

## 2017 Legislative Issues

### **Maintain Current Three-Year Adoption Cycle of Building Codes:**

AIASC strongly opposes any legislation that increases the adoption cycle of building codes in South Carolina to six years. Maintaining a three-year cycle ensures that buildings in South Carolina are being designed and constructed to codes that incorporate the rapid advances being made in technology and building science that help protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public. Three-year intervals match the business cycle of manufacturers whose new products account for an average of 30-50% of their annual sales. If the adoption cycle is extended to six years, a majority of the products sold when the code was written will be out of date, and new buildings will go online with materials and systems that may be nine years behind the current code.

### **Bond Bill for Vertical Construction Projects:**

Though the economy is recovering, there remains no better investment than building - which creates jobs and saves taxpayers millions of dollars through energy efficiency and sustainable planning and construction. Since there is still a significant need for upgrading existing state properties and constructing new high-performing buildings that improve the quality of life for all South Carolinians, AIASC supports legislation to issue and sell direct general obligation interest-bearing bonds to be used for the purposes of capital outlay and maintenance.

### **Design-Build and Public-Private Partnerships (P3) Construction Contracts:**

The design-build integrated approach to project delivery can improve collaboration among design professionals, builders, and owners - and result in quality, cost-effective buildings. Partnerships with private developers may offer an effective financial mechanism for governmental entities to secure public buildings to satisfy critical public needs that cannot otherwise be met. AIASC supports legislation that allows for the utilization of the design-build method or P3 construction contracts on certain state construction projects, provided that these contracts are based on selection criteria that includes qualifications and experience.

### **Voluntary Adoption of the International Green Construction Code:**

AIASC supports the SC Building Codes Council in promulgating a change in the regulations that would allow local governments the option to adopt the IGCC as an overlay to the other I-Codes. This legislation will provide municipalities with a useable and enforceable framework for sustainable design, and development of safer and more energy-efficient buildings that are less expensive to operate and maintain.

### **Standard Public School Plans:**

The use of standard or "stock" school plans is sometimes seen as a way for communities to save on the cost of building new schools. But stock plans often don't provide any savings in construction costs since they must be adapted to fit a specific site and to meet local building codes. AIASC strongly opposes the use of state-owned stock school plans and believes in the value of working with architects to ensure that school districts are constructing cost-effective, high-performing buildings that enhance the learning environment for students in South Carolina.