

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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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: _____

<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Code Name</u>	<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Code Name</u>
DBC-AP	Denver Building Code—Administrative Provisions	IFC	International Fire Code
DBC-xxx	Denver Building Code—xxx (code) amendments (e.g., DBC-IBC, DBC-IEBC)	IFGC	International Fuel Gas Code
IBC	International Building Code	IRC	International Residential Code
IEBC	International Existing Building Code	IMC	International Mechanical Code
IECC	International Energy Conservation Code	IPC	International Plumbing Code
		DGC	Denver Green Code

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:

New submission for section 501

Proposal:

501.3. . Restoration and Maintenance of Honeybee Populations.

501.3. . .1 Honeybee Installations. Honeybee installations shall be placed on the *building project site* by a Colorado local, incorporated third party business dedicated to the field of beekeeping. The provider must have a sustainability expert on staff who is familiar with the Denver Green Code and similar sustainability initiatives. The installation must have a system of no less than 3 hives populated by one of the following species of docile honeybee.

- a. *Apis mellifera ligustica*
- b. *Apis mellifera carnica*

501.3. . .2 Hive Management. The management of the installed hives must adhere to all of the following requirements:

1. The hives must be maintained for a period no shorter than 2 years.
2. The hive system must be maintained on at least a bi-weekly basis and treated for varroa mites and known diseases on a regular schedule.
3. The hives must be guaranteed against loss through immediate replacement by the third party provider.
4. The hive system must be placed and physically secured in a location removed from immediate access by pedestrians and building occupants but must be accessible to the third party service provider.
5. The hives must be marked with appropriate warning signage at all times.
6. Educational materials must be available at all times to all occupants of the *building project* and educational seminars must be offered as an optional service when requested.
7. The providers maintaining the hives must have a sustainability expert on staff who is familiar with the Denver Green Code and similar sustainability initiatives.

Supporting Information:

Purpose

The purpose of our submission is to suggest additions to the Code that could be alternatives to more expensive sustainability improvements and practices.

Reasons

Biodiversity is an important goal of the Code, because it's important for Denver to have a healthy environment that supports a strong ecosystem. Honeybee colonies have a mortality rate of up to 50% per year, due to climate change, pesticide use, changing landscapes, and diseases. The current code only has one proposed method to increase biodiversity, which is the addition of vegetated rooftops. Very few builders have elected to support this initiative because it is very expensive and the gardens are difficult to maintain through our Colorado winters. Honeybee colonies, when maintained professionally, can survive our winters and provide pollination services to a 2-mile radius around their hive. This means hives in a Denver location have an impact on a much larger community than just their immediate location.

Substantiation

There is significant published evidence to show that honeybees are critical pollinators. The pollination service they provide benefits urban environments as well as rural and natural ones. Because of the substantial decline of native pollinators and honeybee colonies through Colorado and the United States at large we propose an alternative method for Green Building compliance that includes the introduction of beehives. This proposal will ensure that honeybee populations, and therefore a healthy supply of generalist pollinators, will be maintained in the Denver urban environment.

Bibliography

1. Tommasi D., Miro A., Heather H., Mark W. (2004) Bee Diversity and Abundance in an Urban Setting. Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada: Canadian Entomologist 136, 851-869
2. Ellis J.D., Munn P.A. (2005) The worldwide health status of honey bees, Bee World 86, 88–101.
3. Gill, R. .A. (1991). THE VALUE OF HONEYBEE POLLINATION TO SOCIETY. Acta Hortic. 288, 62-68

Referenced Standards:

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

Impact:

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