

# Impact of the UCC Survey



## Survey Instructions:

Please complete the following survey by providing the requested information about the municipality for which you are the Secretary, Chief Clerk or City Clerk (hereafter referred to as "Secretary"). To answer some of the questions in this survey, you may need to **consult with the municipality's designated Building Code Official (BCO)** or a third-party agency or agencies responsible for code enforcement in the municipality. For questions, comments or technical assistance relating to this survey, please call Mike Turns at 814-863-0623 or e-mail him at miketurns@psu.edu. Thanks!!

Please respond by no later than **Friday, June 26, 2009.**

### 1) Respondent's contact information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (including area code): \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. 555-555-5555)

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name of municipality: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of county: \_\_\_\_\_

3) What is the name of the municipality's officially designated BCO? \_\_\_\_\_

### 4) The municipality's designated BCO is employed by:

- a) the municipal government
- b) a third-party agency
- c) Council of Governments (COG)
- d) other, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5) Check the appropriate box to indicate the party responsible for the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) administration and enforcement functions listed below:

UCC Function	Municipal employees only	COG employees only	A single third-party agency	Multiple third party agencies	Combination of municipal employees and third-party agencies	Department of Labor & Industry
Residential Plan Reviews						
Residential Inspections						
Commercial Plan Reviews						
Commercial Inspections						
Accessibility Plan Reviews						
Accessibility Inspections						

### 6) Does the municipality have (or share) a Board of Appeals to hear challenges to UCC- based decisions in the municipality?

- a) Yes
- b) No

## Impact of the UCC Survey

If you answered "No" to the previous question, skip to Question #9.

**7) Have application fees for appeals to the Board of Appeals been established?**

- a) Yes
- b) No

If you answered "No" to the previous question, skip to Question #8.

**8) What would the application fee be (in dollars) for a typical challenge to a UCC-based code decision, assuming that it will take 8 hours or less of Appeals Board time to resolve the issue?**

Type of UCC Board of Appeals Application Filed	Application Fee
Residential - ruling based on review of briefs	\$_____
Residential - ruling based on public hearing	\$_____
Commercial - ruling based on review of briefs	\$_____
Commercial - ruling based on public hearing	\$_____

**9) Does the municipality have an intergovernmental agreement with one or more other municipalities for any of the following UCC enforcement responsibilities? (circle all that apply)**

- a) BCO
- b) Plan reviews
- c) Inspections
- d) Board of Appeals
- e) None of the above

**10) Does the municipality enforce any amendments to the UCC? (Note: The term, "amendments to the UCC," includes ordinances that were established prior to the enactment of the UCC, i.e. pre-1999 amendments, AND amendments that were adopted after 1999.)**

- a) Yes
- b) No

If you answered "No" to the previous question, skip to Question #13.

**11) Please indicate the time period(s) during which the municipality adopted amendments to the UCC? (circle all that apply)**

- a. Pre-existing ordinances in effect prior to July 1, 1999
- b. Ordinances enacted between July 1, 1999 and April 9, 2004
- c. Ordinances enacted after April 9, 2004

## Impact of the UCC Survey

**12) What aspect or aspects of construction do the municipality's amendments to the UCC regulate? (circle all that apply)**

- a) Radon mitigation
- b) All alterations, renovations, remodeling, and repairs to existing residential structures
- c) Some alterations, renovations, remodeling, and repairs to existing residential structures
- d) Re-roofing
- e) Siding and/or replacement windows
- f) Electrical wiring or service upgrades in existing residential structures
- g) New or replacement mechanical equipment in existing residential structures
- h) New piping and/or new plumbing fixtures in existing residential structures
- i) Residential utility and miscellaneous use structures under 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- j) Carbon monoxide detectors
- k) Residential sprinklers
- l) Adopted appendices to the International Fire Code
- m) Adopted appendices of UCC codes (other than Fire Code)
- n) Other, please list \_\_\_\_\_

### Instructions for questions 13-19:

Please determine the UCC-related fees that would be charged to a permit applicant in your municipality for the construction scenarios described below. All scenarios are **new** construction. Answers should take into account **UCC-related fees only**. This includes fees for plan review, permit issuance, all inspections of the building and its systems, issuance of certificates of occupancy and any other administrative fees. However, fees for zoning, sewer/water, environmental impact, land development, etc. should **NOT** be included. When determining fee amounts, assume that all necessary documentation has been submitted completely and correctly, and that all items have been installed per the approved plans. Please note that it is likely that you will not have to use all of the information listed below in order to determine the fee.

### 13) Building #1 – Single-family, residential home

**Description:** A typical single-family, residential home

**Use group:** IRC residential one- and two-family

**Type of construction:** 5B

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$96.83

**Contract cost:** \$242,075

**Land value:** \$50,000

**Total above-grade building floor area (habitable):** 2,500 ft<sup>2</sup> (1,250 ft<sup>2</sup> per floor)

**Walk-out habitable basement:** 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Building height:** 20 ft

**Number of above-grade stories:** 2

**HVAC:** Air-to-air heat pump

**Number of Certificates of Occupancy requested:** 1

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

## Impact of the UCC Survey

### 14) Building #2 – Residential addition

**Description:** A typical residential addition, including a bedroom and a bathroom

**Use group:** IRC residential one- and two-family

**Type of construction:** 5B

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$96.83

**Contract cost:** \$29,049

**Building floor area:** 300 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Building height:** 10 ft

**Number of stories:** 1

**Mechanical systems:** Extension of systems in existing dwelling

**Number of Certificates of Occupancy requested:** 1

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

### 15) Building #3 – Residential attached deck

**Description:** A typical attached deck accessed by sliding doors, with stairs leading to grade below

**Use group:** IRC residential one- and two-family

**Type of construction:** 5B

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$37.50

**Contract cost:** \$15,000

**Deck floor area:** 400 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Average height above grade:** 48 inches

**Number of Certificates of Occupancy requested:** 1

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

## Impact of the UCC Survey

### 16) Building #4 – Office building

**Description:** Two-story, professional services building containing a dentist's office, physician's office and an attorney's office. Offices served by forced air, unitary heat pumps.

**Use group:** B – Business

**Type of construction:** 5B, with sprinklers

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$104.20

**Contract cost:** \$1,042,000

**Land value:** \$500,000

**Total building floor area:** 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> per floor)

**Building height:** 20 ft

**Number of stories:** 2

**Volume of space:** 200,000 ft<sup>3</sup>

**Parking:** Grade-level parking lot, accessibility compliant

**Number of Certificates of Occupancy requested:** 3

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

### 17) Building #5 – Apartment Building

**Description:** Two-story, eight-unit, wood- framed apartment building with through-the-wall unitary HVAC systems.

**Group:** R-2 – Residential, multiple family

**Type of construction:** 5B, with sprinklers

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$93.92

**Contract cost:** \$1,502,720

**Land value:** \$325,000

**Total building floor area:** 16,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (8,000 ft<sup>2</sup> per floor)

**Building height:** 18 ft

**Number of stories:** 2

**Volume of space:** 144,000 ft<sup>3</sup>

**Parking:** Grade-level parking lot, accessibility compliant

**Number of certificates of occupancy requested:** 1

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

## Impact of the UCC Survey

### 18) Building #6 – “Big box” retail store

**Description:** Masonry construction with steel truss roof (E.g. Wal-Mart, Home Depot , Lowes, etc.) with rooftop HVAC units. Mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems as well as accessibility requirements will be installed.

**Use group:** M – Mercantile

**Type of construction:** 2B, with sprinklers

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$98.92

**Contract cost:** \$9,892,000

**Land value:** \$1,000,000

**Total building floor area:** 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Building height:** 30 ft

**Number of stories:** 1

**Volume of space:** 3,000,000 ft<sup>3</sup>

**Parking:** Grade-level parking lot, accessibility compliant

**Number of Certificates of Occupancy requested:** 1

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

### 19) Building #7 – Factory

**Description:** Rubber ducky factory; non-combustible wall construction with steel truss roof

**Use group:** F-1 – Factory and industrial, moderate hazard

**Type of construction:** 2B with sprinklers

**Construction cost per ft<sup>2</sup>:** \$83.61

**Building cost:** \$5,183,820

**Installed cost of permanently mounted manufacturing equipment:** \$1,000,000

**Land value:** \$1,000,000

**Building area:** 62,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Building height:** 30 ft

**Number of stories:** 1

**Volume of space:** 1,860,000 ft<sup>3</sup>

**Parking:** Grade-level parking lot, accessibility compliant

**Number of Certificates of Occupancy requested:** 1

Total UCC Fees to Permit Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Typical number of inspections required on this structure: \_\_\_\_\_

### Comments:

Please return no later than **June 26** using one of the options below:

1. U.S. Mail (use enclosed postage-paid envelope)
2. Fax: 814-863-7304 (c/o Mike Turns)

Or

3. Enter your answers into our online survey at:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/ucc-survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/ucc-survey)