

Meeting Notes: Municipal Delegations TAG

Date: Thursday, April 30, 2026
Prepared by: Makenzie Johnson
Location: DLI Washington Room/WebEx Event

Attendance:

TAG Members attending: Greg Metz, Bryan Kerby, Nicole Kastern, Scott McKown, Lonnie Johnson, Scott Wheeler, Ryan Rehn, Paul Swett, Jerry Backlund, Scott Anderson, Randy King, Kyle Dimler, Travis Dunn, Jerry Norman

TAG Members not attending: James Coyle, Travis Dunn

Guests attending: Brenda Berends, Chad Payment, Craig Furlong, Dan Lentz, Dave Mathews, Franklin Martin, Makenzie Johnson, Matt Carrigan, Mike Kuhn, Nathan Morlan, Shawn Espeseth, Tim Manz, Todd Hoekstra, Tonia Sikorski, John Caldwell, Kade Paulson, Larry Farrar

Overview:

- Reviewed statutory framework for delegation under 326B.107.
- Discussed key topics including staffing adequacy, QP levels, tier structure, specialty exams, and rule development timeline.

Key Decisions

- QP validation will be exam-based and included in rule.
- Energy code will not have a separate specialist exam.
- Structural and mechanical specialization will apply at QP 3–4.
- Four-tier delegation structure reaffirmed with DLI discretion.

Staffing & Adequacy Evaluation

- Discussion on moving from project-by-project evaluation toward holistic field evaluations.
- Concern that staffing shortages in rural jurisdictions could impact delegation viability.
- Consensus that DLI discretion is necessary when determining staffing sufficiency.

Tier Structure & Storm Shelters

- Reviewed tier thresholds and criteria across Tiers 1–4.
- Confirmed storm shelters belong in Tier 3 due to complexity and construction requirements.
- Discussion on impacts for school additions and public building projects.

Energy Code Considerations

- Debated whether the energy code warrants a standalone specialist exam.
- Group consensus determined it should remain integrated into other disciplines.
- Noted complexity largely overlaps with building and mechanical systems.

QP Levels, Specialty Exams & Experience Requirements

- Discussed value of structural and mechanical specialist exams for upper levels.
- Concerns raised regarding experience requirements and project access in rural jurisdictions.
- Support expressed for a flexible, point-based system for qualifying experience.

Next Steps

- DLI to draft preliminary rule language for review at the September 2026 TAG meeting.