



PRESS RELEASE

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BENTONVILLE ADOPTS NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING STANDARD

The Bentonville City Council voted Tuesday night to adopt the National Green Building Standard to serve as a guide for builders and developers that want to voluntarily participate in the National Green Building Certification program. The City of Bentonville is the first community in Arkansas to adopt this national standard and serves as a model for other Arkansas cities. A ceremonial signing of the ordinance into law will take place at 10:30 am on December 11, 2009 in the Mayor's office at 117 W. Central Ave., Bentonville, AR. In attendance with Mayor Bob McCaslin, will be Mr. Joe Robson, President of the National Association of Home Builders, Ms. Julie Mills, Executive Vice-president of the Arkansas Home Builders Association, and Mr. Martin Swope, President of the Northwest Arkansas Home Builders Association and other members of the NWAHBA. Mr. Robson will speak briefly on the value of the Standard.

The Standard was developed jointly by the International Code Council and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), and was issued in February 2009 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). It provides criteria for rating the environmental impact of design and construction practices to achieve conformance with specified performance levels for green residential buildings. It covers all phases of construction including development, resource efficiency, energy efficiency, water efficiency, indoor air quality, and consumer education. It applies to single and multi-family new construction, renovation and additions, and lot development.

Four levels of conformance can be achieved through earned points that must be verified by an accredited verifier. The Standard is administered by the NAHB Research Center, where permanent records are kept of the performance records. More can be learned about the Standard at www.NAHBgreen.org. Mayor McCaslin said, "We are honored to be the first city in Arkansas to adopt an ordinance in support of the National Green Building Certification program."