Code Committee Update November 2026

New Topic(s): None
On Going Topics – updates in Bold:

- **DSPS Updates see Oct 2026 Update on Electrical and Plumbing Codes**

- **DHS Update – see Oct 2026 Update for Status of DHS Codes**

- FGI - TJC and DNV adopting the "current edition" which is the 2022 edition, 2026 editions is published

- **CMS Update:**
  - **NFPA 101 and 99 – 2024 Editions:**
    On 11/5/26, CMS issued a proposed rule Rule 3484-P to modernize the federal requirements governing the healthcare physical environment by adopting newer editions of NFPA 101®, Life Safety Code®, and NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code, in its Conditions of Participation (CoPs).
    See the links below:
    Three things to note:
    1. **Life Safety Code (LSC) and Health Care Facilities Code (HCFC) Updates and Emergency and Standby Powers Systems (ESPS) Codes - Adopt the 2024 editions of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) LSC and HCFC and the 2022 edition of the ESPS Codes.**
    2. **Outside Window or Door Requirement. Remove the requirement that patient care areas have access to natural light and ventilation through exterior windows and doors for hospitals, CAHs, and other providers**
    3. **Waiver Authority. Codify in the regulations CMS' authority to permit facilities to comply with specific provisions of a newer edition of the LSC or HCFC.**

    The timeline is as follows:
    - **published in Federal Register for viewing on November 10, 2026**
    - **60 day comment period opens November 10, 2026 through January 11, 2027 (estimated)**
    - **We don't have any dates for AHJ (CMS, DHS or AO) adoption information beyond that at this time**

    Summary Info:
    https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/medicare-medicaid-programs-cutting-administrative-requirements-excellence-patient-care-care-cms-3484

    Detailed Info:
    Federal Register :: Public Inspection: Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Cutting Administrative Requirements for Excellence in Patient Care

- NFPA: See above for CMS Update
  - NFPA Code: 101 - TIA 1869 - Weapons Detection: Clarifies how health care facilities can safely install weapons detection systems along required exit paths
    Information from ASHE: Weapons detection systems are permitted in healthcare exit paths under the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, provided they meet standard safety rules. The Healthcare Interpretations Task Force confirmed these systems have always been allowed and should not be cited as automatic obstructions.
    • Always Permitted. A recent code update only clarified enforcement rules; earlier code editions already allowed these systems.
    • Key Requirements. Installations must maintain minimum clear widths, support overall occupant capacity, and avoid creating tripping hazards.
    • Portable Systems. Facilities using movable detectors must include them in their fire safety plans so they do not block exits during an emergency.

- Accrediting Organizations (AOs): No updates, see above for FGI and CMS update

- Code to Care in 2025. Stay tuned