

Navigating Building Codes In Utah

What's new in 2024/5?

- Mass Timber Construction Amendment
- IFC / IRC / IBC Amendments

Why building codes matter

- The Hyatt Regency Skywalk Collapse
 - Disregarding building codes can have tragic consequences. The Hyatt Regency skywalk collapse serves as a stark example. The collapse, caused by a change in the design of the hanger rod connections, resulted in significant loss of life and injuries.

How building codes work in Utah

- Two-tier system
 - State sets minimum standards and enforcement occurs at the county or city level.
 - Cities that use irregular codes.

Common Construction Mistakes

- Common construction mistakes that lead to inspection failures
 - missing documentation
 - damaged trusses or rafters
 - improper installation of shear walls and portal straps
- The importance of following the plans, considering kits for complex installations, and using appropriate nails and nailing patterns.

Other Specific Code Failures

- Handrails,
- Roof drip edges
- Anchor bolt patterns
- Notching and boring studs
- Exhaust and intake clearance
- Clothes dryer vents
- Carbon monoxide alarms
- Emergency escape openings

Adhering to Building Codes

- Adherence to building codes is important, not only to pass inspections but also to ensure the safety and structural integrity of buildings.
- Builders should always consult the plans, consider using kits, and seek guidance from structural engineers when necessary.