CHAPTER 4
PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE METHOD

Note: Margin markings in this chapter indicate changes from 2009 Seattle Building Code Chapter 34.

SECTION 401
GENERAL

[B] 401.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall control the alteration, repair, addition and change of occupancy or relocation of existing buildings and structures (including historic buildings and structures as referenced in Section 301.1.1).

Exception: Existing bleachers, grandstands and telescopic seating shall comply with ICC 300.

[B] 401.1.1 Compliance with other methods. Alterations, repairs, additions and changes of occupancy to or relocation of existing buildings and structures shall comply with the provisions of this chapter or with one of the methods provided in Section 301.1.

Note: All alterations, additions and changes of occupancy are also required to comply with Chapter 3.

[B] 401.2 Building materials and systems. Building materials and systems shall comply with the requirements of this section.

[B] 401.2.1 Existing materials. Materials already in use in a building in compliance with requirements or approvals in effect at the time of their erection or installation shall be permitted to remain in use unless determined by the building official to be unsafe per Section 101.14.

[B] 401.2.2 New and replacement materials. Except as otherwise required or permitted by this code, materials permitted by the applicable code for new construction shall be used. Like materials shall be permitted for nonstructural alterations, provided no hazard to life, health or property is created, and they do not adversely affect any structural member or the fire-resistance rating of any part of the building or structure. When approved by the code official, minor structural alterations necessary to maintain the structural stability of the building or structure are permitted to be made with the same material of which the building or structure is constructed. Hazardous materials shall not be used where the code for new construction would not permit their use in buildings of similar occupancy, purpose and location.

([B] 401.2.3 Existing seismic force-resisting systems. Where the existing seismic force-resisting system is a type that can be designated ordinary, values of S, Q and C for the existing seismic force-resisting system shall be those specified by the International Building Code for an ordinary system unless it is demonstrated that the existing system will provide performance equivalent to that of a detailed, intermediate or special system.)

([B] 401.3 Dangerous conditions. The building official shall have the authority to require the elimination of conditions deemed dangerous.)

SECTION 402
ADDITIONS

[B] 402.1 General. Additions to any building or structure shall comply with the requirements of the International Building Code for new construction. Alterations to the existing building or structure shall be made to ensure that the existing building or structure together with the addition are no less conforming to the provisions of the International Building Code than the existing building or structure was prior to the addition. An existing building together with its additions shall comply with the height and area provisions of Chapter 5 of the International Building Code.

Note: A significant addition to an existing building may be considered a substantial alteration in accordance with Section 303.

402.1.1 Fire walls. An existing nonconforming building to which an addition is made to exceed the height, number of stories and area specified for new buildings if a fire wall is provided, the existing building is not made more nonconforming, and the addition conforms to this code.

[B] 402.2 Flood hazard areas. For buildings and structures in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code, any addition that constitutes substantial improvement of the existing structure, as defined in Section 202, shall comply with the flood design requirements for new construction, and all aspects of the existing structure shall be brought into compliance with the requirements for new construction for flood design.

For buildings and structures in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code, any additions that do not constitute substantial improvement of the existing structure, as defined in Section 202, are not required to comply with the flood design requirements for new construction.

402.3 Structural. Additions to existing buildings shall comply with Section 304.3.

([B] 402.3 Existing structural elements carrying gravity load. Any existing gravity-load-carrying structural element for which an addition and its related alterations cause an
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Increase in design gravity load of more than 5 percent shall be strengthened, supplemented, replaced or otherwise altered as needed to carry the increased gravity load required by the International Building Code for new structures. Any existing gravity load-carrying structural element whose gravity load-carrying capacity is decreased shall be considered an altered element subject to the requirements of Section 402.3. Any existing element that will form part of the lateral load path for any part of the addition shall be considered an existing lateral load-carrying structural element subject to the requirements of Section 402.4.

[B] 402.3.1 Design live load. Where the addition does not result in increased design live load, existing gravity load-carrying structural elements shall be permitted to be evaluated and designed for live loads approved prior to the addition. If the approved live load is less than that required by Section 1607 of the International Building Code, the area designed for the nonconforming live load shall be posted with placards of approved design indicating the approved live load. Where the addition does result in increased design live load, the live load required by Section 1607 of the International Building Code shall be used.)

(B) 402.4 Existing structural elements carrying lateral load. Where the addition is structurally independent of the existing structure, existing lateral load-carrying structural elements shall be permitted to remain unaltered. Where the addition is not structurally independent of the existing structure, the existing structure and the addition acting together as a single structure shall be shown to meet the requirements of Sections 1609 and 1613 of the International Building Code.

Exception: Any existing lateral load-carrying structural element whose demand-capacity ratio with the addition considered is no more than 10 percent greater than its demand-capacity ratio with the addition ignored shall be permitted to remain unaltered. For purposes of calculating demand-capacity ratios, the demand shall consider applicable load combinations with design lateral loads or forces in accordance with Sections 1609 and 1613 of the International Building Code. For purposes of this exception, comparisons of demand-capacity ratios and calculation of design lateral loads, forces and capacities shall account for the cumulative effects of additions and alterations since original construction.)

[B] 402.5 Smoke alarms in existing portions of a building. Where an addition is made to a building or structure of a Group R or I-1 occupancy, the existing building shall be provided with smoke alarms in accordance with Section 1103.8 of the International Fire Code.

402.6 Addition of dwelling units. Automatic sprinkler systems are required when new dwelling units are added to buildings according to Items 1 through 5 below. This provision is permitted to be used to add one unit over the life of the building.

1. One unit is permitted to be added to a residential or commercial building without an automatic sprinkler system unless sprinklers are otherwise required by this section. If more than one unit is added, the new units shall be equipped with a sprinkler system.

2. In buildings that do not comply with the provisions of this code for number of stories, allowable area, height or type of construction before the unit is added, an automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in the new unit. The addition of the new unit shall not be allowed if it increases the nonconformity.

3. In buildings undergoing substantial alteration, an automatic sprinkler system shall be installed where required by this code for new construction.

4. One unit is permitted to be added to an existing duplex without an automatic sprinkler system where both of the following conditions are met:

4.1. The project is considered a substantial alteration only because of the change of occupancy; and

4.2. The building complies with the requirements for building height and number of stories for a Group R-2 occupancy.

5. Where one unit is added to an existing duplex, sprinklers are required in the new unit and not in the existing units where all of the following conditions are met:

5.1. The existing duplex does not comply with the requirements for building height and story count for a Group R-2 occupancy.

5.2. The project is considered a substantial alteration only because of the change of occupancy.

5.3. The new unit is constructed as an addition to the duplex.

5.4. The new unit is separated from the existing duplex by a fire wall; and

5.5. The addition by itself complies with the requirements for a Group R-2 occupancy.

SECTION 403 ALTERATIONS

[B] 403.1 General. Except as provided by Section 401.2 or this section, alterations to any building or structure shall comply with the requirements of the International Building Code for new construction. Alterations shall be such that the existing building or structure is no less conforming to the provisions of the International Building Code than the existing building or structure was prior to the alteration.

Exceptions:

1. Subject to the approval of the code official, ([An]) existing stairways shall not be required to comply with the requirements of Sections 1009.5 and 1009.7.2 of the International Building Code where the existing space and construction does not allow a reduction in pitch or slope.

2. Handrails otherwise required to comply with Section 1009.12 of the International Building Code shall not be required to comply with the require-
where changes to offices, outpatient clinics or medical offices occur on a multi-tenant floor that contains nonconforming corridors, new tenant walls associated with the tenant change need not meet the standards for 1-hour corridor construction, unless the project is considered a substantial alteration.

4. Automatic sprinkler systems are required when new dwelling units are added to buildings according to Items 4.1 through 4.6 below. This exception is permitted to be used to add one unit over the life of the building.

4.1. One unit is permitted to be added to a residential or commercial building without an automatic sprinkler system unless sprinklers are otherwise required by this section. If more than one unit is added, the new units shall be equipped with a sprinkler system.

4.2. In buildings that do not comply with the provisions of this code for number of stories, allowable area, height or type of construction before the unit is added, an automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in the new unit. The addition of the new unit shall not be allowed if it increases the nonconformity.

4.3. In buildings undergoing substantial alteration, an automatic sprinkler system shall be installed where required by this code for new construction.

4.4. One unit is permitted to be added to an existing duplex without an automatic sprinkler system where both of the following conditions are met:

4.4.1. The project is considered a substantial alteration only because of the change of occupancy; and

4.4.2. The building complies with the requirements for building height and number of stories for a Group R-2 occupancy.

4.5. Where one unit is added to an existing duplex, sprinklers are required in the new unit and not in the existing units where all of the following conditions are met:

4.5.1. The existing duplex does not comply with the requirements for building height and story count for a Group R-2 occupancy;

4.5.2. The project is considered a substantial alteration only because of the change of occupancy;

4.6. A sprinkler system is not required when a Group U occupancy that is accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy is converted to a dwelling unit.

5. Ceilings in basements are permitted to project to within 6 feet 8 inches (2032 mm) of the finished floor, and beams, girders, ducts or other obstructions are permitted to project to within 6 feet 4 inches (1931 mm) of the finished floor.

6. Ceiling height in buildings in existence prior to October 17, 1979 shall be permitted to comply with rules promulgated by the code official.

[B] 403.2 Flood hazard areas. For buildings and structures in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code, any alteration that constitutes substantial improvement of the existing structure, as defined in Section 202, shall comply with the flood design requirements for new construction, and all aspects of the existing structure shall be brought into compliance with the requirements for new construction for flood design.

For buildings and structures in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code, any alterations that do not constitute substantial improvement of the existing structure, as defined in Section 202, are not required to comply with the flood design requirements for new construction.

403.3 Structural. Alterations to existing buildings and structures shall comply with Section 304.1.

([B] 403.3 Existing structural elements carrying gravity load. Any existing gravity load carrying structural element for which an alteration causes an increase in design gravity load of more than 5 percent shall be strengthened, supplemented, replaced or otherwise altered as needed to carry the increased gravity load required by the International Building Code for new structures. Any existing gravity load carrying structural element whose gravity load carrying capacity is decreased as part of the alteration shall be shown to have the capacity to resist the applicable design gravity loads required by the International Building Code for new structures.

[B] 403.3.1 Design live load. Where the alteration does not result in increased design live load, existing gravity load carrying structural elements shall be permitted to be evaluated and designed for live loads approved prior to the alteration. If the approved live load is less than that required by Section 1607 of the International Building Code, the area designed for the nonconforming live load shall be posted with placards of approved design indicat-
**SECTION 404 REPAIRS**

**[B] 404.1 General.** Buildings and structures, and parts thereof, shall be repaired in compliance with Section 305. (401.2 and Section 404. Work on nondamaged components that is necessary for the required repair of damaged components shall be considered part of the repair and shall not be subject to the requirements for alterations in this chapter. Routine maintenance required by Section 401.2, ordinary repairs exempt from permit in accordance with Section 105.2, and abatement of wear due to normal service conditions shall not be subject to the requirements for repairs in this section.)

**[B] 404.2 Substantial structural damage to vertical elements of the lateral force-resisting system.** A building that has sustained substantial structural damage to the vertical elements of its lateral force-resisting system shall be evaluated and repaired in accordance with the applicable provisions of Sections 404.2.1 through 404.2.3.

**Exceptions—**

1. Buildings assigned to Seismic Design Category A, B, or C whose substantial structural damage was not caused by earthquake need not be evaluated or rehabilitated for load combinations that include earthquake effects.

2. One- and two-family dwellings need not be evaluated or rehabilitated for load combinations that include earthquake effects.

**[B] 404.2.1 Evaluation.** The building shall be evaluated by a registered design professional, and the evaluation findings shall be submitted to the building official. The evaluation shall establish whether the damaged building, if repaired to its predamage state, would comply with the provisions of the International Building Code for wind and earthquake loads.

Wind loads for this evaluation shall be those prescribed in Section 1609 of the International Building Code. Earthquake loads for this evaluation, if required, shall be permitted to be 75 percent of those prescribed in Section 1613 of the International Building Code.

**[B] 404.2.2 Extent of repair for compliant buildings.** If the evaluation establishes compliance of the predamage building in accordance with Section 404.2.1, then repairs shall be permitted that restore the building to its predamage state, based on material properties and design strengths applicable at the time of original construction.

**[B] 404.2.3 Extent of repair for noncompliant buildings.** If the evaluation does not establish compliance of the predamage building in accordance with Section 404.2.1, then the building shall be rehabilitated to comply with applicable provisions of the International Building Code for load combinations that include wind or seismic loads. The wind loads for the repair shall be as required by the

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**[B] 403.4 Existing structural elements carrying lateral load.** Except as permitted by Section 403.5, with the alteration increases design lateral loads in accordance with Section 1609 of the International Building Code, or where the alteration results in a structural irregularity as defined in ASCE 7, or where the alteration decreases the capacity of any existing lateral load-carrying structural element, the structure of the altered building or structure shall be shown to meet the requirements of Sections 1609 and 1613 of the International Building Code.

**Exception:** Any existing lateral load-carrying structural element whose demand capacity ratio with the alteration considered is no more than 10 percent greater than its demand capacity ratio with the alteration ignored shall be permitted to remain unaltered. For purposes of calculating demand capacity ratios, the demand shall consider applicable load combinations with design lateral loads or forces in accordance with Sections 1609 and 1613 of the International Building Code. For purposes of this exception, comparisons of demand capacity ratios and calculation of design lateral loads, forces and capacities shall account for the cumulative effects of additions and alterations since original construction.

**[B] 403.5 Voluntary seismic improvements.** Alterations to existing structural elements or additions of new structural elements that are not otherwise required by this chapter and are initiated for the purpose of improving the performance of the seismic force-resisting system of an existing structure or the performance of seismic bracing or anchorage of existing nonstructural elements shall be permitted, provided that an engineering analysis is submitted demonstrating the following:

1. The altered structure and the altered nonstructural elements are no less conforming to the provisions of the International Building Code with respect to earthquake design than they were prior to the alteration.

2. New structural elements are detailed as required for new construction.

3. New or relocated nonstructural elements are detailed and connected to existing or new structural elements as required for new construction.

4. The alterations do not create a structural irregularity as defined in ASCE 7 or make an existing structural irregularity more severe.

**[B] 403.6 Smoke alarms.** Individual sleeping units and individual dwelling units in Group R and I-1 occupancies shall be provided with smoke alarms in accordance with Section 1103.8 of the International Fire Code.

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...ing the approved live load. Where the alteration does result in increased design live load, the live load required by Section 1607 of the International Building Code shall be used.)

**[B] 403.4 Existing structural elements carrying lateral load.** Except as permitted by Section 403.5, with the alteration increases design lateral loads in accordance with Section 1609 or 1613 of the International Building Code, or where the alteration results in a structural irregularity as defined in ASCE 7, or where the alteration decreases the capacity of any existing lateral load-carrying structural element, the structure of the altered building or structure shall be shown to meet the requirements of Sections 1609 and 1613 of the International Building Code.

**Exception:** Any existing lateral load-carrying structural element whose demand capacity ratio with the alteration considered is no more than 10 percent greater than its demand capacity ratio with the alteration ignored shall be permitted to remain unaltered. For purposes of calculating demand capacity ratios, the demand shall consider applicable load combinations with design lateral loads or forces in accordance with Sections 1609 and 1613 of the International Building Code. For purposes of this exception, comparisons of demand capacity ratios and calculation of design lateral loads, forces and capacities shall account for the cumulative effects of additions and alterations since original construction.

**[B] 403.5 Voluntary seismic improvements.** Alterations to existing structural elements or additions of new structural elements that are not otherwise required by this chapter and are initiated for the purpose of improving the performance of the seismic force-resisting system of an existing structure or the performance of seismic bracing or anchorage of existing nonstructural elements shall be permitted, provided that an engineering analysis is submitted demonstrating the following:

1. The altered structure and the altered nonstructural elements are no less conforming to the provisions of the International Building Code with respect to earthquake design than they were prior to the alteration.

2. New structural elements are detailed as required for new construction.

3. New or relocated nonstructural elements are detailed and connected to existing or new structural elements as required for new construction.

4. The alterations do not create a structural irregularity as defined in ASCE 7 or make an existing structural irregularity more severe.)

**[B] 403.6 Smoke alarms.** Individual sleeping units and individual dwelling units in Group R and I-1 occupancies shall be provided with smoke alarms in accordance with Section 1103.8 of the International Fire Code.
Gravity load-carrying components established in Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code. Earthquake loads for this rehabilitation design shall be those required for the design of the predamage building, but not less than 75 percent of those prescribed in Section 1612. New structural members and connections required by this rehabilitation design shall comply with the detailing provisions of the International Building Code for new buildings of similar structure, purpose and location.

**SECTION 405 FIRE ESCAPES**

**B 405.1 Where permitted.** Fire escapes shall not constitute any part of the required means of egress in new buildings.

**B 405.1.2 Existing fire escapes.** Existing fire escapes shall continue to be accepted as a component in the means of egress in existing buildings only. All fire escapes shall comply with the International Fire Code.

**B 405.1.3 New fire escapes.** New fire escapes for existing buildings shall be permitted only where exterior stairs cannot be utilized due to lot lines limiting stair size or due to the sidewalks, alleys or roads at grade level. New fire escapes shall not incorporate ladders or access by windows.

**B 405.1.4 Limitations.** Fire escapes shall comply with this section and shall not constitute more than 50 percent of the required number of exits or more than 50 percent of the required exit capacity.

**B 405.2 Location.** Where located on the front of the building and where projecting beyond the building line, the lowest landing shall not be less than 7 feet (2134 mm) or more than 12 feet (3658 mm) above grade, and shall be equipped with a counterbalanced stairway to the street. In alleys and thoroughfares less than 30 feet (9144 mm) wide, the clearance under the lowest landing shall not be less than 12 feet (3658 mm).

**B 405.3 Construction.** The fire escape shall be designed to support a live load of 100 pounds per square foot (4788 Pa) and shall be constructed of steel or other approved noncombustible materials. Fire escapes constructed of wood not less than nominal 2 inches (51 mm) thick are permitted on buildings of Type V construction. Walkways and railings located over or supported by combustible roofs in buildings of Type III and IV construction are permitted to be of wood not less than nominal 2 inches (51 mm) thick.

**B 405.4 Dimensions.** Stairs shall be at least 22 inches (559 mm) wide with risers not more than, and treads not less than, 8 inches (203 mm) and landings at the foot of stairs not less than 40 inches (1016 mm) wide by 36 inches (914 mm) long, located not more than 8 inches (203 mm) below the door.

**Prescriptive Compliance Method**

For buildings and structures in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code, any repairs that do not constitute substantial improvement or repair of substantial damage of the existing structure, as defined in Section 202, are not required to comply with the flood design requirements for new construction.
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| [B] 405.5 Opening protectives. Doors and windows along the fire escape shall be protected with 2-hour opening protectives.

**SECTION 406**

**GLASS REPLACEMENT**

[B] 406.1 Conformance. The installation or replacement of glass shall be as required for new installations.

**SECTION 407**

**CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY**

[B] 407.1 Conformance. No change of occupancy shall be made in any building or portion thereof unless such building is made to comply with the requirements of the International Building Code for the occupancy. Changes of occupancy in a building or portion thereof shall be such that the building is no less complying with the provisions of this code than the building or structure was prior to the change. Subject to the approval of the building official, the use or occupancy of existing buildings shall be permitted to be changed and the building is allowed to be occupied for purposes in other groups without conforming to all of the requirements of this code for those groups, provided the new or proposed use is less hazardous, based on life and fire risk, than the existing use.

**Note:** Conditions arising after the adoption of this code and conditions not legally in existence at the time of adoption of this code may trigger requirements based on International Fire Code Section 102.1, including building upgrades.

**Exception:**

1. Subject to the approval of the code official, an automatic sprinkler system is not required in dwelling units according to Items 1.1 through 1.6 below. This exception is permitted to be used for the change in occupancy for one dwelling unit over the life of the building.

1.1. The occupancy of one unit is permitted to be changed to a dwelling unit without an automatic sprinkler system unless sprinklers are otherwise required by this chapter. If more than one unit is changed, the new units shall be equipped with a sprinkler system.

1.2. In buildings that do not comply with the provisions of this code for number of stories, allowable area, height or type of construction before the occupancy of the unit is changed, an automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in the new unit. The change of occupancy shall not be allowed if it increases the nonconformity.

1.3. In buildings undergoing substantial alteration, an automatic sprinkler system shall be installed where required by this code for new construction.

1.4. The occupancy of one unit is permitted to be changed to a dwelling unit in an existing duplex without an automatic sprinkler system where both of the following conditions are met:

   1.4.1. The project is considered a substantial alteration only because of the change of occupancy; and

   1.4.2. The building complies with the requirements for building height and number of stories for a Group R-2 occupancy.

1.5. Where the occupancy of one unit is changed to a dwelling unit in an existing duplex, sprinklers are required in the new unit and not in the existing units where all of the following conditions are met:

   1.5.1. The existing duplex does not comply with the requirements for building height and story count for a Group R-2 occupancy;

   1.5.2. The project is considered a substantial alteration only because of the change of occupancy;

   1.5.3. The new unit is constructed as an addition to the duplex;

   1.5.4. The new unit is separated from the existing duplex by a fire wall; and

   1.5.5. The addition by itself complies with the requirements for a Group R-2 occupancy.

1.6. A sprinkler system is not required when a Group U occupancy that is accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy is converted to a dwelling unit.

407.1.1 Conversion to residential occupancy. Upon conversion of an existing building, or portion thereof, to residential occupancy, International Building Code Sections 420, 1203 and 2902 shall apply, and the elements of the dwelling unit envelope that are altered shall comply with the sound transmission control requirements of International Building Code Section 1207.

[B] 407.2 Certificate of occupancy. A certificate of occupancy is required for changes in occupancy group, increases in the maximum occupant load in assembly occupancies, and changes in character of occupancy. (shall be issued where it has been determined that the requirements for the new occupancy classification have been met.)
407.3 Stairways. (Aa) Subject to the approval of the code official, existing stairways shall not be required to comply with the requirements of Section 1009.5 and 1009.5.2 of the International Building Code where the existing space and construction does not allow a reduction in pitch or slope.

407.4 Structural. When a change of occupancy results in a structure being reclassified to a higher risk category, the structure shall comply with Section 304.2. (conform to the seismic requirements for a new structure of the higher risk category.

Exceptions:

1. Specific seismic detailing requirements of Section 1613 of the International Building Code for a new structure shall not be required to be met where the seismic performance is shown to be equivalent to that of a new structure. A demonstration of equivalence shall consider the regularity, overstrength, redundancy and ductility of the structure.

2. When a change of use results in a structure being reclassified from Risk Category I or II to Risk Category III and the structure is located where the seismic coefficient, \( S_x \), is less than 0.33, compliance with the seismic requirements of Section 1613 of the International Building Code is not required.)

407.5 Substantial alterations. Changes of occupancy that are substantial alterations shall comply with Section 303.

SECTION 408
HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND LANDMARKS

[B] 408.1 Historic buildings—landmarks. Landmarks shall comply with Section 306 and Section 410. (The provisions of this code relating to the construction, repair, alteration, addition, restoration and movement of structures, and change of occupancy shall not be mandatory for historic buildings where such buildings are judged by the building official to not constitute a distinct life safety hazard.)

(B) 408.2 Flood hazard areas. Within flood hazard areas established in accordance with Section 1612.3 of the International Building Code, where the work proposed constitutes substantial improvement as defined in Section 1612.2 of the International Building Code, the building shall be brought into compliance with Section 1612 of the International Building Code.

Exception: Historic buildings need not be brought into compliance that are:

1. Listed or preliminarily determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;

2. Determined by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined to qualify as an historic district;

3. Designated as historic under a state or local historic preservation program that is approved by the Department of Interior.)

SECTION 409
MOVED STRUCTURES

([B] 409.1 Conformance. Structures moved into or within the jurisdiction shall comply with the provisions of this code for new structures.)

409.1 Nonresidential buildings or structures. Nonresidential buildings or structures moved into or within the city shall comply with standards adopted by the code official. The code official is authorized to require an inspection of the building before or after moving. The permit holder shall correct all deficiencies identified by the inspection. The code official is authorized to require that a bond or cash deposit in an amount sufficient to abate or demolish the building be posted prior to issuance of a permit. See Section 106 of the International Building Code for information required on plans. Any moved building that is not in complete compliance with standards for moved buildings within 18 months from the date of permit issuance and is found to be a public nuisance may be abated. Moved buildings and structures shall also comply with the International Energy Conservation Code.

409.2 Residential buildings or structures. Residential buildings or structures moved into or within the city are not required to comply with all of the requirements of this code if the original occupancy classification of the building or structure is not changed. Compliance with all of the requirements of this chapter will be required if the moved residential buildings or structures undergo substantial alteration. Work performed on new and existing foundations shall comply with all of the requirements of this code for new construction.

SECTION 410
ACCESSIBILITY FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS

[B] 410.1 Scope. The provisions of Sections 410.1 through 410.9 apply to maintenance, change of occupancy, additions and alterations to existing buildings, including those identified as historic buildings.

[B] 410.2 Maintenance of facilities. A facility that is constructed or altered to be accessible shall be maintained accessible during occupancy.

[B] 410.3 Extent of application. An alteration of an existing facility shall not impose a requirement for greater accessibility than that which would be required for new construction. Alterations shall not reduce or have the effect of reducing accessibility of a facility or portion of a facility.

[B] 410.4 Change of occupancy. Existing buildings that undergo a change of group or occupancy shall comply with this section.

Exception: Type B dwelling or sleeping units required by Section 1107 of the International Building Code are not required to be provided in existing buildings or facilities undergoing a change of occupancy in conjunction with alterations where the work area is 50 percent or less of the aggregate area of the building.

[B] 410.4.1 Partial change in occupancy. Where a portion of the building is changed to a new occupancy classi-
fication, any alterations shall comply with Sections 410.6, 410.7 and 410.8.

[B] 410.4.2 Complete change of occupancy. Where an entire building undergoes a change of occupancy, it shall comply with Section 410.4.1 and shall have all of the following accessible features:

1. At least one accessible building entrance.
2. At least one accessible route from an accessible building entrance to primary function areas.
4. Accessible parking, where parking is being provided.
5. At least one accessible passenger loading zone, when loading zones are provided.
6. At least one accessible route connecting accessible parking and accessible passenger loading zones to an accessible entrance.

Where it is technically infeasible to comply with the new construction standards for any of these requirements for a change of group or occupancy, the above items shall conform to the requirements to the maximum extent technically feasible.

Exception: The accessible features listed in Items 1 through 6 are not required for an accessible route to Type B units.

[B] 410.5 Additions. Provisions for new construction shall apply to additions. An addition that affects the accessibility to, or contains an area of a primary function shall comply with the requirements in Section 410.7.

[B] 410.6 Alterations. A facility that is altered shall comply with the applicable provisions in Chapter 11 of the International Building Code, unless technically infeasible. Where compliance with this section is technically infeasible, the alteration shall provide access to the maximum extent technically feasible.

Exceptions:

1. The altered element or space is not required to be on an accessible route, unless required by Section 410.7.
2. Accessible means of egress required by Chapter 10 of the International Building Code are not required to be provided in existing facilities.
3. The alteration to Type A individually owned dwelling units within a Group R-2 occupancy shall be permitted to meet the provision for a Type B dwelling unit.
4. Type B dwelling or sleeping units required by Section 1107 of the International Building Code are not required to be provided in existing buildings and facilities undergoing a change of occupancy in conjunction with alterations where the work area is 50 percent or less of the aggregate area of the building.

[W] [B] 410.7 Alterations affecting an area containing a primary function. Where an alteration affects the accessibility to, or contains an area of a primary function, the route to the primary function area shall be accessible. The accessible route to the primary function area shall include toilet facilities, telephones or drinking fountains serving the area of primary function.

Exceptions:

1. The costs of providing the accessible route are not required to exceed 20 percent of the costs of the alterations affecting the area of primary function.
2. This provision does not apply to alterations limited solely to windows, hardware, operating controls, electrical outlets and signs.
3. This provision does not apply to alterations limited solely to mechanical systems, electrical systems, installation or alteration of fire protection systems and abatement of hazardous materials.
4. This provision does not apply to alterations undertaken for the primary purpose of increasing the accessibility of a facility.
5. This provision does not apply to altered areas limited to Type B dwelling and sleeping units.

[B] 410.8 Scoping for alterations. The provisions of Sections 410.8.1 through 410.8.14 shall apply to alterations to existing buildings and facilities.

[B] 410.8.1 Entrances. Accessible entrances shall be provided in accordance with Section 1105.

Exception: Where an alteration includes alterations to an entrance, and the facility has an accessible entrance, the altered entrance is not required to be accessible, unless required by Section 410.7. Signs complying with Section 1110 of the International Building Code shall be provided.

[B] 410.8.2 Elevators. Altered elements of existing elevators shall comply with ASME A17.1 and ICC A117.1. Such elements shall also be altered in elevators programmed to respond to the same hall call control as the altered elevator.

[B] 410.8.3 Platform lifts. Platform (wheelchair) lifts complying with ICC A117.1 and installed in accordance with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted as a component of an accessible route.

[B] 410.8.4 Stairs and escalators in existing buildings. In alterations, change of occupancy or additions where an escalator or stair is added where none existed previously and major structural modifications are necessary for installation, an accessible route shall be provided between the levels served by the escalator or stairs in accordance with Sections 1104.4 and 1104.5 of the International Building Code.

[B] 410.8.5 Ramps. Where slopes steeper than allowed by Section 1010.3 of the International Building Code are necessitated by space limitations, the slope of ramps in or providing access to existing facilities shall comply with Table 410.8.5.
[B] **410.8.6 Performance areas.** Where it is technically infeasible to alter performance areas to be on an accessible route, at least one of each type of performance area shall be made accessible.

[B] **410.8.7 Accessible dwelling or sleeping units.** Where Group I-1, I-2, I-3, R-1, or R-2 ([or R-4]) dwelling or sleeping units are being altered or added, the requirements of Section 1107 of the International Building Code for Accessible units apply only to the quantity of spaces being altered or added.

[B] **410.8.8 Type A dwelling or sleeping units.** Where more than 20 Group R-2 dwelling or sleeping units are being altered or added, the requirements of Section 1107 of the International Building Code for Type A units apply only to the quantity of the spaces being altered or added.

[B] **410.8.9 Type B dwelling or sleeping units.** Where four or more Group I-1, I-2, R-1, R-2, or R-3 ([or R-4]) dwelling or sleeping units are being added, the requirements of Section 1107 of the International Building Code for Type B units apply only to the aggregate area of the building, the requirements of Sections 410.9.1 through 410.9.4 for that element shall be provided, and the applicable governing authority, the alternative requirements for Type B units are being added, the requirements of Sections 1107 of the International Building Code for Type B units apply only to the aggregate area of the building, the requirements of Sections 410.9.1 through 410.9.4 for that element shall be provided.

[B] **410.8.10 Jury boxes and witness stands.** In alterations, accessible wheelchair spaces are not required to be located within the defined area of raised jury boxes or witness stands and shall be permitted to be located outside these spaces where the ramp or lift access restricts or projects into the means of egress.

[B] **410.8.11 Toilet rooms.** Where it is technically infeasible to alter existing toilet and bathing rooms to be accessible, an accessible family or assisted-use toilet or bathing room constructed in accordance with Section 1107 of the International Building Code is permitted. The family or assisted-use toilet or bathing room shall be located on the same floor and in the same area as the existing toilet or bathing rooms. The number of toilet facilities and water closets required by the International Building Code is permitted to be reduced by one, in order to provide accessible features.

[B] **410.8.12 Dressing, fitting and locker rooms.** Where it is technically infeasible to provide accessible dressing, fitting or locker rooms at the same location as similar types of rooms, one accessible room on the same level shall be provided. Where separate-sex facilities are provided, accessible rooms for each sex shall be provided. Separate-sex facilities are not required where only unisex rooms are provided.

[B] **410.8.13 Fuel dispensers.** Operable parts of replacement fuel dispensers shall be permitted to be 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum, measuring from the surface of the vehicular way where fuel dispensers are installed on existing curbs.

[B] **410.8.14 Thresholds.** The maximum height of thresholds at doorways shall be 3/4 inch (19.1 mm). Such thresholds shall have beveled edges on each side.

[B] **410.9 Historic buildings.** These provisions shall apply to facilities designated as historic structures that undergo alterations or a change of occupancy, unless technically infeasible. Where compliance with the requirements for accessible routes, entrances or toilet rooms would threaten or destroy the historic significance of the facility, as determined by the applicable governing authority, the alternative requirements of Sections 410.9.1 through 410.9.4 for that element shall be permitted.

**Exception:** Type B dwelling or sleeping units required by Section 1107 of the International Building Code are not required to be provided in historical buildings.

[B] **410.9.1 Site arrival points.** At least one accessible route from a site arrival point to an accessible entrance shall be provided.

[B] **410.9.2 Multilevel buildings and facilities.** An accessible route from an accessible entrance to public spaces on the level of the accessible entrance shall be provided.

[B] **410.9.3 Entrances.** At least one main entrance shall be accessible.

**Exceptions:**

1. If a main entrance cannot be made accessible, an accessible nonpublic entrance that is unlocked while the building is occupied shall be provided; or

2. If a main entrance cannot be made accessible, a locked accessible entrance with a notification system or remote monitoring shall be provided.

Signs complying with Section 1110 of the International Building Code shall be provided at the primary entrance and the accessible entrance.

[B] **410.9.4 Toilet and bathing facilities.** Where toilet rooms are provided, at least one accessible family or assisted-use toilet room complying with Section 1109.2.1 of the International Building Code shall be provided.