

# MASS TIMBER APPEAL



# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

## PRIMARY DRIVERS

CARBON REDUCTIONS

CONSTRUCTION SPEED & EFFICIENCY

CONSTRUCTION SITE CONSTRAINTS — URBAN INFILL

INNOVATION/AESTHETIC

STRUCTURAL PERFORMANCE — LIGHT WEIGHT

180,000 SF in 9.5 Weeks



# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

REDUCED CONSTRUCTION TIME

**1 Floor = 3 Days**

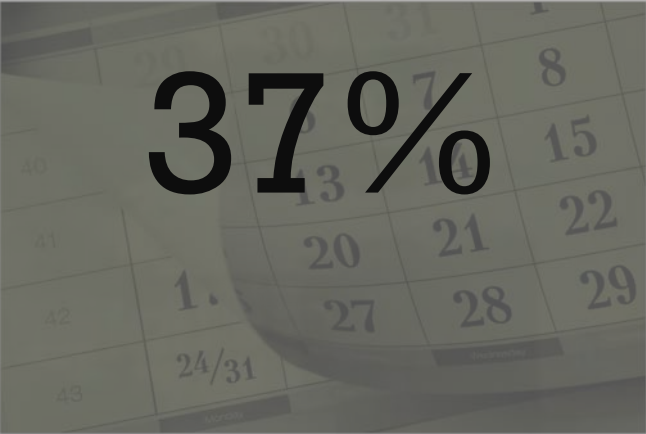
**17 Floors Erected  
in 9.5 Weeks**



| PAL Portfolio                  | Typical New PAL Hotel (Actual*) | Redstone Arsenal (Actual) | Difference |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Gross square feet (sf)         | 54,891                          | 62,688                    | +14%       |
| Average # of employees         | 18 (peak 26)                    | 10 (peak 11)              | -43%       |
| Structural duration (days)     | 123                             | 78                        | -37%       |
| Structural person hours        | 14,735                          | 8,203                     | -44%       |
| Structural production rate/day | 460 sf                          | 803 sf                    | +75%       |
| Overall schedule               | 15 months                       | 12 months                 | -20%       |

\* PAL New Build Hotel Historical Average  
 Source: Lendlease

43%



Compared to  
 typical  
 construction

# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

MATERIAL MASS

75% LIGHTER WEIGHT THAN CONCRETE



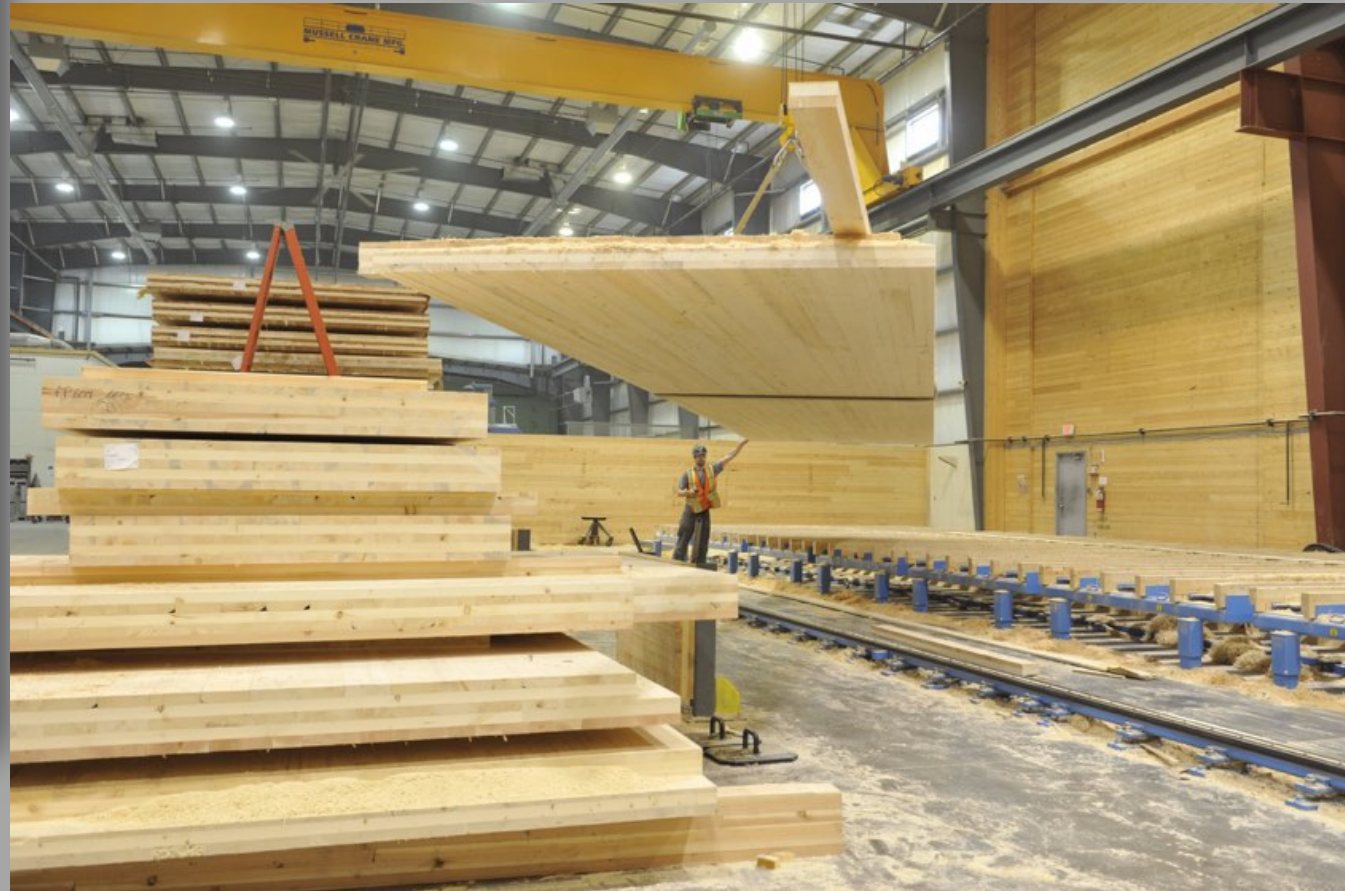
**MASS TIMBER ELEMENTS FABRICATED TO  
TIGHT TOLERANCES (1/16" IS COMMON)**



**COMPUTER NUMERICALLY CONTROLLED (CNC)  
CONNECTIONS**

# **MASS TIMBER APPEAL**

**PREFABRICATED AND PRECISE**



**PHOTO CREDIT: NATURALLY WOOD**



# CLT STRUCTURAL DESIGN

## CLT PREFABRICATION

- FINISHED PANELS ARE PLANED, SANDED, CUT TO SIZE. THEN OPENINGS ARE CUT WITH PRECISE CNC ROUTERS.
- THIRD PARTY INSPECTION AT FACTORY
- CUSTOM ENGINEERED FOR MATERIAL EFFICIENCY
- CUSTOM DESIGNED FOR PROJECT
- EACH PANEL NUMBERED, DELIVERED & INSTALLED IN PREDETERMINED SEQUENCE



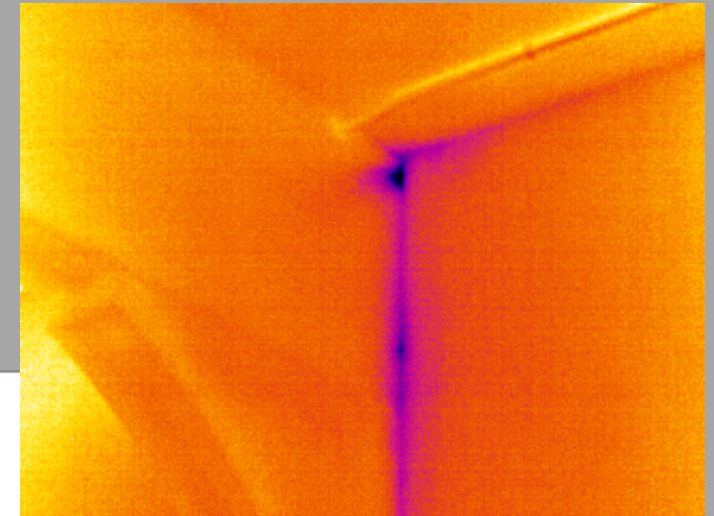
# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

MINIMAL WASTE



# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

ENERGY EFFICIENT



*Table 2*

Thermal resistance of typical softwood at various thicknesses and 12% moisture content

| Thickness   | 1 in. (25 mm) | 4 in. (100 mm) | 6 in. (150 mm) | 8 in. (200 mm) |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| R-value (h·ft. <sup>2</sup> ·°F·Btu <sup>-1</sup> ) | 1.25          | 5.00           | 7.50           | 10.00          |
| RSI (m <sup>2</sup> ·K·W <sup>-1</sup> )            | 0.22          | 0.88           | 1.30           | 1.80           |

**CLT HAS AN R-VALUE OF APPROXIMATELY 1.25 PER INCH OF THICKNESS.**

**SOURCE: US CLT HANDBOOK**

# CARBON BENEFITS



**Volume of wood products used:**  
2,052 cubic meters (72,467 cubic feet)



**U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in:**  
6 minutes



**Carbon stored in the wood:**  
1,826 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



**Avoided greenhouse gas emissions:**  
706 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



**TOTAL POTENTIAL CARBON BENEFIT:**  
2,532 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

*EQUIVALENT TO:*

Source: US EPA



**535 cars off the road for a year**



**Energy to operate 267 homes for a year**

# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

## REDUCED EMBODIED CARBON



**Volume of wood products used:**  
818,736 board feet (equivalent)



**U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in:**  
4 minutes



**Carbon stored in the wood:**  
1,014 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



**Avoided greenhouse gas emissions:**  
2,155 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



**TOTAL POTENTIAL CARBON BENEFIT:**  
3,169 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

### EQUIVALENT TO:

Source: US EPA



**605 cars off the road for a year**



**Energy to operate a home for 269 years**

## ...FROM ONE SCHOOL

*Estimated by the Wood Carbon Calculator for Buildings, based on research by Sarthre, R. and J. O'Connor, 2010, A Synthesis of Research on Wood Products and Greenhouse Gas Impacts, FPIInnovations. Note: CO<sub>2</sub> on this chart refers to CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.*

## Carbon Stored

The mass of carbon stored in wood products was calculated based upon the assumption that the amount of carbon contained in wood fiber was 50% by dry weight (Sathre O'Connor 2010). After the mass of carbon in the wood products was determined, the carbon was converted to CO<sub>2</sub> based on molecular weight ratio. The final value provided in the carbon calculator is an estimate of the mass of carbon dioxide removed from the atmosphere during the growth of the tree and stored as carbon in the chemical structure of the wood building products.

The following is a general equation for the mass of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents contained within wood fiber:

$$m_{CO_2} = \left( \frac{M_{CO_2}}{M_C} \right) \times m_{wood} \times 0.5$$

Where:

|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| $m_{CO_2}$ | = | Mass of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalents (kg)     |
| $M_{CO_2}$ | = | Molecular mass of CO <sub>2</sub> (44 g/mol) |
| $M_C$      | = | Molecular mass of carbon (12 g/mol)          |
| $m_{wood}$ | = | Mass of oven-dry wood (kg)                   |

---

The general equation for the mass of GHG emissions avoided is as follows:

$$GHG = m_{wood} \times D_f$$

Where:

|            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
| $GHG$      | = | Greenhouse gas avoided (kg CO <sub>2</sub> equivalents)               |
| $m_{wood}$ | = | Mass of dry wood (kg)   |
| $D_f$      | = | Displacement factor (kg CO <sub>2</sub> equivalents/kg oven-dry wood) |

**Mass Timber Df = 0.71**

# UMASS DESIGN BUILDING

AMHERST, MA

IMAGE CREDIT: ALEX SCHREYER



# UMASS DESIGN BUILDING

AMHERST, MA

**4 STORY, 87,500 SF FACILITY WITH: CLASSROOMS, LOUNGES, MEETING ROOMS, MATERIALS-TESTING LAB, GREEN-BUILDING LAB, WOOD SHOP, DIGITAL FABRICATION LAB, CAFE, EXHIBIT SPACE, AND LIBRARY**



# UMASS DESIGN BUILDING

AMHERST, MA

COMPLETED SPRING 2017

PHOTO CREDIT: ALEX SCHREYER



# UMASS DESIGN BUILDING

AMHERST, MA



## Volume of wood products used:

2,052 cubic meters (72,467 cubic feet)



## U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in:

6 minutes



## Carbon stored in the wood:

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## Avoided greenhouse gas emissions:

706 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



## TOTAL POTENTIAL CARBON BENEFIT:

2,532 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

### EQUIVALENT TO:

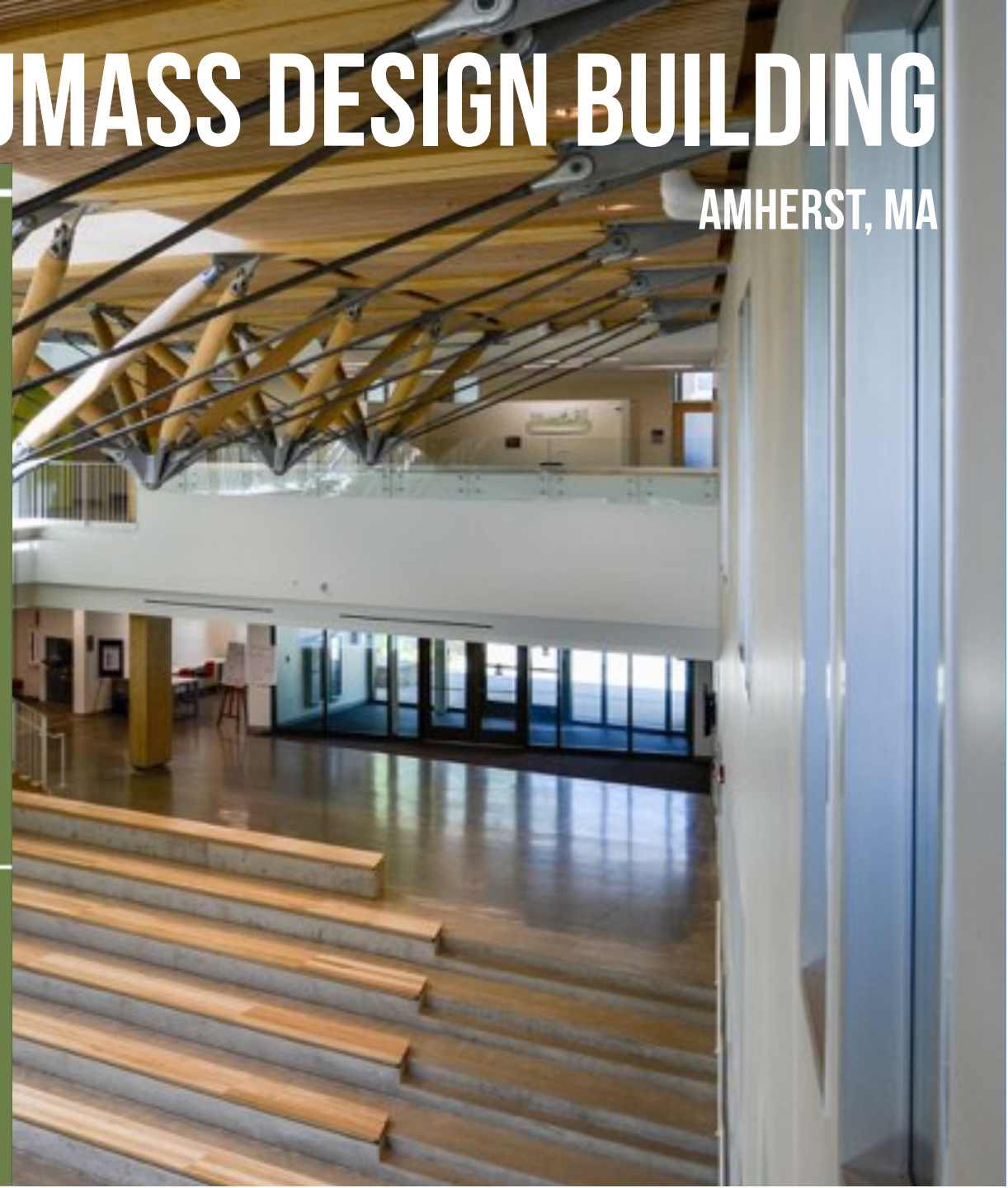
Source: US EPA



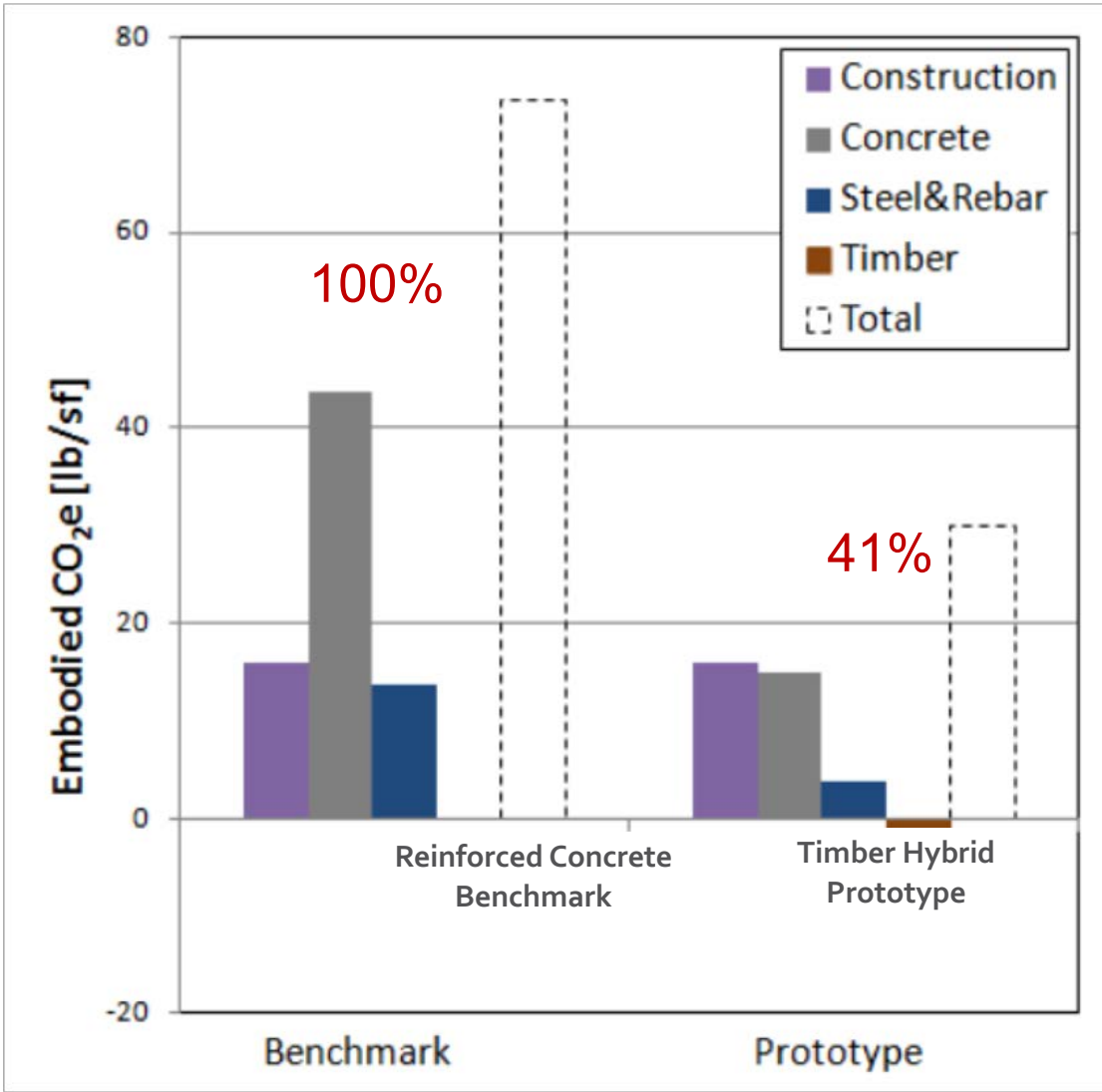
535 cars off the road for a year



Energy to operate 267 homes for a year



# Dramatic Potential for Change



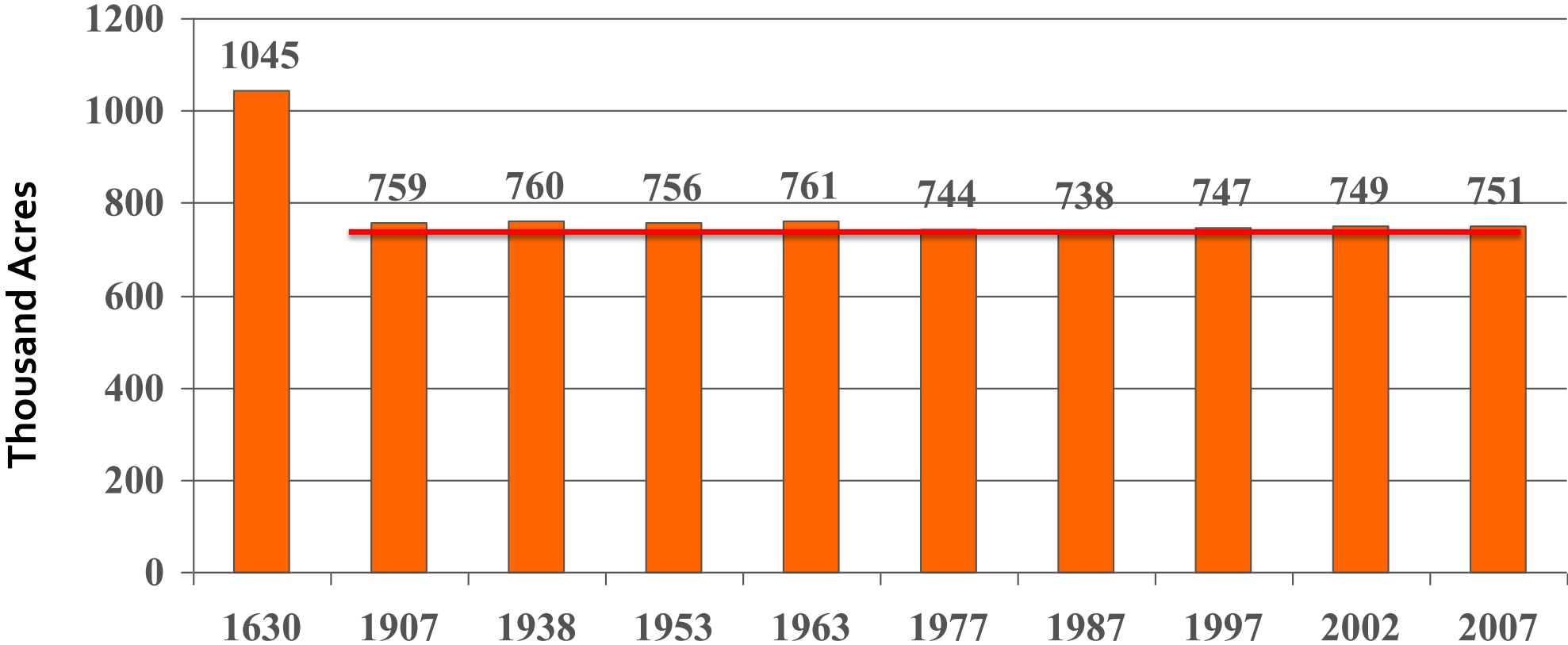
Source: Timber Tower Research Project, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, May 2013

# Sustainable Forestry Carbon Cycle



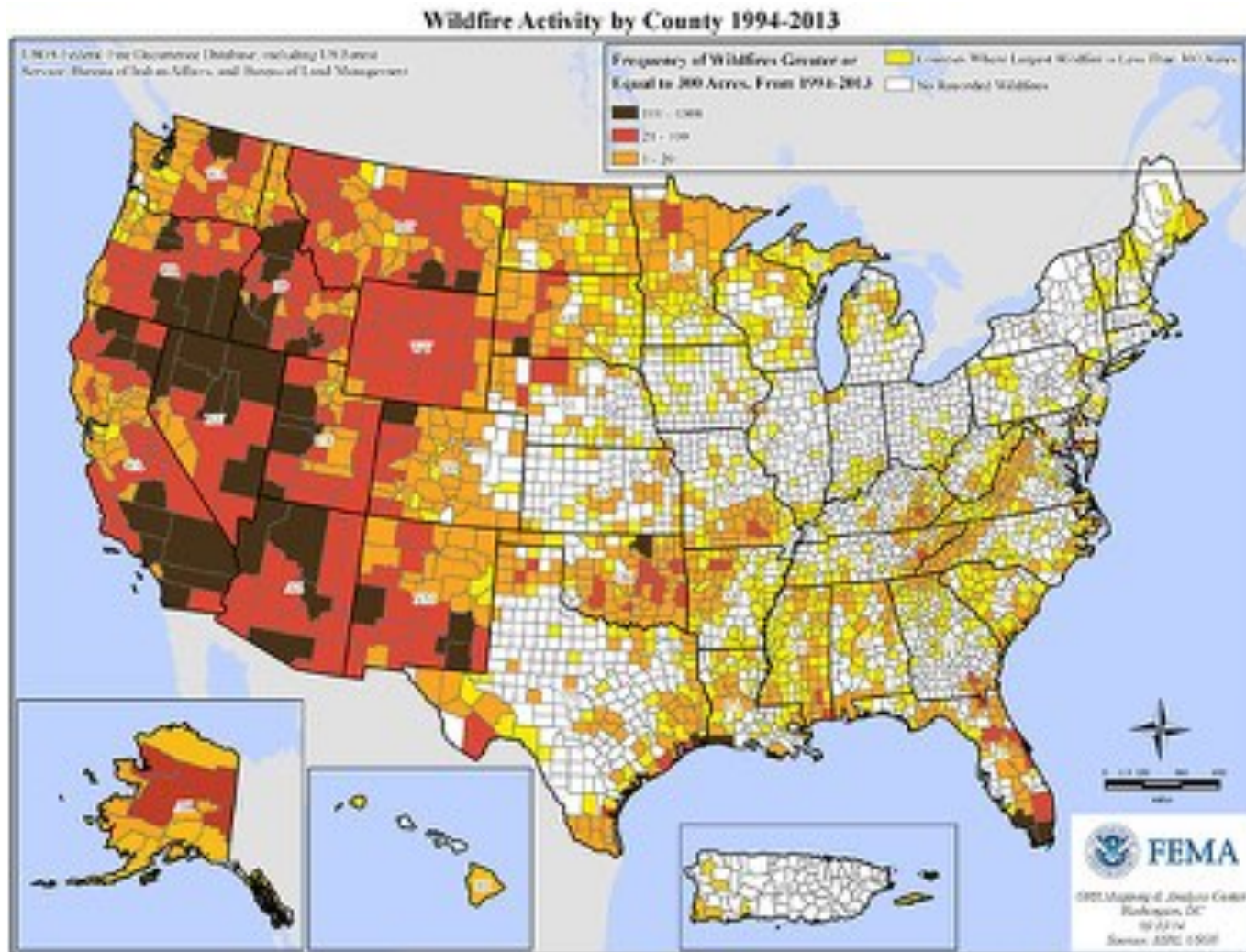
# U.S. Forest Land

Forest **Area** in the United States  
1630-2007



Source: USDA-Forest Service, General Technical Report WO-78. (2009).

# HAZARDOUS FUELS TODAY



# Western U.S. Wild Fire Epidemic

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- Fire readiness and suppression has gone from 20% of the FS budget in 2001 to 52% in 2015.
- It is not uncommon to spend \$1 million per hour fighting fires.

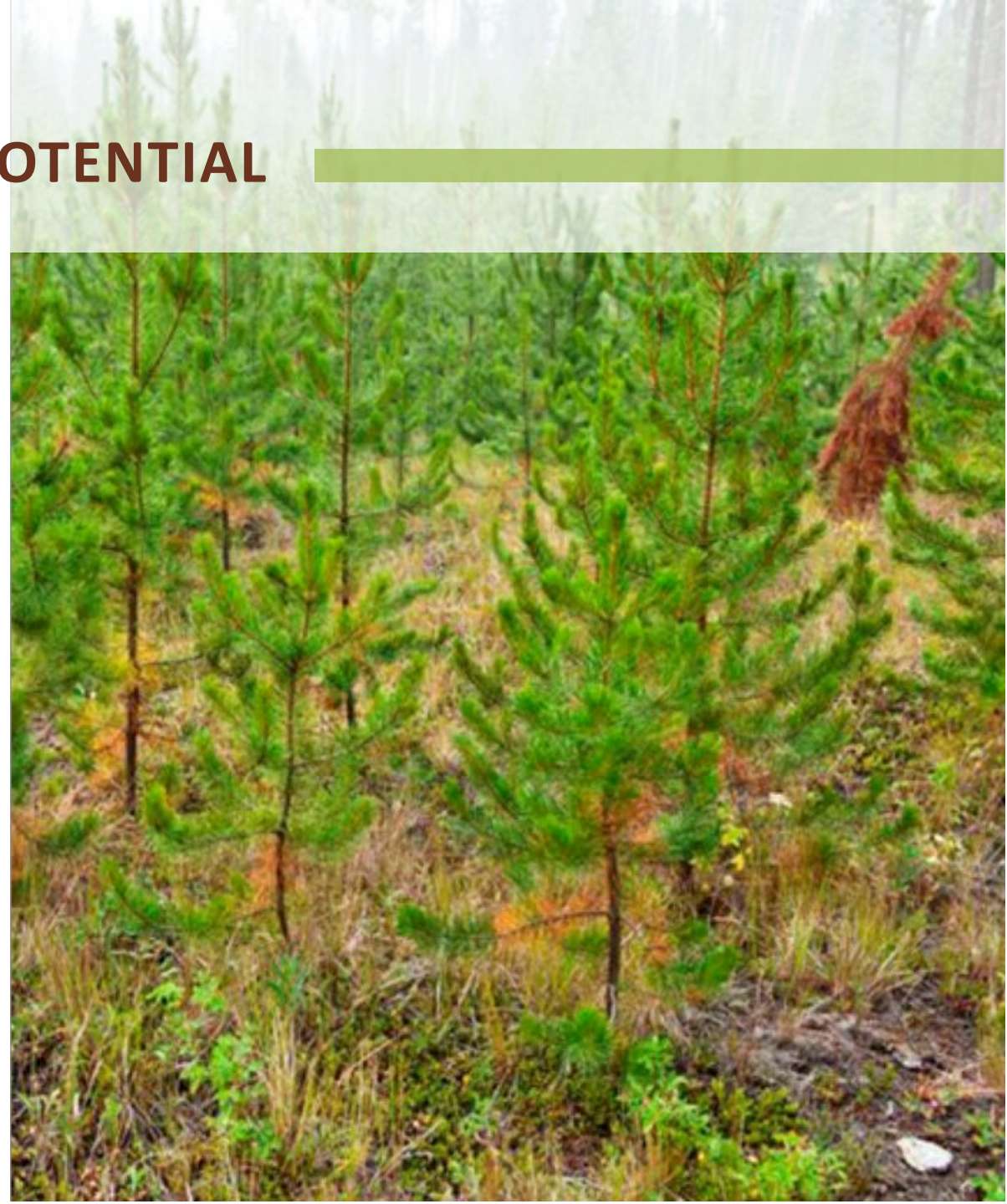


Source: US Forest Service –  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/about-agency/budget-performance/cost-fire-operations>

## LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IMPACT POTENTIAL

### Wood Use Paradox

- » Increasing the use of products from healthy managed forests helps keep forest land forested
- » Finding high value uses for low value wood – mass timber and CLT
- » Renewable – sustainable resource





# IMPACT ON RURAL ECONOMIES

## ECONOMIC IMPACT RESULTS OF THE U.S. LUMBER INDUSTRY

*from Bureau of Labor Statistics*



**215,000<sup>+</sup>**

**Direct jobs**  
in harvesting &  
manufacturing related to  
softwood lumber

**700,000<sup>+</sup>**

**Direct & Indirect  
jobs** in harvesting &  
manufacturing related to  
softwood lumber

**465** communities  
supported by

**510** softwood  
lumber mills  
in 31 states

### COMPARITIVE INDUSTRIES:

**181,430** jobs in oil & gas  
extraction

**140,200** jobs in primary steel  
manufacturing

**207,000** jobs in motor vehicle  
manufacturing

### LUMBER INDUSTRY PAYROLL

**\$8 BILLION USD** Direct Lumber Jobs  
(sawmills and wood preservation)



# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

DISASTER RESILIENT



USFPL WOOD TORNADO SHELTER

# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

DISASTER RESILIENT

LIVE BLAST PERFORMANCE OF MASS TIMBER



A low-angle photograph of a modern building facade, showing a grid of windows and a blue sky with clouds. The building's facade is composed of light-colored panels and dark window frames, creating a strong geometric pattern. The sky is a vibrant blue with scattered white clouds. The overall composition is dynamic and emphasizes the height and structure of the building.

# **MASS TIMBER CONSTRUCTION**

## **THE FUTURE'S LOOKING UP**

PHOTO CREDIT: ALEX SCHREYER

# TALL WOOD IN NORTH AMERICA CIRCA 1906 9 STORIES



# GLOBAL TALL WOOD CIRCA 2015

## 7-14 STORIES



# GLOBAL TALL WOOD CIRCA 2019 18-24 STORIES



Photo: Moelven Limtre



Photo: naturally:wood

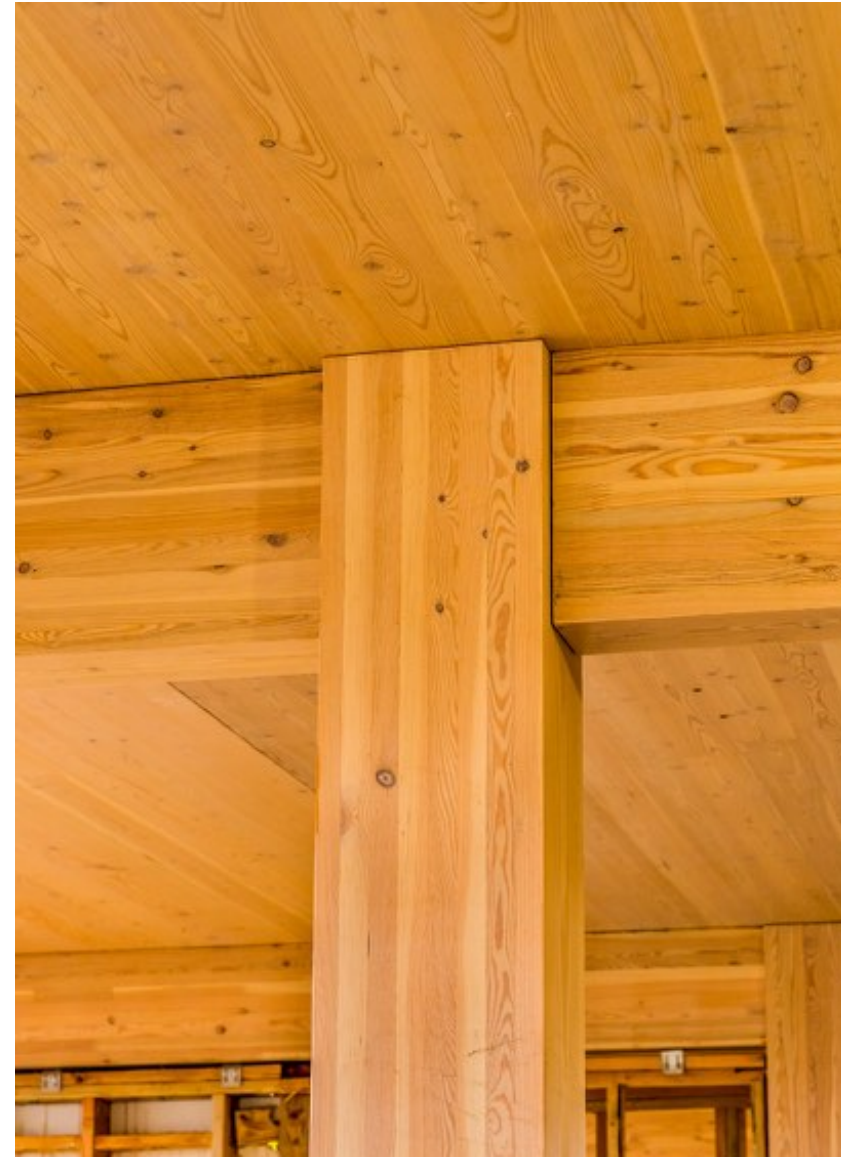


Photo: Rudiger Lainer + Partner



# TALL WOOD IN THE US CIRCA 2019

# 8 STORIES



Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH Architecture/Marcus Kauffman | Architect: PATH Architecture

- » **Current Prescriptive Code Limit - 6 stories (B occupancy) or 85 feet**
- » **Over 6 Stories - Alternate Means and Methods Request (AMMR) through performance based design**
- » **Based on the 1910 Heights and Areas Act**

# TYPE III CONSTRUCTION, RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY: 5 STORIES

**LIGHT-FRAME WOOD  
MASS TIMBER**





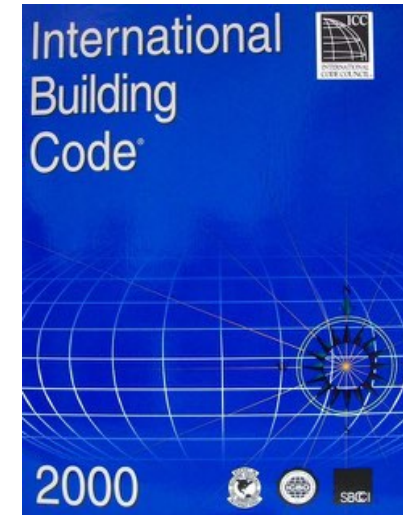
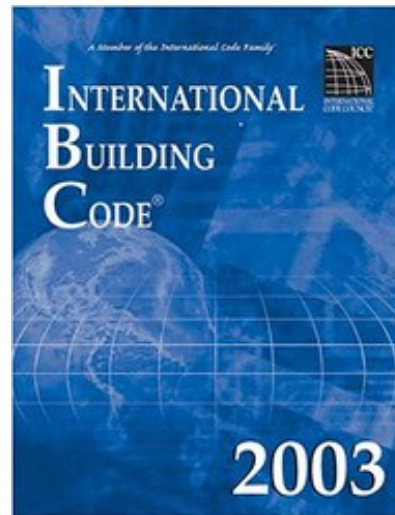
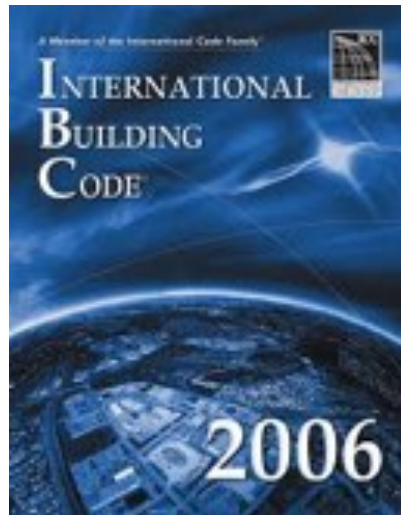
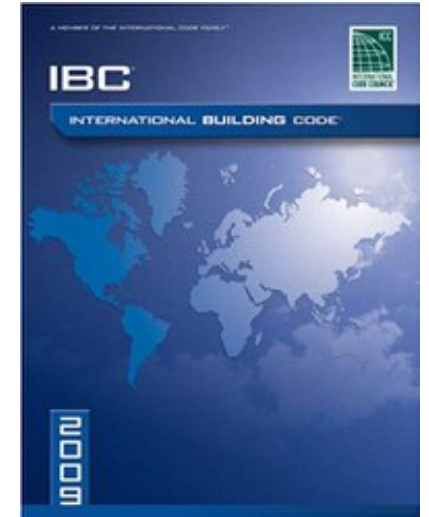
# U.S. BUILDING CODE STATUS

Photo: Ema Peter



INTERNATIONAL  
CODE  
COUNCIL®

## 3 YEAR CODE CYCLE



## U.S. TALL WOOD

### DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES



**In December 2015, the ICC Board established the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings. Objectives:**

1. Explore the building science of tall wood buildings
2. Investigate the feasibility, and
3. Take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings.



Photo: LendLease



Photo: LendLease





Photo: LendLease



Photo: LendLease



Photo: LendLease

# TALL WOOD APPROVED!

Unofficial results posted Dec 19, 2018

Final votes ratified Jan 31, 2019

## **AWC: Tall Mass Timber code changes get final approval**

Dec 19, 2018

LEESBURG, VA. – The International Code Council (ICC) has released the unofficial voting results on code change proposals considered in 2018, including passage of the entire package of [14 tall mass timber code change proposals](#). The proposals create three new types of construction (Types IV-A, IV-B and IV-C), which set fire safety requirements, and allowable heights, areas and number of stories for tall mass timber buildings. Official results are expected to be announced during the first quarter of 2019. The new provisions will be included in the 2021 *International Building Code* (IBC).

“Mass timber has been capturing the imagination of architects and developers, and the ICC result means they can now turn sketches into reality. ICC’s rigorous study, testing and voting process now



# New Building Types



18 STORIES  
 BUILDING HEIGHT 270'  
 ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 972,000 SF  
 AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 54,000SF

**TYPE IV-A**



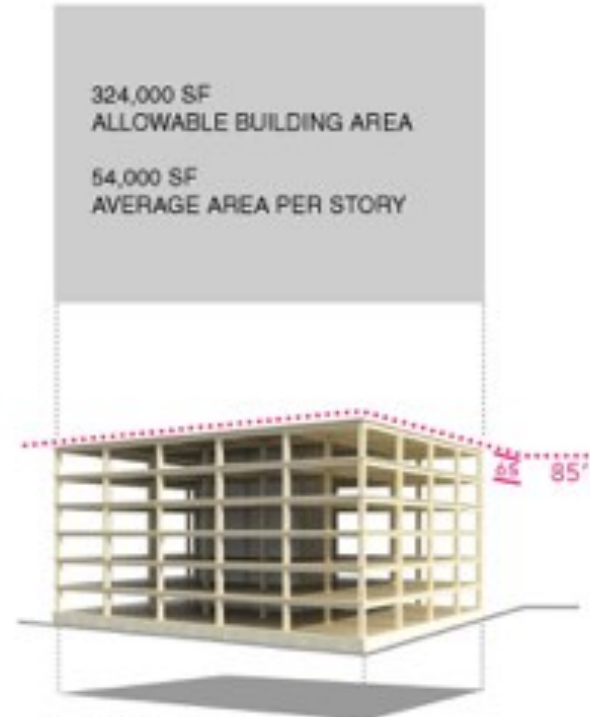
12 STORIES  
 BUILDING HEIGHT 180 FT  
 ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 648,000 SF  
 AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 54,000SF

**TYPE IV-B**



9 STORIES  
 BUILDING HEIGHT 85'  
 ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 405,000 SF  
 AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 45,000 SF

**TYPE IV-C**



324,000 SF  
 ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA  
 54,000 SF  
 AVERAGE AREA PER STORY

6 STORIES MAXIMUM  
 85'-0" MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT  
 324,00 SF MAXIMUM AREA

**TYPE IV- HT**

**IBC 2015**

**IBC 2021**

**BUSINESS OCCUPANCY [GROUP B]**

\*BUILDING FLOOR-TO-FLOOR HEIGHTS ARE SHOWN AT 12'-0" FOR ALL EXAMPLES FOR CLARITY IN COMPARISON BETWEEN 2015 TO 2021 IBC CODES.

# Questions?

**This concludes The American  
Institute of Architects Continuing  
Education Systems Course**

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**WoodWorks**

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