## OVERVIEW OF WHY CITY OF BRYAN NEEDS TO ADOPT NEW CODES.

The International Codes establish the minimum requirements based on nationally recognized standards to protect the health, safety and welfare of people by creating safer buildings and communities. Adopting the latest version of the codes helps a community keep current with new technology and standards. As new technologies are developed, new codes must be adopted to allow for new types of building construction and techniques. Older codes give our builders less options and eventually lead to issues as we try to fit new developments into outdated codes.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) recognizes cities that have adopted the latest version of the codes and provides additional points through the CRS to help keep the city in good standing. This ultimately helps reduce flood insurance rates and loses from natural disasters. Property owners also benefit from keeping current with code adoption with premium discounts for property insurance through the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule.

In summary, the anticipated gain of adopting the 2009 International Codes is safer buildings, more innovative options for builders and architects, lower insurance cost, and lower insured losses from catastrophes. The City of Bryan has proposed amendments for each adopted code to help with local situations.

## Other considerations:

Most plans submitted are actually already being submitted for permits as designed under 2006 or 2009 International Codes because most other cities have already made the change to newer codes (Waco, College Station, Austin, Dallas, Abilene, etc.).

When other comparable cities adopted their last round of updated codes, the highest cost impact appeared to be from the 2008 National Electrical Code. Although this item is not currently scheduled for action, the City of Bryan is proposing to adopt the 2005 National Electrical Code and not the 2008 National Electrical Code due to changes for residential homes that is said to increase cost by about \$1000.00 or more.

Insurance cost for both property owners and the City of Bryan may be higher if the newer codes are not adopted.