



Updates to IMT’s Model Ordinance for a Building Performance Standard

IMT’s Model Ordinance for a Building Performance Standard, available at imt.org/bps, is a template for local and state governments to develop building performance standards. The model ordinance is a living document and, as such, is periodically updated and amended based on feedback from governments, community-based organizations, and other expert stakeholders. IMT welcomes continued feedback at policy@imt.org.

Since the model ordinance’s initial publication in January 2021, the following modifications have been made.

October 2021

Sec. 1: Definitions

- The definition of “affordable multifamily housing” has been changed and contains new recommendations regarding the process a jurisdiction might use to define this market segment.
- A definition for “carbon dioxide concentration” was added.
- The definition for “disinvested communities” was adjusted to be more responsive to regionally-specific median income.
- The Greenhouse Gas Protocol was added as an additional reference for defining “greenhouse gas emissions” and “district thermal energy.”
- Additional guidance is now provided regarding the definition of “onsite and district thermal greenhouse gas emissions.”

Sec. 4: Performance Metrics, Final Performance Standards and Interim Standards

- Discussion of Section 4.2 includes new prompts regarding the addition of an indoor air quality metric.
- An Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) metric is now included as Section 4.10 with related discussion prompts. For more information on this addition, please read [Building Performance Standard Module: Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality](#).