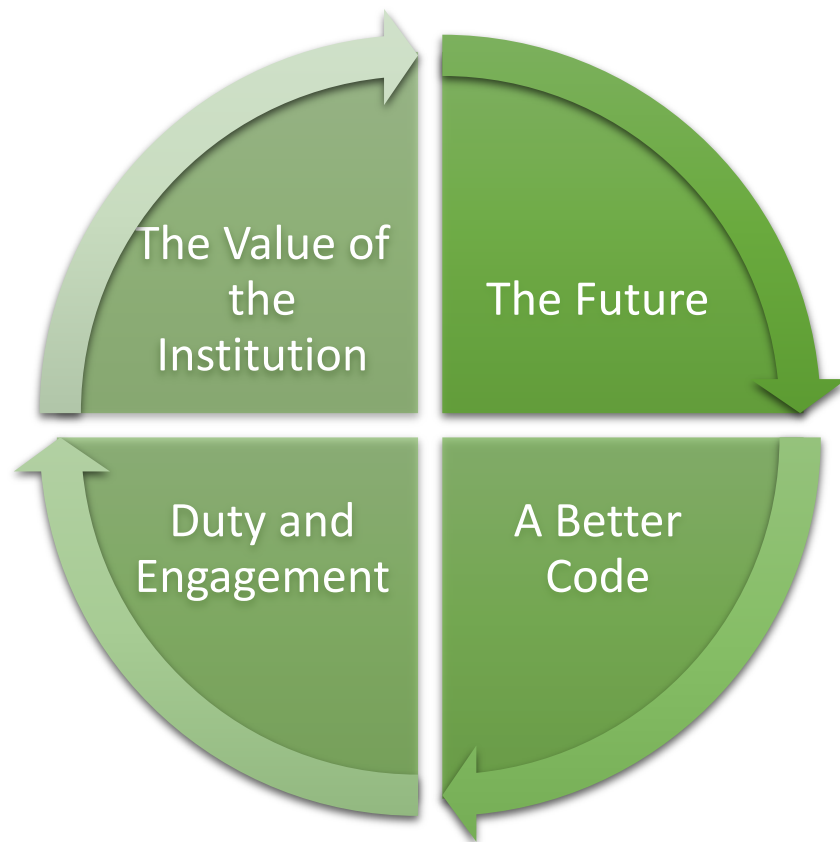


# The Vote For Your Codes Concept

## *Talking Points*



The ICC Family of Codes is the most important product that ICC creates, so when talking about why participation in the code develop process is important, the discussion touches on many basic tenets of the membership. These four concepts are deeply linked to each other and the core values of the campaign and should help refine the reasons membership should engage each other in the campaign. Below are some bullet points that can be used to explain why the Vote For Your Codes Campaign is an important step for the membership and its future, and naturally there may be overlap in these ideas.

# The Future

- Code officials are retiring in large numbers, and new folks are going to fill those shoes. Learning how the code is made is a crucial part of understanding how to enforce it. If we don't have that connection to get people voting and participating, how will these new people learn it? How might the industry suffer if new code officials aren't invited to the table for code development?
- People currently coming into the building safety industry never experienced the legacy organizations that came together to make ICC and difficulties that came with regionalization instead of standardization. If they don't see the value in participating in making the code their own, why will they stay part of ICC?

# A Better Code

- Often people worry about certain codes being too industry driven but participating by voting is exactly what makes the code **ours**.
- A code or standard is only as good as the people who help develop it. The bigger the pool of opinion, the better the product.
- You don't have to vote on everything, get involved in what you know to get started and you will learn about the rest. Use your region and chapter to help you find voting guides or get some discussion going on items outside of your expertise.

# Duty and Engagement

- ICC gives us the platform to build the code, but the code comes from us. We have a responsibility to participate.
- If the next generation of code officials isn't taught to participate in code development early on, why should they ever learn how it works? We all know that the job is more than reading a code book. If we don't push the need to see how it is made, the industry can suffer.
- Learning how the code hearings works can be intimidating, so passing institutional knowledge of how the process works is important.

# The Value of the Institution

- New code officials may have never experienced the issues that came from having lots of organizations producing code books and the reasons why ICC was created to standardize the code development process. If they don't have personal experience with the value of an ICC code, why should they join the organization and help it grow?
- ICC produces a code that is the voice of its membership. It is imperative to understand how important it is that we can change the very regulations we are tasked to enforce.