



LAKE HAVASU CITY
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

◆ BUILDING ◆ CODE ENFORCEMENT ◆ PLANNING AND ZONING ◆

2018 International Building Codes: Implementation Process

The 2018 International Building Codes (I-Codes) and the 2017 National Electrical Code **will be in effect beginning September 1, 2021**. The proposed implementation process for existing construction permit applications and new applications is as follows:

- The new 2018 Codes will take effect September 1, 2021. The changes apply to applications submitted on or after September 1, 2021. It does not affect permits for projects already submitted, in review, or under construction.
- Lake Havasu City will accept applications for projects designed to the 2018 Codes prior to September 1, 2021, if the applicant chooses to use the new Codes and local amendments. Lake Havasu City will handle early requests through an alternate design request.
- Standard Plans approved under the 2012 code **will remain valid** until September 1, 2022. (1-year from the new code effective date)
- Standard Plans approved under the 2012 Codes may be updated to the 2018 Codes at any time if the homebuilder identifies the changes necessary to comply with the 2018 Codes. Full plan sets will **NOT** be required. Builders will be able to submit an updated cover sheet for each of their currently approved 2012 Standard Plans along with an index, notes, and details identifying items that are being modified to comply with the 2018 Codes. Engineered Standard Plans shall be submitted with a letter from the engineer indicating the current design meets or exceeds the provisions of the 2018 Codes. Truss calculations will need to be submitted showing compliance with the 2018 Codes.
- Custom Home Plans submitted on or after September 1, 2021, will need to comply with the 2018 Codes. The differences between the 2012 and 2018 Codes are minor and should not impose a delay.
- Commercial and Residential projects currently under design using the 2012 Codes will be allowed for projects submitted up to 90 days (November 30, 2021) after the effective date of the new codes. This will prevent submittal delays and increased costs due to redesigning for the 2018 Code.
- Permits approved under the 2012 Codes that expire (no work within 180 days after issuance) will need to be updated to the 2018 Codes prior to being reissued.

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