

CR ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHOOSES BO OF THE YEAR

At their Spring Committee Meeting, the Construction Research Advisory Committee announced their choice for the 2014 Building Official of the Year — City of Dallas Chief Building Official, Larry Holmes! The award was presented by the Committee president, Greg Contreras.

Larry was chosen as BO of the Year for his professionalism, code knowledge and communication skills. Larry has 34+ years of experience in the application of the construction codes and currently holds eleven ICC certifications. He says “the most

enjoyable part of my job is the people – the customers I have the opportunity to assist each day, the members



Larry Holmes and Greg Contreras

of the construction community that have partnered with us and the employees who work hard along side of me and share in any success that we achieve together.”

The Construction Research Advisory Committee is a group of individuals and organizations with vested interests in the educational activities offered by the Construction Research Center. (CRC). One such activity is the annual Building Professional Institute which is held annually in Arlington.

Congratulations, Larry, for being chosen for this honor!

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BI EXHIBIT AT HOME & GARDEN SHOW

Recently, Building Inspection employees put a spin on customer service by taking information out to the public. Several employees staffed a Building Inspection exhibit at the Texas Home and Garden Show at Dallas Market Hall on March 6-9. The BI employees were on hand to answer questions from home owners and other show attendees regarding improvements they were considering to their homes.

BI presence at this event proved to be an excellent



Jim Gay, Coordinator III, assisting homeowners with a zoning issue.



Kim Haynie, Residential Plan Review Supervisor, greeting a TXHG visitor at the BI Exhibit



Plans Examiner Hoppy Theftford explaining BI procedures to a show attendee.

opportunity to educate the public on Building Inspection codes and procedures. Especially the age old question... “Do I need a permit?”

Right: Residential Plans Examiner, Ricky Rubio assisting a visitor at the BI exhibit



CHANGES TO CHAPTER 52, FIRE, ELECTRICAL CODES ADOPTED

On February 11, 2015, the Dallas City Council approved certain changes to Chapter 52 Administrative procedures for the Construction Codes.

Section 302 was amended to allow for e-mail notification of expired applications, expired permits, and suspended or revoked permits.

Updates were made to the registration requirements for plumbing contractors, med gas/vacuum system contractors, mechanical contractors, and backflow prevention testers. In addition, registrations will soon be necessary for plumbing contractors for multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler specialist work, plumbing contractors for water supply protection special-

ist work, and water treatment special contractors.

The 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) was adopted by the City of Dallas September 10, 2014 and went into effect on October 10, 2014. Along with the IFC, the Dallas amendments were released. These amendments include updating the IFC's referenced NFPA codes from 2010 editions to the 2013 editions in many cases. These references can be found beginning on page 203 of the amended IFC. These codes include many changes for both the fire detection and the fire sprinkler trades and industries.

On February 11, 2015, the Dallas City Council adopted the 2014 National Electrical Code which be-

came effective March 13th. Changes include: expanded use of the Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter (AFCI) to include kitchens and laundry areas; expanded use of the Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) to include laundry areas, kitchen dishwasher circuits, receptacles within six feet of any sink, and receptacles installed within six feet of the outside edge of a bathtub or shower stall; and multi-car garages will require a receptacle outlet for each car space. Also, all receptacles installed in a wet location must have an "Extra Duty" hood cover.

Current code and amendments can be located on the City of Dallas website by clicking [here](#).

BI TRAINS EMPLOYEES, INDUSTRY

Building Inspection has been busy with training during the first quarter of 2015. Several training sessions were held for BI employees as well as our industry customers.

Robert Hughes, Sr. Building Inspector of the Northeast District Office, was a guest speaker at the North Central Council of Governments office, presenting information regarding Solar PV Installations.



Larry Heckler training on the 2014 NEC

Chief Electrical Code Inspector Larry Heckler presented training to electrical inspectors and plans examiners updating them on changes in the 2014 National Electrical Code, which was adopted by the Dallas City Council in March, 2015.

Meenal Chauk, Green Building Manager, presented a four-hour Green Building training session to a group of industry customers.



Meenal Chauk presenting Green Code training



Robert Hughes speaking at NCTCOG



Jay Loucks speaking at City Hall

Sr. Fire Protection Engineer Jay Loucks gave an overview of changes associated with the adoption of the 2012 International Fire Code. The presentation was held at City Hall for fire sprinkler and fire alarm contractors.

BUILDING GREEN

By Green Manager Meenal Chauk

In prioritizing human needs, shelter is second only to food. Everyone wants a place to live, and one of the best and easiest ways to lessen the impact on the planet of fulfilling that need is to build environmentally-sound structures. Not only can we improve the global environment, building green can improve our local environment.

Green building is smart building! Not taking the conventional route does add extra expense, but pay-back is a lot quicker than most people think. And, once built, a green building delivers a lifetime of energy savings. But the benefits don't stop there. Green buildings are more comfortable, return higher productivity rates and have a higher resale value. Going green can minimize the strain on local infrastructure and improve air, thermal, and acoustic environments and ultimately improve public health overall. Green buildings result in lower operating costs because they typically use less energy and materials.

The concepts about green building can be organized into several areas

of application. These areas include sustainability, materials, energy efficiency, land use, and waste reduction. Green buildings are not only designed for present use, but for future uses as well. Successfully de-

"...Green buildings are more comfortable, return higher productivity rates and have a higher resale value."

signed green projects can involve an extensive array of factors, ranging from the resourceful use of materials, to careful consideration of function, climate, and location. Buildings consume a variety of materials in their construction. Green design reduces the dependence on resource intensive products and materials. Today, there are an increasing number of products available made from efficient, earth-friendly, or recycled materials. In a green building, consideration is given to the construction process itself. Materials that minimize waste or can be recycled help contribute to an efficient and environmentally sensitive construction process.

Dallas is one of the first major cities in the nation to adopt comprehensive green building standards for both new residential

and commercial construction and stands out as one of the few large cities that are enforcing a green building code. We're implementing strong methods as we work toward being carbon neutral by 2030 and, eventually, the "greenest city in the U.S." To achieve this goal, Dallas began implementing the Green Construction Ordinance in 2009, and the second and final phase in Oct, 2013. Since then, the ordinance gradually has been extended to more building types and sizes, while making it more comprehensive.

The City of Dallas has demonstrated remarkable achievements by successfully completing about 10,500 plan reviews and 10,200 green building inspections since the beginning of the green building program in 2009.

In the words of Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations - "Climate change is destroying our path to sustainability. Ours is a world of looming challenges and increasingly limited resources. Sustainable development offers the best chance to adjust our course." The City of Dallas whole-heartedly agrees with this and is working toward meeting these challenges.

NEW EQUIPMENT FOR CENTRAL FILES OFFICE

Central Files has received new equipment! They now have new desktop scanners, wide-format scanners, a wide-format plotter and a wide-format copier. With the wide format copier, Central Files is able to produce black and white copies of large plans instead of outsourcing this

function to other departments. This helps BI provide full service to our customer base. Did you know Central Files receives over 250,000 records and documents annually? The new equipment will enable them to scan and store electronic records more efficiently.



We sincerely intend for this publication to assist you in your business by keeping you informed of changes, improvements, code adoptions and other useful information. This periodical will be published quarterly, or as needed. For more information or suggestions, contact the editor, Annette Wallace, at mary.wallace@dallascityhall.com.



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