Regional Building Code Update

City of Tucson: Mayor and Council recently approved the 2018 residential building codes. SAHBA was engaged in the review process from January through August. Chief Building Official Clayton Trayvillan presented the notable changes to SAHBA members in August and that presentation can be found here.

The biggest impact on plan review will be model plans. A model plan may be issued for homes that will be constructed multiple times based on the same set of drawings. They are valid for one year and may be renewed twice. However, when the codes change, a model plan approved under the previous code cycle may not be renewed. New building permits may continue to be issued from a model until its regular expiration date and then a new model must be reviewed and issued.

Pima County: The Board of Supervisors adopted the 2018 residential building codes on October 16th. While they mirror those adopted by the City of Tucson, there are some administrative differences. One remaining concern is the Board's unanimous decision to have staff continue working on an appendix designed to facilitate solar ready requirements. Referred to as Appendix T, it was designed to provide clarification for existing solar ready ordinances. Given the County does not have a current solar ready ordinance, its application will need to be addressed. SAHBA will remain engaged as that process plays out.

The Towns of Oro Valley and Marana anticipate adopting their updated codes in December. The Town of Sahuarita will finalize their code update in July 2019.