



# **State Role in Adopting Codes and Outreach to Localities and Stakeholders**

Presented at  
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## (Texas Health & Safety Code Chap. 388)

### Legislative finding:

Effective building energy codes are essential to:

1. Reduce air pollution affecting health of Texas residents
2. Lower electric peak demand
3. Assure reliability of the electrical grid
4. Controlling energy costs for residents and businesses.

# State's Role to Implement Energy Codes

1. Participate in ICC code development process
2. Publish notice of new code in Texas Register seeking public input
3. Prepare administrative adoption rules for new energy code
4. Current Texas energy codes:

For residential - 2015 IRC, Chapter 11

For commercial – 2015 IECC

State-funded buildings – ASHRAE 90.1-2013 or 2015 IECC

# What's the role of Municipalities to comply

1. Establish the procedures for the administration and enforcement of the code
2. Ensure local inspectors are code-certified
3. Track and report to SECO the code implementation
4. Texas is a “home rule” state which allows local jurisdictions to make local amendments
5. In non-attainment and affected counties, code changes can not result in a less stringent code



# Adoption Status June 2017

	IECC 2015	IECC 2012	Combined
Large (220)	101/76%	52/13%	153/89%
Small (155)	40/18%	46/44%	86/62%
Total (375)	141/68%	98/17%	239/85%

Number of cities/ % of permits  
Large Cities = 10,000 pop. or more  
SPEER (6/2017)

# Barriers to Energy Code Adoption

- Unaware of state requirements
- Lack of knowledge of changes and benefits
- Lack of experience with process
- Political resistance

# Cost Benefits of Adopting 2015 Energy Code

Climate Zone	Incremental Construction Cost	Percent of Energy Savings	Utility Bill Savings Estimate	Life Cycle Cost Savings <sup>1</sup>	Annual Mortgage Cash Flow <sup>2</sup> Savings
CZ 2	\$ 1,920	15.9	\$ 215	\$ 5,774	\$ 103
CZ 3	\$ 2,495	27.6	\$ 323	\$ 10,190	\$ 125
CZ 4	\$ 2,005	23.6	\$ 349	\$ 8,226	\$ 236



State outreach work to facilitate  
local code adoption efforts

# SECO Strategic Partners:

1. SPEER (Southcentral Partnership for Energy Efficiency as a Resource) – is the newest regional energy efficiency organization in the U.S.
2. Texas A&M University – Energy Systems Laboratory (ESL)
3. Houston Advance Research Center (HARC)
4. ASHRAE (American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Engineers)

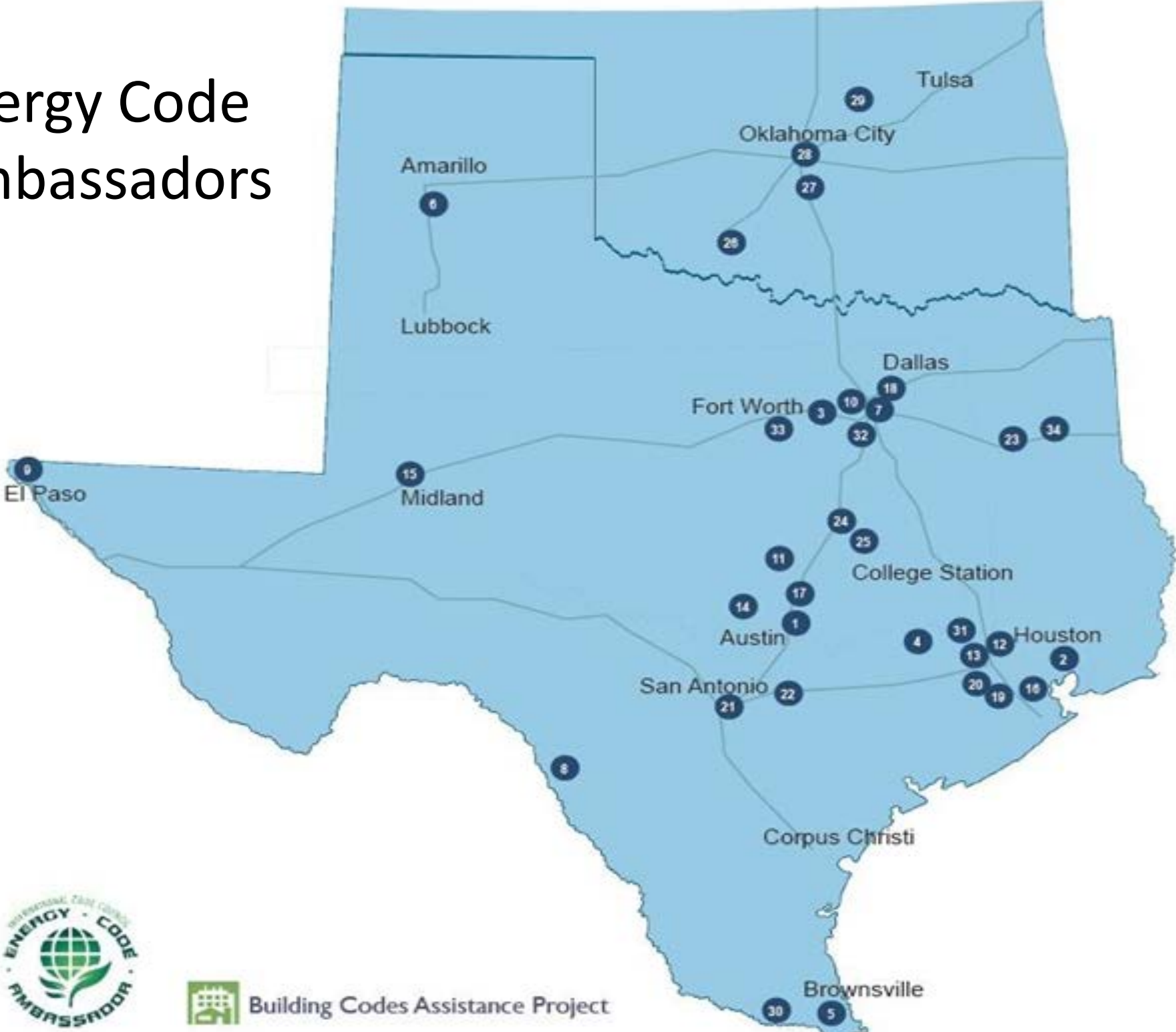
# Education and Training

- Conduct in-person code training workshops
- SPEER hosts the Speakers' Bureau webinars
- Energy Code Compliance Guides
- Available fact sheets and videos
- SPEER Energy Code Adoption Toolkit
- Access to Buildings America Solution Center

# Energy Code Ambassadors

- A network group of building officials, raters, builders with advanced training and experience
- Provide peer-to-peer support on energy code issues with simple call or email
- Provide training and solutions to local building code officials, 3<sup>rd</sup> parties contractors
- 30 Ambassadors located geographically

# Energy Code Ambassadors



# Texas Energy Code Compliance Collaborative

- Established to bring together key building industry groups and government agencies
- Facilitate compliance with energy codes statewide
- Support code officials, builders and contractors.
- Connect industry stakeholders to resources and programs that encourage code adoption
- Serves to coordinate actions affecting code compliance

# Texas A&M University – Energy System Laboratory (ESL)

- Provides code technical assistance to local municipalities and the building industry
- Review stringency of new energy codes & of local code amendments
- Provides tools & materials to assist in code implementation and enforcement



# Code Compliance Calculator

- Software tool to verify code compliance
- EPA approved software for use by builders, inspectors, and contractors
- Verifies compliance using either the Simulated Performance Alternative Path or Energy Rating Index (ERI) Path.



# City Efficiency Leadership Council

- Collaboration of cities to learn and share best practices in energy efficiency
- Six (6) cities: Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Austin, and El Paso
- Began by documenting successful projects: LED street lighting, benchmarking, creating PACE districts, 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspections,
- Council is expanding to mid-size, and smaller cities.

# Thank You!

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# Ozone Pollution Update - July 2016

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