Board seeks feedback on proposed revision to referenced standards policy

The Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) has been studying the requirements of <u>CP 28 Code Development</u> (provide link) as they relate to the updating of referenced standards. There is a need for Standards Developing Organization's (SDO's) to be transparent in terms of their process and the availability of standards as they are being updated. Absent the ability to review the standard could result in standards being updated in the I-Codes without having undergone review by anyone outside of the process involved in the standard development since the process may not be open to anyone other than SDO members/committee members. At this time, the ICC Board is considering the following IAC recommendation to revise CP 28.

> **3.6.3.2** The standard shall be developed and maintained through a consensus process such as ASTM or ANSI.
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> **<u>3.6.3.2.1 Updated standards to be referenced in the 2021 Edition and following Editions of the I-Codes.</u>** <u>For standards to be updated in accordance with Section 4.6, the consensus process shall provide an option for anyone to submit or comment on a proposed revision without cost, and proposed revisions shall be published in a manner that is available to the public without cost.</u>

[Section 4.6 provided below for reference]

> **4.6 Updating Standards Referenced in the Codes:** The updating of standards referenced by the Codes shall be accomplished administratively by the Administrative Code Development Committee in accordance with these full procedures except that the deadline for availability of the updated standard and receipt by the Secretariat shall be December 1 of the third year of each code cycle. The published version of the new edition of the Code which references the standard will refer to the updated edition of the standard. If the standard is not available by the deadline, the edition of the standard as referenced by the newly published Code shall revert back to the reference contained in the previous edition and an errata to the Code issued. Multiple standards to be updated may be included in a single proposal.

It was noted that the enforcement mechanism for this requirement would be the hearings themselves. If a currently referenced standard is being considered for update in the I-Codes, participants in the process could raise an objection to updating the standard if they were not afforded the opportunity to participate in the update process. Ultimately it would be up to the hearing process and the eligible votes to decide if such lack of ability to participate should be the basis to not update the standard.