Code Amendment Proposal Form

For public amendments proposed to the 2021 editions of the International Codes

Instructions: Upload this form and all accompanying documentation. If you are submitting your proposal on a separate sheet, make sure it includes all information requested below.

All proposals must be received by July 23, 2021.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Organization or Representing Self: City and County of Denver Dept. of Transportation and Infrastructure

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Signature:

AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Please use a separate form for each proposal.

1) Code(s) associated with this proposal. Please use acronym: DGC

If you submitted a separate coordination change to another code, please indicate which code: ____________________________

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<td>(e.g., DBC-IBC, DBC-IEBC)</td>
<td>IRC</td>
<td>International Residential Code</td>
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<td>IBC</td>
<td>International Building Code</td>
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<td>IEBC</td>
<td>International Existing Building Code</td>
<td>IPC</td>
<td>International Plumbing Code</td>
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2) Please check here if a separate graphic file is provided: ☐

Graphics may also be embedded within your proposal below.

3) Use this template to submit your proposal or attach a separate file, but please include all items requested below in your proposal. The only formatting needed is BOLDING, STRIKEOUT AND UNDERLINING. Please do not provide additional formatting such as tabs, columns, etc., as this will be done by CPD.

Code Sections/Tables/Figures Proposed for Revision:

- DGC 2019 Chapter 5 and Chapter 6

Proposal:

Revise as follows: Chapter 6 – Water Use Efficiency
601.3.1.1 (6.3.1.1) Landscape Design. A minimum of 80% of the area of the improved landscape shall be in biodiverse plantings of the following approved plants:

a. Qualified trees from the Office of the City Forester approved street tree list for Denver’s public rights-of-way.
b. Drought-tolerant groundcover, shrubs, and Xeric Grasses included in one of the following resources:
   1. “Plant Select” qualified plants.
   2. “Low-Water Native Plants for Colorado Gardens” as published by the Colorado Native Plant Society.
   3. Or other front range Colorado cities adopted xeric plant lists approved by the AHJ.
   4. City and County of Denver’s Department of Transportation and Infrastructure’s Ultra Urban Green Infrastructure Guidelines and Green Continuum of Streets.

Exceptions:

1. The area of dedicated athletic fields, golf courses, driving ranges, and areas dedicated for production of food for human consumption, shall be excluded from the calculation of the improved landscape for schools, residential common areas, or recreational facilities.
2. Landscape areas irrigated solely with alternative on-site sources of water shall be exempt from these requirements.
3. Wetland and riparian areas that use wetland and riparian Colorado plantings.

Stormwater Management in Chapter 5 – Site Sustainability (DGC)

Revisions to DGC shown below:

501.3.4 (5.3.4) Stormwater Management. Stormwater management systems shall be provided on the building site.

501.3.5.1 (5.3.4.1) Projects on Greenfields. Projects on greenfields shall comply with at least one of the following:

a. Stormwater management systems shall retain on site no less than the volume of precipitation during a single 24 h period equal to the 95th percentile precipitation event. Building projects with stormwater management systems that are designed to retain volumes greater than that of the 98th percentile precipitation event shall conduct a hydrologic analysis of the building site to determine the water balance of the site prior to its development, clearing, and filling and to demonstrate that the stormwater management system will not cause ecological impairment by starving receiving waters downstream of the site.

b. The stormwater management system design shall maintain site water balance (the combined runoff, infiltration, and evapotranspiration) based on a hydrologic analysis of the site’s conditions prior to development, clearing, and filling.

a. Stormwater management systems shall be included on site, designed to existing city criteria as well as the additional criteria listed below, dependent on the extent of soil disturbing activity during project development:
   a. Projects disturbing >1.0 ac of soil shall infiltrate or evapotranspire all rainfall from events up to 0.3 in within 72 hr.
   b. Projects disturbing between 0.5-1.0 ac of soil shall meet both detention and water quality requirements of the Denver Storm Drainage Design & Technical Criteria Manual
   c. Projects disturbing <0.5 ac shall meet detention requirements in the Denver Storm Drainage Design & Technical Criteria Manual and include downspout filters on all downspouts

b. Stormwater management systems shall include the following non-structural stormwater controls, as appropriate:
   a. Residential buildings must include 1 pet waste station per 30 units
   b. Residential buildings with designated pet waste areas and/or dog runs must include water quality treatment of runoff or stormwater discharge from those areas
c. All buildings with >50 parking spaces must include a program for biannual street sweeping

c. Structural controls that are part of the stormwater management system that are vegetated shall use plant species listed in Denver’s Ultra Urban Green Infrastructure Guidelines

Supporting Information:

**Purpose:** The purpose of the proposed amendment is to encourage stormwater management on new development and redevelopment projects in Denver by instituting water quality and detention controls on sites where they are currently not required. By treating runoff, Denver will protect water quality in the South Platte River and its tributaries. By providing detention, Denver will prevent nuisance flooding and mitigate damage during major flooding. Further, the proposed changes are now in line with stormwater design practices common in Denver, which is a benefit to designers and reviewers.

**Reasons:** The South Platte River as well as Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir are impaired for water quality and regulated by the state. Additionally, some of Denver’s gray stormwater system is undersized and sensitive to flooding. These proposals will promote water quality treatment and runoff detention on sites where it is not currently required. This is important because much of Denver’s infill redevelopment takes place on smaller sites with fewer requirements. Managing runoff on private parcels during infill development is far more effective than doing so on public parcels or in the public right of way downstream.

**Referenced Standards:**

Note: List any new referenced standards that are proposed to be referenced in the code.

**Impact:**

Some of the proposed amendments listed above may result in increases in price for construction and design of the stormwater management systems. However, because some level of stormwater management is already required on projects disturbing >0.5 ac, the incremental costs may be relatively small compared to cost of the required system.

Note: Discuss the impact of this proposal in this section AND indicate the impact of this amendment proposal for each of the following:
- The effect of the proposal on the cost of construction: ☒ Increase ☐ Reduce ☐ No Effect
- The effect of the proposal on the cost of design: ☒ Increase ☐ Reduce ☐ No Effect
- Is the proposal more or less restrictive than the I-codes: ☒ More ☐ Less ☐ Same

**Departmental Impact:** (To be filled out by CPD staff)

Note: CITY STAFF ONLY. Discuss the impact of this proposal in this section AND indicate the impact of this amendment proposal for each of the following:
- The effect of the proposal on the cost of review: ☐ Increase ☐ Reduce ☐ No Effect
- The effect of the proposal on the cost of enforcement/inspection: ☐ Increase ☐ Reduce ☐ No Effect