

2009 International Residential Code

City of Victoria

Adopted: August 2, 2011

Sec. 5-50. Adoption of Published Code and Controlling Law.

- (a) *Adoption of Code.* There is hereby adopted by the City for the purpose of establishing administrative provisions, rules and regulations specific to one- and two-family dwelling construction, alteration, enlargement, repair, equipment, use, occupancy, maintenance, location, appurtenances, and accessory structures, that certain code known as the 2009 International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings, published by the International Code Council Inc., save and except such portions as are hereinafter deleted, modified, or amended. Copies of the aforesaid code shall be maintained on file with the City Secretary and the Development Services Department. The aforesaid code is hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein, and from the date on which this section shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling in the construction of all one- and two-family dwellings and other structures therein regulated within the corporate limits of the City.
- (b) *Controlling Law.* Compliance with the provisions of the International Residential Code in the construction or renovation of structures to which said code is applicable shall constitute a defense to a claim of noncompliance with a provision of the building code adopted at Section 5-60 of the City Code, the Existing Building Code adopted at Section 5-64 of the City Code, the mechanical code adopted at Section 5-70 of the City Code, the plumbing code adopted at Section 5-80 of the City Code, or the electrical code adopted at Section 5-100 of the City Code. Compliance with the provisions of the building code adopted at Section 5-60 of the City Code, the Existing Building Code adopted at Section 5-64 of the City Code, the mechanical code adopted at Section 5-70 of the City Code, the plumbing code adopted at Section 5-80 of the City Code or the electrical code adopted at Section 5-100 of the City Code shall constitute a defense to a claim of noncompliance with a provision other than Chapter 11 of the International Residential Code.

Sec. 5-51. Definition.

Whenever the term “building official” is used in the International Residential Code, it shall be held to mean the director, as defined in Section 2-80 of the Victoria City Code.

Sec. 5-52: Deletions to Published Code.

The following portions of the International Residential Code are hereby deleted:

- *Section R103 Department of Building Safety*
- *Section R105 Permits*
- *Section R106 Construction Documents*
- *Section R107 Temporary Structures and uses*
- *Section R108 Fees*
- *Section R112 Board of Appeals*
- *Section R322 Flood Resistant Construction*
- *Section E3605.9.2 Service Cable, service head or gooseneck*
- *Section R612 Exterior Windows and Doors*
- *Section 3902.11 Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter Protection*

- *Section R903.5 Hail exposure.*
- *Section R903.5.1 Moderate hail exposure*
- *Section R903.5.2 Severe hail exposure*
- *Section R313 Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems*
- *Section R502.2.2.3 Deck lateral load connection*
- *Section P2723 Macerating Toilet Systems*

Sec. 5-53 Amendments to Published Code.

The 2009 International Residential Code, as adopted by the City Council of the City of Victoria is amended as follows:

- (1) *Section R112 Board of Appeals* is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“Section R112 Right of Appeal and Provisions Inconsistent with the International Residential Code”

“R112.1 Right of Appeal. The Building, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing Boards of Adjustments and Appeals shall hear appeals and requests for variances to the provisions of this code with respect to the trades represented by the provision being appealed or varied. Said appeals and requests for variances shall be heard and recommended in accordance with Sections 2-94 and 2-95 of the City Code.”

- (2) *Chapter 2 Definitions* is amended to add the following definition: “DECORATIVE COATING. A single coat of plaster, cementitious or other approved material applied to a concrete or masonry surface for cosmetic purposes only.”

- (3) *Table R301.2(1) Climatic and geographic design criteria* is amended by adding the following entries in the appropriate columns:

Ground Snow Load: Not Applicable
 Wind Speed: 85 mph / 105 (fastest mile /3 second gust) Exposure B
 Topographic Effect: No
 Seismic Design Category: 0
 Subject To Damage From
 Weathering: Negligible
 Frost Line Depth: No - 12"
 Termite: Yes
 Winter Design Temperature For Heating Facilities: None Required
 Ice Barrier Underlayment Req'd: No
 Flood Hazard: July 21, 1999 (Community-Panel # 480638 0005G
 August 4, 1987 (Community-Panel # 480638 0010E
 August 4, 1987 (Community-Panel # 480638 0015E
 Air Freeze Index: 1500 or less

- (4) *Section 301.2.1.1 Design Criteria* is amended to read “Construction in regions where the basic wind speeds from Figure R301.2(4) equal or exceed 110 miles per hour (49m/s) shall be designed in accordance with one of the following:”

- (5) *Table 302.1* is amended to reduce all requirements of a 5’ separation distance to a 3’ separation distance.

- (6) *Section R302.1.1 Exterior walls on zero lot lines* is added to read as follows:
“The provisions of Section 302.1 shall not apply if the approved and recorded final plat of the subdivision provides an interior side yard setback of a minimum of nine feet on one side of the lot, and the setback contains an easement at least six feet wide running along the length of the side of the lot that prohibits the construction of combustible building material in said easement.”
- (7) *R302.2 Townhouses Exception* is amended to read: “A common 2-hour fire resistant rated wall assembly is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall”.
- (8) *R302.6 Dwelling/garage fire separation* is amended to add Exception 1, “Exception: Concrete-filled steel lolly columns used in the structure supporting the separation shall not require a gypsum board application.”
- (9) *303.6.1 Light Activation* is amended to read: “The control for activation of the required interior stairway lighting shall be accessible at the top and bottom of each stairway without traversing any steps. The illumination of exterior stairways shall be controlled from inside the dwelling unit.
- Exceptions: 1) Lights that are continuously illuminated or automatically controlled.
 2) Interior stairways consisting of less than six steps.”
- (10) *R310.1 Emergency escape and rescue required.* The first sentence of the paragraph is amended to read; “Every sleeping room shall have at least one operable emergency escape and rescue opening.” No other amendments are made to this section.
- (11) *R311.2 Egress Door* is amended to read: “At least one egress door shall be provided for each dwelling unit. The egress door shall be side-hinged, and shall provide a minimum clear width of 32 inches when measured between the face of the door and the stop, with the door open 90 degrees. The minimum clear height of the door opening shall not be less than 78 inches in height measured from the top of the threshold to the bottom of the stop. Other doors shall not be required to comply with these minimum dimensions”.
- (12) *R312.1 Where required* is amended to read; “Guards shall be located along open-sided walking surfaces of all decks, porches, balconies, stairs, ramps and landings that are located more than 30 inches measured vertically to the floor or grade below. Insect screening shall not be considered as a guard”.
- (13) *R311.7.4.1 Riser Height.* The first sentence of the paragraph is amended to read: The maximum riser height shall be 8 inches (203 mm).
- (14) *R311.7.4.2 Tread Depth.* The first sentence of the paragraph is amended to read: The minimum tread depth shall be 9 inches (229mm).
- (15) *R311.7.4.3 Profile, Exception 1* is amended to read: “A nosing is not required where the tread depth is a minimum of 10 inches.”
- (16) *R311.7.7 Handrails.* All of section R311.7.7 is amended to read as follows: “Handrails shall be provided on at least one side of stairways consisting of three or more risers. Handrails shall have a minimum height of 34 inches (864mm) and a maximum height of 38 inches (965mm) measured vertically from the nosing of the treads. All required handrails shall be continuous the full length of the stairs from a point directly above the top riser to a point directly above the lowest riser of

the stairway. The ends of the handrail shall be returned into a wall or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals. A minimum clear space of 1-1/2 inches (38 mm) shall be provided between the wall and the handrail.”

- (17) *R403.1.6 Foundation anchorage* is amended to read: “Where wood sill and sole plates and cold-formed steel framed walls are supported directly on continuous foundation walls or monolithic slabs with integral footings, they shall be anchored to the foundation in accordance with this section.

Wood sole plates at all exterior walls, wood sole plates of *braced wall panels* at building interiors on monolithic slabs with integral footings, and all wood sill plates shall be anchored to the foundation with anchor bolts spaced a maximum of 6 feet (1829 mm) on center. Bolts shall be at least 1/2 inch (12.7 mm) in diameter and shall extend a minimum of 7 inches (178 mm) into concrete or grouted cells of concrete masonry units. A nut and washer shall be tightened on each anchor bolt. There shall be a minimum of two bolts per plate section with one bolt located not more than 12 inches (305 mm) or less than seven bolt diameters from each end of the plate section. *Approved* foundation anchorage spaced as required to provide equivalent anchorage to 1/2-inch-diameter (13 mm) anchor bolts shall be permitted. Interior bearing wall sole plates on monolithic slab foundations with integral footings that are not part of a *braced wall panel* shall be positively anchored with *approved* fasteners. Sill plates and sole plates shall be protected against decay and termites where required by Sections R317 and R318. Cold-formed steel framing systems shall be fastened to wood sill plates or anchored directly to the foundation as required in Section R505.3.1 or R603.3.1.

Exceptions:

1. Walls 24 inches (610 mm) total length or shorter connecting offset *braced wall panels* shall be anchored to the foundation with a minimum of one anchor bolt located in the center third of the plate section and shall be attached to adjacent *braced wall panels* per Figure R602.10.4.4(1) at corners.
 2. Walls 12 inches (305 mm) total length or shorter connecting offset *braced wall panels* shall be permitted to be connected to the foundation without anchor bolts. The wall shall be attached to adjacent *braced wall panels* per Figure R602.10.4.4(1) at corners”.
- (18) *R404.1 Concrete and masonry foundation walls* is amended to read “Concrete and masonry foundation walls shall be selected and constructed in accordance with the provisions of Section R404 or in accordance with ACI 318, ACI 332, NCMATR68–A or ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 or other approved structural standards. When ACI 318, ACI 332 or ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 or the provisions of Section R404 are used to design concrete or masonry foundation walls, project drawings, typical details and specifications are not required to bear the seal of the architect or engineer responsible for design, unless otherwise required by the state law of the jurisdiction having authority”.
- (19) Add new section “*R502.3.3 Floor Cantilevers*” to read: “Floor cantilever spans shall not exceed the nominal depth of the wood floor joist. Floor cantilevers constructed in accordance with Table R502.3.3 shall be permitted when supporting a light-frame bearing wall and roof only. The ratio of backspan to cantilever span shall be at least 3 to 1.”
- (20) Add new table “*Table R502.3.3 Cantilever Spans For Floor Joists Supporting Light-Frame Exterior Bearing Wall And Roof Only*”.

TABLE R502.3.3 CANTILEVER SPANS FOR FLOOR JOISTS
SUPPORTING LIGHT-FRAME EXTERIOR BEARING WALL AND ROOF ONLY^{a,b,c,f,g,h}
(Floor Live Load ≤ 40 psf, Roof Live Load ≤ 20 psf) See table below

Member and Spacing	Maximum Cantilever Span (Uplift Force at Backspan Support in Lbs.) ^{d,e}											
	Ground Snow Load											
	≤ 20 psf			30 psf			50 psf			70 psf		
	Roof Width			Roof Width			Roof Width			Roof Width		
	24 ft.	32 ft.	40 ft.	24 ft.	32 ft.	40 ft.	24 ft.	32 ft.	40 ft.	24 ft.	32 ft.	40 ft.
2 x 8 @ 12"	20" (177)	15" (227)		18" (209)								
2 x 10 @ 16"	29" (228)	21" (297)	16" (364)	26" (271)	18" (354)		20" (375)					
2 x 10 @ 12"	36" (166)	26" (219)	20" (270)	34" (198)	22" (263)	16" (324)	26" (277)			19" (356)		
2 x 12 @ 16"		32" (287)	25" (356)	36" (263)	29" (345)	21" (428)	29" (367)	20" (484)		23" (471)		
2 x 12 @ 12"		42" (209)	31" (263)		37" (253)	27" (317)	36" (271)	27" (358)	17" (447)	31" (348)	19" (462)	
2 x 12 @ 8"		48" (136)	45" (169)		48" (164)	38" (206)		40" (233)	26" (294)	36" (230)	29" (304)	18" (379)

For SI: 1 in. = 25.4 mm, 1 psf = 0.0479 kN/m²

Notes:

- a. Tabulated values are for clear-span roof supported solely by exterior bearing walls.
- b. Spans are based on No. 2 Grade lumber of Douglas fir-larch, hem-fir, southern pine, and spruce-pine-fir for repetitive (3 or more) members.
- c. Ratio of backspan to cantilever span shall be at least 3:1.
- d. Connections capable of resisting the indicated uplift force shall be provided at the backspan support.
- e. Uplift force is for a backspan to cantilever span ratio of 3:1. Tabulated uplift values are permitted to be reduced by multiplying by a factor equal to 3 divided by the actual backspan ratio provided (3/backspan ratio).
- f. See Section R301.2.2.7.1 for additional limitations on cantilevered floor joists for detached one- and two-family dwellings in Seismic Design Categories D1 and D2 and townhouses in Seismic Design Categories C, D1, and D2.
- g. A full-depth rim joist shall be provided at the cantilevered end of the joists. Solid blocking shall be provided at the cantilever support.
- h. Linear interpolation shall be permitted for building widths and ground snow loads other than shown.

(21) *R602.8 Fireblocking required, subsection(1)* is amended to read: "In concealed spaces of stud walls and partitions, including furred spaces, at the ceiling and floor level. Batts or blankets of mineral or glass fiber or other approved non-rigid materials shall be allowed as fireblocking in walls constructed using parallel rows of studs or staggered studs or in accordance with Section R302.11".

(22) *R703.6.2 Plaster* is amended to add the following sentence at the end of first paragraph: "Decorative coatings applied to a concrete or masonry surface shall be installed in accordance

with the manufacturer’s installation instructions and are not required to comply with Table 702.1(1).”

(23) *R907.3 Re-covering versus replacement* is amended to read: “New roof coverings shall not be installed without first removing existing roof coverings where any of the following conditions occur:

1. Where the existing roof or roof covering is water-soaked or has deteriorated to the point that the existing roof or roof covering is not adequate as a base for additional roofing.
2. Where the existing roof covering is wood shake, slate, clay, cement or asbestos-cement tile.
3. Where the existing roof has two or more applications of any type of roof covering.
4. For asphalt shingles, when the building is located in an area subject to moderate or severe hail exposure according to Figure R903.5.

Exceptions:

1. Complete and separate roofing systems, such as standing-seam metal roof systems, that are designed to transmit the roof loads directly to the building’s structural system and that do not rely on existing roofs and roof coverings for support, shall not require the removal of existing roof coverings.
2. Metal panel, metal shingle, and concrete and clay tile roof coverings shall be permitted to be installed over existing wood shake roofs when applied in accordance with Section R907.4.
3. The application of new protective coating over existing spray polyurethane foam roofing systems shall be permitted without tear-off of existing roof coverings.”

(24) *N1101.2 Compliance* is amended to read: “Compliance shall be demonstrated by either meeting the requirements of the International Energy Conservation Code, or meeting the requirements of this chapter, or meeting the requirements as set forth under Senate Bill 5 as mandated by the 77th Texas Legislature.

(25) *M1502.4.4.1 Specified length* is amended to read: “The maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be 35 feet (10,668mm) from the connection to the terminus of the transition duct from the dryer to the outlet terminal. Where fittings are utilized, the maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be reduced in accordance with Table M1502.4.4.1.

(26) *Table M1502.4.4.1* is amended to read:

Table M1502.4.4.1

Maytag dryers

65 feet with 0 elbows
 54 feet with 1 elbow
 44 feet with 2 elbows
 36 feet with 3 elbows
 28 feet with 4 elbows

Amana/ Speed Queen dryers

44 feet with 0 elbows
 34 feet with 1 elbows
 26 feet with 2 elbows
 20 feet with 3 elbows

OLDER MODELS:

Maytag, 1990
 50 feet with 0 elbows
 42 feet with 1 elbow
 34 feet with 2 elbows
 26 feet with 3 elbows

Whirlpool dryers

64 feet with 0 elbows
 54 feet with 1 elbow
 44 feet with 2 elbows
 34 feet with 3 elbows
 27 feet with 4 elbows

Fridgidare/ Westinghouse/ Tappen/ Gibson

60 feet with 0 elbows
 52 feet with 1 elbow
 44 feet with 2 elbows
 32 feet with 3 elbows

Whirlpool, 1991

58 feet with 0 elbows
 48 feet with 1 elbow
 38 feet with 2 elbows
 29 feet with 3 elbows

Kenmore dryers
64 feet with 0 elbows
54 feet with 1 elbow
44 feet with 2 elbows
34 feet with 3 elbows
27 feet with 4 elbows

Magic Chef/Admiral/Norge
45 feet with 0 elbows
35 with 1 elbows
25 with 2 elbows

Kenmore, 1988
22 feet with 3 elbows

General Electric dryers
90 feet with 0 elbows
60 feet with 1 elbow
45 feet with 2 elbows
35 feet with 3 elbows

Camco/Moffat/McClary
45 feet with 0 elbows
35 feet with 1 elbow
25 feet with 2 elbows

Throm
55 feet with 0 elbows
47 feet with 1 elbow
41 feet with 2 elbows

- (27) *Section E3401.1 Applicability* is amended to read: “The provisions of Chapters 34 through 43 shall establish the general scope of the electrical system and equipment requirements of this code. Chapters 34 through 43 cover those wiring methods and materials most commonly encountered in the construction of one- and two-family dwellings and structures regulated by this code. Other wiring methods, materials and subject matter covered in the most currently adopted version of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70) as amended in Chapter 5 Buildings, Construction and Related Activities, Article IX Electrical Code, Victoria City Code, are also allowed by this code.”
- (28) *Section E3401.2 Scope* is amended to read: “Chapters 34 through 43 shall cover the installation of electrical systems, equipment and components indoors and outdoors that are within the scope of this code, including services, power distribution systems, fixtures, appliances, devices and appurtenances. Services within the scope of this code shall be limited to 120/240 volt, 0- to 400-ampere, single-phase systems. These chapters specifically cover the equipment, fixtures, appliances, wiring methods and materials that are most commonly used in the construction or alteration of one- and two-family dwellings and accessory structures regulated by this code. The omission from these chapters of any material or method of construction provided for in the referenced standard NFPA 70 shall not be construed as prohibiting the use of such material or method of construction. Electrical systems, equipment or components not specifically covered in these chapters shall comply with the applicable provisions of the most currently adopted version of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70), as amended in Chapter 5 Buildings, Construction and Related Activities, Article IX Electrical Code, Victoria City Code.”
- (29) *Section E3406.3 Minimum size of conductors* is amended to read: “The minimum size of conductors for feeders and branch circuits shall be No. 12 copper and No. 6 aluminum. The minimum size of service conductors shall be as specified in Chapter 36.”
- (30) *Section E3406.8 Aluminum and copper connections* is amended by adding the following sentence: “If aluminum conductors are installed, they must be terminated according to the manufacturer's recommendations and have a coating of oxidation inhibitor applied.”
- (31) *Section E3601.1 Scope* is amended by adding the following sentence: “Meter installation and service requirements of local electric utilities may be more stringent than described herein. It is recommended that requirements be verified with the appropriate electric utility before proceeding with service installation work.”
- (32) *Section E3601.6.2 Service disconnect location* is amended to read: “The service disconnecting means shall be installed at a readily accessible location outside of a building nearest the point of entrance of the service conductors. Each occupant shall have access to the disconnect serving the dwelling unit in which they reside.”

- (33) *Section E3603.2 Ungrounded service conductors for accessory buildings and structures, Exception #3* is added to read: “For limited loads of a single branch circuit, the minimum size shall be No. 12 copper or No. 6 aluminum or copper-clad aluminum, but in no case smaller than the branch-circuit conductors.”
- (34) *Section E3604.2.2 Vertical clearance from grade* is amended by adding item 4 to read: “Where electric utility service installation requirements are more restrictive than those shown in items 1, 2, or 3 of this section, the more restrictive requirement for service drop conductor height shall apply.”
- (35) *Section E3604.5 Service masts as supports* is amended to read: “Where a service mast is used for the support of service drop conductors, it shall be of adequate strength or be supported by braces or guys to withstand the strain imposed by the service drop. Only raceway-type service masts shall be used, all raceway fittings shall be identified for use with service masts. Where a service mast extends through the roof, such mast shall be flashed so as to make the roof penetration watertight. In addition to the aforementioned provisions, a minimum of two (2) inch rigid conduit shall be used for service mast, which is the sole support of the service entrance conductors. Only power service drop conductors shall be permitted to be attached to a service mast.”
- (36) *Section E3605.7 Mounting supports* is amended to read: “Cables shall be supported by straps or other approved means within 12 inches (305 mm) of every service head or connection to a raceway or enclosure and at intervals not exceeding 30 inches (762 mm).”
- (37) *Section E3605.9.3 Service head location* is amended to read: “Service heads shall be located above the point of attachment of the service-drop conductors to the building or other structure.
- Exception: Where it is impracticable to locate the service head above the point of attachment, the service head location shall not be more than 24 inches (610 mm) from the point of attachment.”
- (38) *Section E3608.1 Grounding electrode system* is amended by adding the following sentence: “All new or rebuilt building services shall have installed a driven ground rod as described in Section E3608.1.4.1.”
- (39) *Section E3611.1 Methods of grounding conductor connection to electrodes* is amended by adding item 5 to read: “All new or rebuilt services shall have a listed acorn type set screw clamp of cast bronze or brass used to clamp the grounding electrode conductor to the grounding electrode (ground rod) as required by Sections E3608.1, E3608.1.4.”
- (40) *Table E3702.13 Branch-circuit requirements - summary* is amended by deleting the entire 15 amp circuit rating column.
- (41) *Section E3703.2 Kitchen and dining area receptacles* is amended by adding the following sentence: “The branch circuits serving kitchen countertop receptacles shall comply with the maximum loads specified in Section E3702, but in no case shall such circuits have more than three (3) duplex receptacles per circuit.”
- (42) *Section E3703.5 Number of branch circuits* is amended by adding the following sentence: “In addition to the limitations contained herein, no general purpose branch circuit shall have more than ten (10) outlets per circuit.”

- (43) *Section E3704.1 Conductor Size* is amended to read: “The size of feeder conductors shall not be less than No. 10 copper or No. 6 aluminum where the load supplied consists of any of the following number and types of circuits: (1) two or more two-wire branch circuits supplied by a two-wire feeder; (2) three or more two-wire branch circuits supplied by a three-wire feeder; or (3) two or more three-wire branch circuits supplied by a three-wire feeder.”
- (44) *Table E3801.4 Allowable Applications For Wiring Methods* is amended by adding to the Services line a footnote L to read: “See Chapter 36 for specific service wiring method limitations.”
- (45) *Section E4002.14 Tamper Resistant Receptacles* is amended to read: “In all areas specified in Section E3901.1 that are less than 42 inches above the finished floor in habitable spaces, all 125 volt, 15 and 20 amp receptacles shall be listed tamper resistant receptacles.

Sec. 5-54--5-59: Reserved.