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TO: Plumbing Code Advisory Council Members
FROM: Brian Cox, Chair – Plumbing Code Advisory Council
DATE: December 24, 2025
SUBJECT: Minutes-December 18, 2025, Plumbing Code Advisory Council Meeting

Attendance and Meeting Location:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois State Fairgrounds
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702

The following were in attendance:

IDPH Staff:

Brian Cox, Plumbing & Water Quality Program Manager
Bob Luebke, Plumbing & Water Quality Program
Mike Doolan, Plumbing & Water Quality Program
Rich Hughes, Plumbing & Water Quality Program
Dena Day, Plumbing & Water Quality Program (via Webex)

Plumbing Code Advisory Council Members:

William Allison
Felicia Burton
Henry Cramer
John D'Amico (via telephone)
Donald Degonia
James Dillon
Pat Gross (via Webex)
Aaron Gurnsey
Robert Passarella
Beverly Potts

Welcome and Introductions:

- Meeting begins at 10:06 a.m. with introduction and welcome by Brian Cox. Brian notes that a council quorum is 6, and quorum is achieved.
- Review of the purpose and function of PCAC. Summary review of administrative rulemaking process, including State Board of Health, Rules subcommittee, JCAR, and Governor's Office.

Motion:

- Motion by Henry Cramer to accept meeting agenda. Seconded by Bev Potts. Motion is approved by unanimous voice vote.

Floor Open for Public Comment:

- Brian Yelton, Inland Sales –
 - Would like manufacturers to be provided better directive on how to gain Departmental product approval.
- David Dertz, IPIA President –
 - Expressed appreciation for the council and encouraged expediency.

Discussion Items:

- Review of current statutory contents of Illinois Equitable Restroom Act [410 ILCS 35].
- Discussion of all gender restrooms, encompassing both single and multiple-occupancy restrooms. Discussion on urinal requirements within such restrooms. Multiple council members acknowledged urinals should be required in single occupancy restrooms. Council wants clarification on requirements for new construction vs existing repair or replacement. Discussion surrounding requirements for a floor drain within each toilet stall. Discussion regarding elimination of the DFU value for "emergency floor drains." Discussion on individual stall floor drains vs. the use of multi-stall trench drains. General council consensus is that all stalls should each have a dedicated floor drain. General council consensus is that emergency floor drains should have no DFU value when calculating overall sizing of sanitary mains.

- Discussion of placing any all-gender restroom accessory or partition requirements within the Public Area Sanitary Practice Code (Title 77, Ill. Adm. Part 895) instead of the Illinois Plumbing Code (Title 77, Ill. Adm. Part 890).
- Discussion of what constitutes “50 % of the facility” as that term is used in Section 30(e) of the Equitable Restroom Act. Comparisons were made to current Illinois Accessibility Code requirements. Debate regarding the use of total square footage, total project cost, or total number of plumbing fixtures to determine what constitutes “50 %”. Council would like IDPH to inquire further about legislator’s intent regarding this rule, prior to offering an interpretation.
- Discussion of bottle filling stations and water dispensing stations. Discussion of lavatory faucets being used only for hygiene, not bottle filling. Discussion of adding plumbing code definition of “bottle filler,” “water dispensing station,” and “lavatory.” Discussion of whether to remove the option of providing bottled water, in-lieu-of a drinking fountain, from the Illinois Plumbing Code. Council consensus is that the option to provide bottled water should remain as an option.
- Discussion of adding tracer wire requirements to the Illinois Plumbing Code. Council consensus is that all non-metallic buried plumbing piping exterior to a building’s foundation should be traced. Council recommends potentially referring to JULIE for a specification for any specific type and gauge of wire.
- Discussion of forming subcommittees. Suggestion was made for a Product Approval subcommittee. Suggestion was made for a Pipe Sizing subcommittee for both water distribution and sanitary waste piping. Discussion on potential Minimum Fixture Requirement subcommittee. Council consensus is that discussion should be had regarding minimum fixture requirements by the council as a whole. Discussion on standards updates being handled by the Product Approval subcommittee. Brian Cox reiterated that all subcommittees must abide by the Illinois Open Meetings Act [5 ILCS 120]. Suggestion for a Lead Service Line Replacement subcommittee.
- Discussion of potential future Plumbing Code Advisory Council meeting dates. Suggestion was made for Thursday, January 29, 2026, as a date for the next council

meeting. Suggestion was made to allow for other potential meeting locations. Suggestion was made to schedule regular recurring meetings of a longer duration, minimum quarterly. Suggestion was made for Wednesday February 25, 2026, as a date for a future council meeting. Council consensus is to have the Department schedule meetings for those two noted dates. Future council meeting locations and specific times remain to be determined.

Motion:

- Motion by Felecia Burton to adjourn. Seconded by William Allison. Motion is passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting is adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.