Key Changes in the 2018 International Building Code (IBC)

- Accessory storage spaces of any size are now permitted to be classified as part of the occupancy to which they are accessory.

- New code sections have been introduced addressing medical gas systems and higher education laboratories.

- Use of fire walls to create separate buildings is now limited to only the determination of permissible types of construction based on allowable building area and height.

- Where an elevator hoistway door opens into a fire-resistance-rated corridor, the opening must be protected in a manner to address smoke intrusion into the hoistway.

- The occupant load factor for business uses has been revised to one occupant per 150 square feet.

- Live loads on decks and balconies increase the deck live load to one and one-half times the live load of the area served.

- The minimum lateral load that fire walls are required to resist is five pounds per square foot.

- Wind speed maps updated, including maps for the state of Hawaii. Terminology describing wind speeds has changed again with ultimate design wind speeds now called basic design wind speeds.

- Site soil coefficients now correspond to the newest generation of ground motion attenuation equations (seismic values).

- Five-foot tall wood trusses requiring permanent bracing must have a periodic special inspection to verify that the required bracing has been installed.

- New alternative fastener schedule for construction of mechanically laminated decking is added giving equivalent power-driven fasteners for the 20-penny nail.

2018 International Building Code (IBC) – Recommendation of adoption by the Idaho Building Code Board with following amendments:

- Correlated language with the residential code on personal care, custodial care and child care

- Clarification language to use commercial IBC code for medical care

- Less restrictive threshold of when a drinking fountain is required

- Correlated language on relocatable modular buildings referencing state statute provisions