



September 6, 2023

Chair Tony Doan  
State Building Code Council  
PO Box 41449  
Olympia, WA 98504

Chair Doan,

The Washington State Association of Fire Marshals (WSAFM) would request that the 2021 code adoption implementation date remains October of 2023.

Any further extension or extensions will hinder our membership's ability to regulate the code. Every jurisdiction in the State utilizes electronic permitting systems and documents for construction and operational permitting in accordance with WAC 51-54A. WSAFM member jurisdictions have updated and printed their documents awaiting the implementation. The problem that any further extension will have will be to the management of our electronic permitting systems. Most WSAFM member jurisdictions have already completed their system updates. A movement of the implementation date will require the jurisdictions to make numerous corrections or duplicate their work. This extension will impact both fire and information technology staff to correct. Approval of the Building Industry Association of Washington request would leave us less than three weeks to undo the changes. Our membership is prepared.

WSAFM has trained the fire service on the 2021 International Fire Code. WSAFM delivered seven on-line 2021 International Fire Code Update classes to our membership. These classes included the changes to the fire code and WAC 51-54A. We have one more scheduled at the end of the month to catch any members who still need the class. Our membership is trained and ready to meet the demands of code implementation. In addition, technology advancements make some of the 2018 IFC out of date impacting our best protection to all Washingtonians.

WSAFM has also provided technical support for our members working collaboratively with our Washington Association of Building Officials counterparts in their local adoption of the Washington State Building Codes. To our knowledge, all jurisdictions have completed or are in the process of implementation.

WSAFM member jurisdictions are prepared, trained, and authorized to begin enforcement and regulation of the 2018 Washington State Building Codes at the local level. This late request to delay the implementation date will cause undue hardship to our member jurisdictions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Maloney". The signature is written over the printed name of the sender.

Thomas J. Maloney, MBA/PA, CFO, EFO FM  
President  
Washington State Association of Washington

CC: WSAFM Board of Directors

***To be a recognized leader and partner in community risk reduction with an emphasis in fire prevention***