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Architects can increase customer satisfaction and reduce regulation timelines or headaches by focusing on a clear regulation compliance process, proactive engagement, and modernized operations.

**Identify most common and repetitive code review items from permit plan reviews:**

A strong cover sheet sets the tone for the entire review process. First thing we see.

Building: Materials and details. Foundation details, wall details, structural notes.

Electric: Materials and layouts. Conduit wire sizes/materials, electric service, layouts.

Energy: Materials and details. Insulation, notations.

HVAC: Materials and locations. Duct work material, supply/return locations. Vent sched.

Plumbing: Diagrams and sizes. Supply and waste diagrams/sizing, materials, floor drains.

**Implement the latest code requirements that architects need to be familiar with starting in 2026 as municipalities adopt more current code requirements:**

What's known so far about changing from the 2024 International Building Code (IBC) to the upcoming 2027 IBC, based on published code changes, proposals, and early draft summaries. (Note: the 2027 edition is still in development and final published text may differ once the ICC officially releases the standard.)

The IBC is updated every three years by the International Code Council (ICC).

Proposals for changes go through committee hearings and public comment before final approval.

1. Fire Safety & Fire Protection Systems
2. Means of Egress & Door Hardware
3. Educational and Security Enhancements
4. Structural & Referenced Standard Updates
5. Sustainability and Building Performance

**Analyze common code compliance items with respect to current energy standards and regulations regarding insulation, air barrier, and life/safety requirements:**

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IECC2024P1>

C301- Climate Zones. Navigate to Illinois. For reference we will use Du Page County which is 5A.

Figure C301.1 Climate Zones

Residential: R402- Building Thermal Envelope

Table R402.1.2 for U-Factor & Fenestration Requirements

Table R402.1.3 for Insulation Minimum R-Values & Fenestration Requirements BY Component.

Commercial: C402- Building Thermal Envelope

Com-Check or Prescriptive Method for lighting or mechanical.

**Differentiate between and apply local, state, and international code requirements especially between suburban and Chicago requirements:**

Online search: Community in question. Online search: Community in question building codes.

Chicago Construction Codes:

[https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/bldgs/provdrs/bldg\\_code/svcs/chicago\\_buildingcodeonline.html](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/bldgs/provdrs/bldg_code/svcs/chicago_buildingcodeonline.html)

ICC Codes: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/>

State of Illinois Plumbing Code:

<https://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/pdf/SOS%20Official%20Version%20Part%20890%20Plumbing%20Code%20A5%20Paper%206%2018%2014.pdf>

State of Illinois Accessibility Code:

<https://dceo.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dceo/cdb/business/codes/illinoisaccessibilitycode/documents/2018-illinois-accessibility-code.pdf>

Federal ADA: <https://www.ada.gov/law-and-regs/design-standards/>

Always check and see if the community has adopted the Existing Building Code.

Always remember code requirements are dictated by the design.

Keep clients informed of the reality things are changing rapidly and continually.