Notice to all Licensed Design Professionals,
Contractors and Property Owners

On Friday July 1, 2022, Governor Sununu signed into law House Bill HB1681-2022, which updates the NH State Building Code (RSA 155-A) to the 2018 editions. **The updated codes go into effect immediately.**

We understand and appreciate that updating of codes can bring changes that may affect your projects, especially those projects that may take many months to finalize. To that end, proposed projects that are in the formal process with the Community Development Offices, including the Planning Department or the Building and Fire Division, which have submitted an application stamped for review prior to July 1, 2022 will be permitted to continue in finalizing designs, receive permitting and have inspections performed to the applicable codes in effect at time of application, provided that final “For Construction” building and building systems plans are submitted and received, no later than June 30, 2022.

The updated codes for the state of New Hampshire as of July 1, 2022 will be:
- 2018 International Building Code
- 2018 International Residential Code
- 2018 International Plumbing Code
- 2018 International Mechanical Code
- 2018 International Existing Building Code
- 2018 International Energy Conservation Code
- 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (this is a new code; requirements removed from the IBC and IRC)
- 2020 National Electrical Code, NFPA 70 (already adopted)
- 2018 Fire Code, NFPA 1

Several of the adopted codes also have amendments to address New Hampshire specific concerns. These amendments can be found on the NH Building Code Review Board (BCRB) website at: [https://www.nh.gov/safety/boardsandcommissions/bldgcode/bldgexhibits.html](https://www.nh.gov/safety/boardsandcommissions/bldgcode/bldgexhibits.html)

Anyone that has questions or concerns about a specific project and what codes will apply are encouraged to contact the Building Department at 603-420-1730 or [https://www.merrimacknh.gov/building-code-enforcement-division](https://www.merrimacknh.gov/building-code-enforcement-division)