

**CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
CODES AMENDMENT SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**June 12, 2019**

The Chair called to order the regular meeting of the Codes Amendment Subcommittee of the Codes and Standards Committee at 1:30 PM. The meeting was held in 2 North Conference Room B, at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.

**In Attendance:** John J. Butkus, AIA, Architect  
Johnny Carrier, Residential Contractor  
Paul Costello, Electric Trades  
John Cox, P.E., HVAC Member  
Thomas DiBlasi, P.E., Structural Engineer  
Keith Flood, Fire Marshal, C&S Chair  
Louis Free, AIA, Architect, CAS Chair  
Donald Harwood, Public Member  
George Iskra, Fire Protection Engineer  
Mark Mastropasqua, Labor  
David McKinley, Advocacy  
Henry Miga, Building Official  
Glenn Neilson, Building Contractor  
Michael Sinsigalli, Fire Marshal  
Carlton Smith, Building Official  
Fred Wajcs, Jr., Public Member  
William Zoeller, Energy Efficiency

**Also Present:** Joseph Cassidy, OSBI, State Building Inspector  
William Abbott, OSFM, State Fire Marshal  
Darren Hobbs, Office of the State Building Inspector  
Joseph Kingston, Office of State Fire Marshal  
Jenna Padula, DAS/DCS Legal

**1. COMMUNICATIONS**

No new correspondence was received since the last CAS meeting.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. 2018 IBC, Section 1608.4 – Snow loads on adjacent buildings (Add) and 2018 IEBC, Section 303.2 – Snow loads on adjacent buildings (Amend). Tom DiBlasi presented two code change proposals submitted by ACEC/CT Structural Engineers Coalition. The amendments address the situation where a higher structure is to be constructed within 20 feet of an existing lower structure thereby creating a potential snow drifting situation on that existing lower structure. The 2018 IEBC Section 303.2 addresses this condition and invokes ASCE 7, Section 7.12 which states in pertinent part “*Existing roofs shall be evaluated for increase snow loads caused by additions or alterations. Owners or agents for owners of an existing lower roof shall be advised of the potential for increase snow loads where a higher roof is constructed within 20 feet.*” The 2018 IBC is silent on this condition.

When the new and existing buildings are owned by the same entity, there is really no issue. However, when the new and existing buildings are owned by separate entities, this can get complicated. Tom DiBlasi pointed out that in an ideal world, if a taller building were to be constructed thereby creating a potential snow drifting situation on the adjacent existing building, the entity constructing the taller building would investigate the existing buildings roof and, if required, reinforce that roof for the additional snow drift loading; the entity constructing the taller building would also incur all associated costs. It was also noted that the current edition of the Rhode Island State Building Code (2012 IBC) addresses this issue by adding a new Section 1608.2 Structural Loads of which a copy was provided to CAS members.

The CAS expressed concern with this concept since the owner of the adjacent existing building is not obligated to allow the other entity who is creating this potential snow drift condition access to their building or to undertake structural enhancements. Additionally, the current and proposed code language is too vague for the building official to enforce and opens the municipality and State to potential legal challenges.

The CAS requested the proponent to explore rewriting the requirement to not allow a new higher structure to be built within 20 feet of an existing lower structure and then list possible exceptions.

1. Analysis establishes no snow drift loads are induced on the lower roof.
2. Analysis establishes that the load-carrying capacity of the lower roof can support the additional snow drift loads.
3. Reinforce the lower roof to accommodate the additional snow drift loads.

Tom DiBlasi to review and draft new code amendment language for CAS consideration.

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. 2020 CSBC and CSFC – Code Review Work Groups: Look Ahead Schedule
  1. June 26, 2019
    - i. IRC - General, Subcommittee: Butkus, Carrier
    - ii. IRC - Structural, Subcommittee: DiBlasi
  2. July 10, 2019
    - i. NEC, Subcommittee: Costello, Musco
    - ii. IECC, IRC (Chapter 11), Subcommittee: Carrier, Cox, Smith, Wajcs, Zoeller
    - iii. IBC / IRC (Resiliency), Subcommittee: Butkus, Carrier, DiBlasi, Hardwood, Zoeller
  3. July 24, 2019
    - i. IBC / IFC - Fire Safety Code, Subcommittee: Flood, Harwood, Sinsigalli

#### 4. ADJOURNMENT

The next Codes Amendment Subcommittee meeting is set for June 26, 2019 at 1:30 PM and will be held in the 2 North Conference Room B (2nd Floor North Building), at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.



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**Louis Free, Chair**  
**Codes Amendment Subcommittee**