



Media Contact:

Catherine Mills-Reynolds
Catherine@americanfenceassociation.com
513-807-1626
www.americanfenceassociation.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

American Fence Association Applauds Approval of New Gate Safety Standards for 2027 I-Codes

The Colony, Texas — The American Fence Association (AFA) applauds International Code Council (ICC) approval of four significant gate safety proposals that will strengthen gate safety standards and maintenance requirements across the United States.

This major achievement is the result of more than 18 months of collaborative work between the American Fence Association, Ready, Set, Safe!, DASMA (Door and Access System Manufacturers' Association), and other industry partners dedicated to advancing public safety and improving gate system standards nationwide.

“This is a major milestone for the industry’s ongoing efforts to improve gate safety,” said Michael Reed, Executive Director of the American Fence Association. “AFA is proud to work alongside Ready, Set, Safe!, DASMA, and other industry leaders to advance stronger, more consistent standards. These code updates will help raise awareness, promote proper installation and maintenance practices, and reduce injuries associated with gate systems. We remain committed to supporting the industry through education, training, and certification programs that help professionals implement best practices and enhance public safety.”

The approved proposals revise several model codes to incorporate nationally recognized ASTM safety standards for horizontal slide gates (ASTM F1184) and swing gates (ASTM F900), while also enhancing maintenance requirements for existing gate systems. These updates impact the International Building Code® (IBC), International Residential Code® (IRC), International Existing Building Code® (IEBC), and International Property Maintenance Code® (IPMC).

The approved proposals for the 2027 model International Codes (I-Codes) include:

- Expanding requirements for IBC Section 3110 to include national safety standards for manual sliding gates (ASTM F1184) and manual swing gates (ASTM F900), alongside the existing requirements for automatic gates.

- Requiring existing gates to comply with the updated IBC when the gate is being altered, repaired, or replaced.
- Updating the IRC Appendix to also incorporate F1184 and F900.
- Adding gate definitions and safety requirements to the IPMC to strengthen ongoing maintenance expectations on existing gates.

“These approvals represent an important step forward in helping prevent serious injuries and fatalities caused by unsafe gates,” said Eric Quanbeck, co-founder of Ready, Set, Safe!. “After losing our son Alex when a large, 400-pound gate fell on him during recess, we committed ourselves to making sure stronger safeguards exist for other families. We are deeply grateful to the ICC, the American Fence Association, and the many industry professionals who worked collaboratively to make these improvements possible.”

Dave Monsour, Technical Director for DASMA stated, “DASMA is pleased with the success of the four gate proposals in the 2024/2027 round of ICC code hearings. We extend our congratulations to AFA, Ready, Set, Safe!, and all those involved in this effort. We are grateful for this solid improvement in gate safety.”

The International Codes, commonly referred to as the “I-Codes,” are a family of model building safety codes developed by the International Code Council and adopted by jurisdictions throughout the United States and internationally. These codes establish minimum standards designed to safeguard public health, safety, and welfare in the built environment and are widely used by building officials, architects, engineers, contractors, and property owners.

“The ICC code development process is transparent, consensus-based, and inclusive. The process is open to involvement from everyone – not just building safety professionals ,” said Kevin McOsker, Vice President of Technical Resources, International Code Council. “These approved proposals to the 2027 I-Codes will enhance gate safety provisions across multiple model codes and will help protect the lives of over two billion people globally.”

About the American Fence Association

The American Fence Association is the largest professional association representing the fence, gate, and perimeter security industry. AFA provides education, certification, and advocacy to promote professionalism, safety, and industry advancement throughout North America. For more information about the American Fence Association and its ongoing safety initiatives, visit www.americanfenceassociation.com.