



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### ***City/County Unified Building Code Adoption Process Starting This Week***

ROCKFORD – April 20, 2015- The Community & Economic Development Department will begin reviewing the 2015 International Construction Codes (residential & commercial building, existing building, fire, mechanical, and property maintenance) to be considered by City Council for adoption sometime in early summer.

Building Code Official for the City of Rockford, Seth Sommer stated, “In a change from years past, the City of Rockford & Winnebago County are going through the review and update process together, but not only that; we are partnering with 22 communities in (9) counties to create a “Regional Building Code” for adoption by multiple jurisdictions. This is an effort to make it easier for builders and architects to design, construct and remodel properties in the Stateline area. This consolidated effort will help reduce the cost of projects by allowing contractors to understand code requirements before a job begins which results in less change orders in the field. In addition, we expect less code violations on the job site related to builders following the wrong codes and quicker processing of permits due to streamlined building codes that are the same from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.”

This effort will involve a series of committee meetings to be held at Rockford City Hall starting next week. Committees will be made up of local stakeholders, inspectors and code officials to insure a fair and transparent process. The City has invited local architects, engineers, contractors, and industry professionals to help us in the process of reviewing these new codes and considering any necessary amendments.

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