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PREFACE

Scope

The EPCOT Building Code is based on national model building codes and national consensus standards, in addition to Florida-specific provisions. The code incorporates all building construction-related regulations for public and private buildings in the State of Florida. It has been harmonized with the *Florida Fire Prevention Code*, which is developed and maintained by the Department of Financial Services, Office of the State Fire Marshal, to establish unified and consistent standards.

The model codes used for the *EPCOT Mechanical Code* include: the 2023 editions of the *Florida Building Code, Building*; the *Florida Building Code, Existing Building*; the *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*; the *Florida Building Code, Fuel Gas*; the *Florida Building Code, Mechanical*; the *Florida Building Code, Plumbing*; the *Florida Building Code, Residential*; the 2024 *International Property Maintenance Code*®; and the *EPCOT Mechanical Code*, 2018 edition. State and local codes adopted and incorporated into the code include the *EPCOT Accessibility Code*.

The code is composed of ten volumes: the *EPCOT Building Code*, the *EPCOT Existing Building Code*, the *EPCOT Accessibility Code*, the *EPCOT Electrical Code*, the *EPCOT Energy Efficiency Code*, the *EPCOT Fuel Gas Code*, the *EPCOT Mechanical Code*, the *EPCOT Plumbing Code*, the *EPCOT Property Maintenance Code* and the *EPCOT Residential Code*.

Adoption and Maintenance

The EPCOT Building Code is adopted by an affirmed vote of the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District Board of Supervisors. The code may also be amended between updates in order to incorporate interpretations into the code, address conflicts, and update standards, among other statutorily specified reasons. Minimum requirements for permitting, plans review and inspections are established by the code, and local jurisdictions may adopt additional administrative requirements that are more stringent.

Code Development Committee Responsibilities (Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers)

In each cycle, proposed changes are considered by the Code Development Committee assigned to a specific code or subject matter. Committee Action Hearings result in recommendations regarding a proposal to the voting membership. Where changes to a code section are not considered by that code's own committee, the code section is preceded by a bracketed letter designation identifying a different committee. Bracketed letter designations for the I-Code committees are:

- [A] = Administrative Code Development Committee
- [BE] = IBC—Egress Code Development Committee
- [BF] = IBC—Fire Safety Code Development Committee
- [BG] = IBC—General Code Development Committee
- [BS] = IBC—Structural Code Development Committee
- [E] = Developed under the ICC's Standard Development Process
- [EB] = International Existing Building Code Development Committee
- [F] = International Fire Code Development Committee
- [FG] = International Fuel Gas Code Development Committee
- [M] = International Mechanical Code Development Committee
- [P] = International Plumbing Code Development Committee
- [SP] = International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Development Committee

Marginal Markings

Sections deleted from the base code are designated “Reserved” in order to maintain the structure of the base code. There are no marginal markings in this code.

Italicized Terms

Selected terms set forth in Chapter 2, Definitions, are italicized where they appear in code text. Such terms are not italicized where the definition set forth in Chapter 2 does not impart the intended meaning in the use of the term. The terms selected have definitions that the user should read carefully to facilitate better understanding of the code.

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