



July 6, 2006

Lawrence City Commission
Mayor Mike Amyx
P.O. Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Mayor Amyx and Commissioners:

The LHBA supports the adoption of the International family of Codes, a single set of coordinated building codes.

Among the International Codes is the International Residential Code (IRC), a user-friendly stand-alone residential building code. This brings a tremendous advantage to builders on the jobsite. The IRC is the only code the builder needs in order to construct a home. It has requirements for plumbing, mechanical, electrical, and energy, as well as building, structural and code administration. Another advantage of the IRC is the format follows the building process sequentially (building planning, then foundations, then floors, etc.), making it easy to locate code requirements. However, the IRC is only valuable if adopted in conjunction with the other disciplines in the Code family.

The IRC is written in a clear way to understand code language and know the intent of the code. Adopting a 'blended' set of building codes will certainly result in confusion among design professionals, builders, trade contractors, and inspection staff. Further, the continuing education provided to all licensed contractors is based on the International Codes.

A single set of coordinated building codes will be clearer and will translate into a code that is consistent and more enforceable. The LHBA supports the adoption of the International family of Codes.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Flory
Executive Director

cc: Victor Torres