

Late Backup

Date: 05/22/2017

To: Honorable Mayor Adler and City of Austin Council Members

Re: Support for the IRC Plumbing Code/Item 56 on the June 8, 2017 City Council Agenda

Honorable Mayor & City Council Members:

The Austin Infill Council supports adoption of the plumbing provisions of the International Residential Codes, the "IPC," and opposes continued use of the Uniform Plumbing Code, the "UPC," for Austin.

It is confusing and wasteful to have multiple standards, with one used by the rest of Texas and another used almost solely in Austin.

The older code is more expensive to comply with and does not mesh as well with the other critical codes, such as the Fire Code and the Mechanical Code. In addition, no one has successfully argued why the UPC is superior, other than those selling pipe and pipe labor.

The IPC is superior—it allows for more flexibility, lowers cost at a time when affordability is paramount, and puts better materials with better venting options into homes.

We urge our elected officials to support City Staff and allow Austin to move forward with this change—it will result in a superior and more affordable built environment.

Thank you, Austin Infill Coalition