

# AIA New York Chapter

The Founding Chapter of  
The American Institute of Architects



**The American Institute of Architects New York Chapter  
Supports Adoption of the International Building Code  
Housing and Buildings Committee  
New York City Council  
Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> 2005**

Good afternoon Chair Provenzano and members of the Housing and Buildings Committee. I am Monty Mitchell, AIA, Chair of the Code Committee of the AIA New York Chapter, the founding Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, representing 4,000 architects, professional affiliates, and public members. The Code Committee has reviewed the administrative section of Introduction 478 and we support the adoption of the International Building Code with amendments for New York City. We commend Commissioner Lancaster and her staff for the work over the past year in adapting the International Building Code to the complex overlapping issues facing existing buildings in New York City.

We urge City Council to follow New York State in the adoption of a model code to aid in the uniformity of interpretation of the building code. We feel the use of the IBC on both a regional and local level will provide for better enforcement of the building code including the New York State Energy Code.

As Co Chair of the Existing Buildings Committee I have worked over the past year with members of our chapter and committee to review the existing building provisions of the International Existing Building Code. The International Existing Building Code deals with ratings of archaic materials and provides different levels of conformance for the replacement of non compliant materials. We recommend the adoption of the family of IBC Codes including the I.B.C. Fire Code to reduce conflicts in overlapping jurisdictions. The codes would be updated on a three year basis to adapt to changing needs including recommendations of the Mayor's Task Force on High Rise Building Safety

We commend the New York City Department of Buildings in the adoption of national standards in the acceptance of new materials to encourage innovation in the construction industry. We look forward to working on new reference standards which have been updated to prevent New York City from lagging behind the rest of the country.

Monty Mitchell Chair NY AIA Code Committee

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