

6-403.

(a) Before adopting the Maryland Building Performance Standards or any subsequent versions of the Standards, the Department shall:

(1) Review the [BOCA National] INTERNATIONAL Building Code to determine whether modifications should be incorporated in the Maryland Building Performance Standards;

(2) Accept written comments and hold a public hearing on any proposed modification; and

(3) Take into consideration comments received before adopting the Maryland Building Performance Standards.

(b) The Department may not adopt, as part of the Maryland Building Performance Standards, a modification of a building code requirement that is more stringent than the requirement in the [BOCA National] INTERNATIONAL Building Code.

6-405.

(a) The Department shall:

(1) Coordinate with local building officials, the State Fire Marshal's office, and local fire officials in compiling information for the central data base established under § 6-404 of this subtitle;

(2) Notify local jurisdictions of changes to the [BOCA National] INTERNATIONAL Building Code and the impact such changes will have on the local amendments in each local jurisdiction;

(3) Include in the central data base proposed State or federal legislation of which the Department is aware and that directly affects the construction industry;

(4) In conjunction with the Maryland Building Officials Association and other interested organizations, provide training for local building officials on the Maryland Building Performance Standards and certify the participation of local building officials in the training; and

(5) On request, provide local jurisdictions with technical assistance concerning the implementation and enforcement of the Maryland Building Performance Standards.

(b) The Department may:

(1) Compile and include in the central data base established under § 6-404(a) of this subtitle:

(i) Any information provided by local jurisdictions on the implementation and interpretation of the Maryland Building Performance Standards, by local jurisdictions; and