2024 Washington State Residential Code Changes

Green text is from the 2024 State of Washington State CR103

Chapter 1 Changes

Section R101.2 #7 & #8 - clarifies that Adult Family Homes do not require sprinklers when constructed using the IRC. Also, allows family home child care uses to use WA specific sprinkler provisions for the use.

#9 new amendment – correlation change to reference Multiplex housing appendix Directed by 2024 Legislation HB2071 in RCW 19.27.800

R101.2 Scope. This code applies to the construction, *alteration*, moving, addition, replacement, demolition, repair, *equipment*, location, removal, use and occupancy of detached one- and two-family dwellings, and townhouses not more than three stories above grade plane in height with a separate means of egress and their *accessory structures* not more than three stories above grade plane in height.

Exceptions:

1. Live/work units located in townhouses and complying with the requirements of Section 508.5 of the *International Building Code* are permitted to be constructed in accordance with this code. An automatic sprinkler system required by Section 508.5.7 of the *International Building Code* shall conform to Section P2904 of this code.
2. Owner-occupied lodging houses with one or two guestrooms are permitted to be constructed in accordance with this code.
3. Owner-occupied lodging houses with three to five guestrooms are permitted to be constructed in accordance with this code when equipped with an automatic sprinkler system that complies with Section P2904 of this code.
4. A care facility with five or fewer persons receiving custodial care within a dwelling unit shall be permitted to be constructed in accordance with the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings where equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904 of this code.
5. A care facility with five or fewer persons receiving medical care within a dwelling unit shall be permitted to be constructed in accordance with the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings where equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904 of this code.
6. A care facility with five or fewer persons receiving care that are within a single-family dwelling shall be permitted to be constructed in accordance with the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings where equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904 of this code.
7. Floating on-water residences as defined in Seattle Municipal Code Title 23 are not required to comply with this Code.
8. Adult family homes shall be permitted to be constructed in accordance with the International Residential Code for One-and Two-Family Dwellings.

2. Definitions

[RB] [W] **BUILDING**. Any one- or two-family dwelling ((~~or~~)) townhouse, multiplex, or portion thereof, used or intended to be used for human habitation, for living, sleeping, cooking or eating purposes, or any combination thereof, or any accessory structure. ((~~For the definition applicable in Chapter 11, see Section N1101.6.~~))

[W]CUSTODIAL CARE. Describes persons who receive assistance with day-to-day living tasks such as cooking, taking medication, bathing, using toilet facilities, and other tasks of daily living. Custodial care includes persons receiving care who have the ability to respond to emergency situations and may receive limited verbal or physical assistance . These care recipients may evacuate at a slower rate and/or who have mental and psychiatric complications.

[W] DISTRIBUTED WHOLE-HOUSE VENTILATION SYSTEM. A whole-house ventilation system shall be considered distributed ((~~when~~)) where it supplies outdoor air directly (not transfer air) to each dwelling or sleeping unit habitable space (((~~living room, den, office, interior adjoining spaces or bedroom), and exhausts air from all kitchens and bathrooms directly outside~~)) other than adjoining spaces used for eating or cooking, and where it supplies outdoor air directly, or indirectly through an unobstructed fixed opening sized in accordance with Section 325.1.3 to adjoining spaces used for eating or cooking.

[RB] [W] DWELLING UNIT. A single unit providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation. For the definition applicable in ((~~Chapter 11, see Section N1101.6. For the definition applicable~~)) in Chapter 24, see Section G2403. Dwelling units may also may include the following uses: 1. Adult family homes, foster family care homes and family day care homes licensed by the Washington state department of social and health services. 2. Offices, mercantile, food preparation for off-site consumption, personal care salons or similar uses which are conducted primarily by the occupants of the dwelling unit and are secondary to the use of the unit for dwelling purposes, and which do not exceed 500 square feet (46.4 m2).

[~~W~~]((~~**EGRESS ROOF ACCESS WINDOW**. A skylight or roof window designed and installed to satisfy the Emergency Escape and Rescue Opening requirements of Section R310.2~~.))

[W] ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV). An automotive-type vehicle for on-road use, such as passenger automobiles, buses, trucks, vans, neighborhood electric vehicles, and electric motorcycles, primarily powered by an electric motor that draws current from a building electrical service, electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), a rechargeable storage battery, a fuel cell, a photovoltaic array, or another source of electric current.

[W] ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUPPLY EQUIPMENT (EVSE). Equipment for plug-in power transfer, including the ungrounded, grounded, and equipment grounding conductors; electric vehicle connectors; attachment plugs; any personal protection system; and all other fittings, devices, power outlets, or apparatus installed specifically for the purpose of transferring energy between the premises wiring and the electric vehicle.

[RB] [W] FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE. The distance measured from the ((~~building~~)) the foundation wall or face of the wall framing, whichever is closer to one of the following:

1. To the closest interior lot line.

2. To the centerline of a street, an alley or public way.

3. To an imaginary line between two buildings or townhouse units on the lot. The distance shall be measured at a right angle from the face of the wall.

[W] INTERIOR ADJACENT ROOM. An enclosed room, qualifying as habitable space, without exterior windows or openings to the outdoors, located within a dwelling or sleeping unit that does not have interior unobstructed openings required for an interior adjoining space.

[W] INTERIOR ADJOINING SPACE. An electrical load center dedicated for the purpose of aggregating overcurrent devices from on-site renewables and other managed loads.

[W] ((~~**LANDING PLATFORM.** A landing provided as the top step of a stairway accessing a Loft~~.))

[W] **LIMITED VERBAL OR PHYSICAL ASSISTANCE.** Describes persons who, because of age, physical limitations, cognitive limitations, treatment or chemical dependency, may not independently recognize, respond or evacuate without limited verbal or physical assistance during an emergency situation. Limited verbal assistance includes prompting, giving and repeating instructions. Limited physical assistance includes assistance with transfers to walking aids or mobility devices and assistance with egress.

[W] LOFT. A space on an intermediate level or levels between the floor and ceiling of a ((~~dwelling or sleeping unit~~)) story, open on one or more sides to the room ((~~or space~~)) in which the ((~~loft~~)) space is located, and in accordance with Section ((~~R333~~)) R315.

~~[W]((**LOT LINE**. The line which bounds a plot of ground described as a lot in the title to the property.))~~

[W] **MEDICAL CARE.** Care involving medical or surgical procedures, nursing or for psychiatric purposes.

[W] **MULTIPLEX.** A building of up to three stories above grade plane, containing three to six dwelling units consolidated into a single structure with common walls and floors.

[W] **PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) INVERTER WITH INTEGRATED EVSE.** A listed photovoltaic inverter with electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) and photovoltaic power conversion equipment within the same assembly.

[RB][W] SLEEPING LOFT. ((~~A space designated for sleeping on an intermediate level or levels between the floor and ceiling of a story, open on one or more sides to the room in which the space is located, and in accordance with Section R315~~)) Not Adopted.

Chapter 3 Changes

[w] Table R301.2 – CLIMATIC AND GEOGRAPHIC DESIGN CRITERIA – □

Revise Footnotes d, l, o, as follows:

d. The jurisdiction shall fill in this part of the table with the wind speed from the ultimate design wind speeds map s [Figure R301.2(2) or Figure R301.2(2.1)]. Wind exposure category shall be determined on a site-specific basis in accordance with Section R301.2.1.4.

l. In accordance with Figure R301.2(2), where there is local historical data documenting unusual wind conditions, the jurisdiction shall fill in this part of the table with "YES" and identify any specific requirements. Otherwise, the jurisdiction shall indicate "NO" in this part of the table. The special wind regions in Washington state shall be determined as shown in Figure R301.2(2.1). The ultimate design wind speed in the special wind region shall be 120 mph.

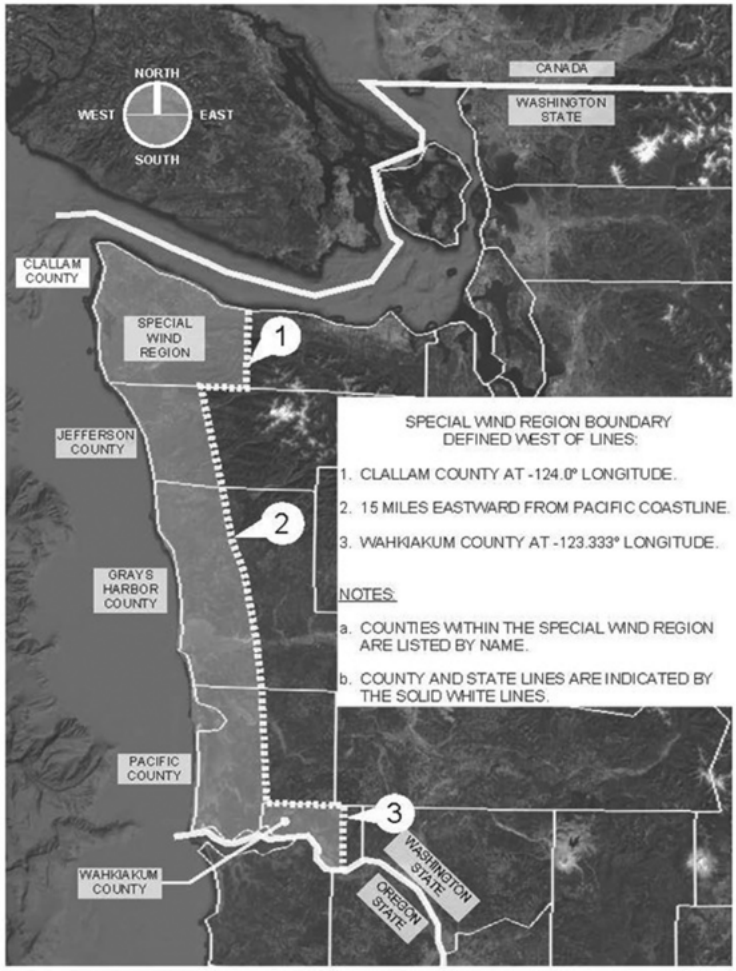
o. The jurisdiction shall fill in this section of the allowable stress design table using the ground snow loads determined from Section ((~~R301.2.3~~)) R301.2.3 .

[w] Figure R301.2(2) ULTIMATE DESIGN WIND SPEEDS

Revise Footnote 6 as follows:

6. Mountainous terrain, gorges, and ocean promontories ~~and special wind regions~~ shall be examined for unusual wind conditions. Site specific values for selected special wind regions shall be permitted to be determined using the ASCE Wind Design Geodatabase and for Washington State shall be as per Figure R301.2(2.1).

[w] Add Figure R301.2(2.1) as follows: FIGURE R301.2(2.1) SPECIAL WIND REGION BOUNDARIES IN WASHINGTON STATE



[W] **R301.2.2.1.1 Alternate determination of seismic design category.** The seismic design category and short-period design spectral response accelerations, SDS , for a site shall be allowed to be determined in accordance with ((~~Section 1613 of the International Building Code~~)) the ASCE 7. The value of SDS determined in accordance with ((~~the International Building Code~~)) the ASCCE 7 is permitted to be used to set the seismic design category in accordance with Table R301.2.2.1.1, and to interpolate between values in Tables R602.10.3(3) and R603.9.2(1) and other seismic design requirements of this code.

~~[W] ((**R301.2.2.10 Anchorage of water heaters.** In Seismic Design Categories D0, D1 and D2, and in townhouses in Seismic Design Category C, water heaters and thermal storage units shall be anchored against movement and overturning in accordance with Section M1307.2 or the Uniform Plumbing Code Section 507.2.))~~

[W] **R302.2.2 Common walls.** Common walls separating townhouse units shall be assigned a fire resistance rating in accordance with Item 1 or 2 and shall be rated for fire exposure from both sides. Common walls shall extend to and be tight against the exterior sheathing of the exterior walls, or the inside face of exterior walls without stud cavities, and the underside of the roof sheathing. The common wall shared by two townhouse units shall be constructed without openings, plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents, other than water-filled fire sprinkler piping in the cavity of the common wall. Electrical installations shall be in accordance with chapter((~~s~~)) (~~34 through 43~~)) 296-46B WAC, Electrical safety standards, administration, and installation. Penetrations of the membrane of common walls for electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4.

1. Where an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904 is provided, the common wall shall be not less than a 1-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assembly tested in accordance with ASTM E119, UL 263 or

Section 703.2.2 of the International Building Code. 2. Where an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904 is not provided, the common wall shall be not less than a 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assembly tested in accordance with ASTM E119, UL 263 or Section 703.2.2 of the International Building Code. EXCEPTION: Common walls are permitted to extend to and be tight against the interior side of the exterior walls if the cavity between the end of the common wall and the exterior sheathing is filled with a minimum of 2-inch nominal thickness wood studs.

[W] R302.2.3 Continuity. The fire-resistance-rated wall or assembly separating townhouse units shall be continuous from the foundation to the underside of the roof sheathing, roof deck or slab. The fire resistance rating shall extend the full length of the wall or assembly, including wall extensions through and separating attached enclosed accessory structures. Where a story extends beyond the exterior wall of a story below: 1. The fire-resistance-rated wall or assembly shall extend to the outside edge of the upper story (see Figure ((~~R302.2(1)~~)) (R302.2.3(1)); or 2. The underside of the exposed floor-ceiling assembly shall be protected as required for projections in Section R302 (see Figure ((~~R302.2(2)~~)) R302.2.3(2)).

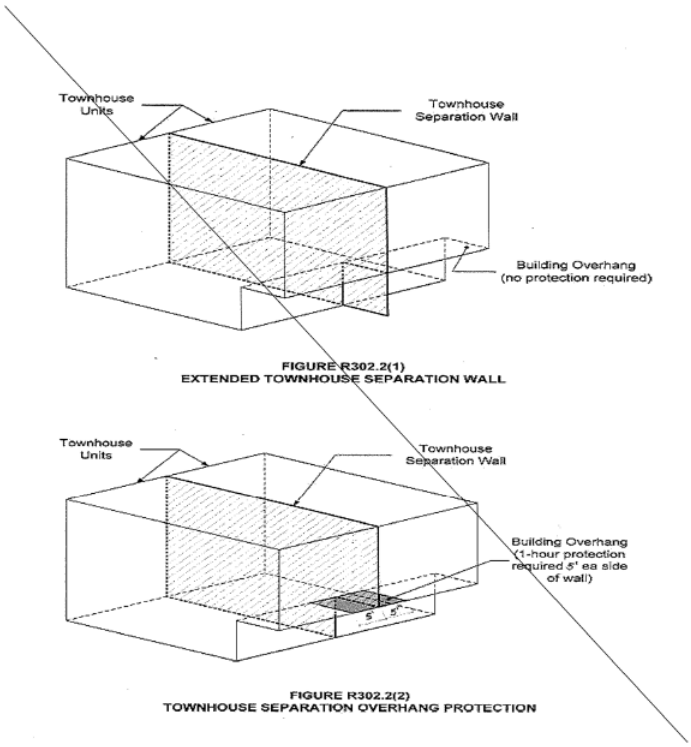


FIGURE R302.2(1)
EXTENDED TOWNHOUSE SEPARATION WALL

FIGURE R302.2(2)
TOWNHOUSE SEPARATION OVERHANG PROTECTION

Figure R302.2.3(1)

Extended Townhouse Separation Wall

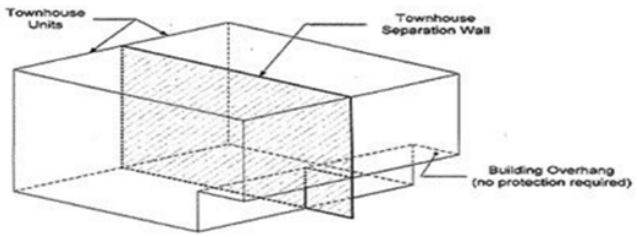
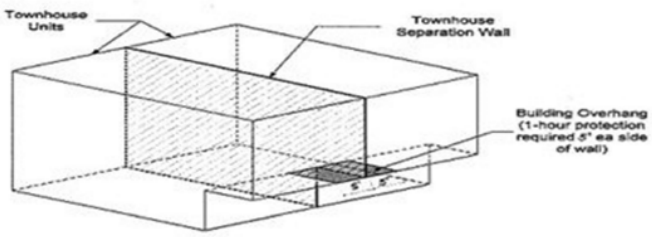


Figure R302.2.3(2)

Townhouse Separation Overhang Protection



[W] ~~**((R302.2.4 Parapets for townhouses**. Parapets constructed in accordance with Section R302.2.5 shall be constructed for townhouses as an extension of exterior walls or common walls separating townhouses units in accordance with the following:~~

~~1. Where roof surfaces adjacent to the wall or walls are at the same elevation, the parapet shall extend not less than 30 inches (762 mm) above the roof surfaces.~~

~~2. Where roof surfaces adjacent to the wall or walls are at different elevations and the higher roof is not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the lower roof, the parapet shall extend not less than 30 inches (762 mm) above the lower roof surface. EXCEPTION: A parapet is not required in the preceding two cases where the roof covering complies with a minimum Class C rating as tested in accordance with ASTM E108 or UL 790 and the roof decking or sheathing is of noncombustible materials or fire retardant-treated wood for a distance of 4 feet (1219 mm) on each side of the wall or walls, or one layer of 5/8-inch (15.9 mm) Type X gypsum board is installed directly beneath the roof decking or sheathing, supported by not less than nominal 2-inch (51 mm) ledgers attached to the sides of the roof framing members, for a distance of not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) on each side of the wall or walls and any openings or penetrations in the roof are not within 4 feet (1219 mm) of the common walls. Fire retardant-treated wood shall meet the requirements of Sections R802.1.5 and R803.2.1.2.))~~

3. A parapet is not required where roof surfaces adjacent to the wall or walls are at different elevations and the higher roof is more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the lower roof. The common wall con-struction from the lower roof to the underside of the higher roof deck shall have not less than a 1-hour fire-resistance rating. The wall shall be rated for exposure from both sides.

[W] Table 302.1 (1) Exterior Walls – deletes footnotes a &b

~~((a The fire-resistance rating shall be permitted to be reduced to 0 hours on the underside of the eave overhang if fireblocking is provided from the wall top plate to the underside of the roof sheathing.~~

~~b The fire-resistance rating shall be permitted to be reduced to 0 hours on the underside of the rake overhang where ventilation openings are not installed in the rake overhang or in walls that are common to attic areas.~~))

[W] Exterior Walls – Dwelling with Fire Sprinklers – deletes footnotes a, b, & c

~~((a. For residential subdivisions where all dwellings are equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section P2904, the fire separation distance for exterior walls not fire-resistance rated and for fire-resistance-rated projections shall be permitted to be reduced to 0 feet, and unlimited unprotected openings and penetrations shall be permitted, where the adjoining lot provides an open setback yard that is 6 feet or more in width on the opposite side of the property line.~~

~~b. The fire-resistance rating shall be permitted to be reduced to 0 hours on the underside of the eave overhang if fireblocking is provided from the wall top plate to the underside of the roof sheathing.~~

~~c. The fire-resistance rating shall be permitted to be reduced to 0 hours on the underside of the rake overhang where ventilation openings are not installed in the rake overhang or in walls that are common to attic areas.~~))

[W] - State of Washington modifies existing amendments and carries forward existing amendments in R302.2, while removing sections that are the same as model code. Removes use of term "accessory dwelling" because it is not used in model code. Also, clarifies application of dwelling unit separation requirements

~~R302.3 Two-family dwellings.~~

~~R302.3.1 Separation.~~

~~EXCEPTIONS:~~

~~R302.3.2 Continuity.~~

~~R302.3.3 Supporting construction.~~

~~R302.3.4 Openings protection between two-family dwellings.~~

~~EXCEPTION:~~

~~R302.3.5 Shared accessory rooms~~

~~R302.3.5.1 Opening protection~~

~~R302.3.5.2 Duct penetration~~

~~R302.3.5.3 Other penetrations.~~

~~TABLE R302.3.5 DWELLING-SHARED ACCESSORY ROOM SEPARATION~~

R302.3 Two-family dwellings. Dwelling units in two-family dwellings shall be separated from each other in accordance with Sections 302.3.1 through 302.3.5 ((~~regardless of whether a lot line exists between two dwelling units~~)).

EXCEPTION: One new *dwelling unit* constructed within an existing one-family dwelling need not meet the construction requirements of R302.3.1 through R302.3.5 where all required smoke alarms, in the two *dwelling*

units are interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all alarms in both the *dwelling units*. This exception does not apply to *townhouse units*.

R302.3.1 Dwelling unit separation. The two dwelling units shall be separated by fire-resistance-rated assemblies that are vertical, horizontal, or a combination thereof.

[W] (~~R302.3.6.1~~) R302.3.5 Openings protection between two-family dwellings. Openings ((~~from a shared accessory room or area directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the shared accessory room or area and dwelling units shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) in thickness, or a fire door assembly with a 20-minute fire-protection rating, equipped with a self-closing or automatic-closing device~~)) in the common fire-resistance-rated wall assembly located between units of a two-family dwelling shall be equipped with not less than a 45-minute fire-rated door assembly equipped with a self-closing or automatic-closing device.

[W] R302.13 Fire protection of floors. Floor assemblies that are not required elsewhere in this code to be fire-resistance rated, shall be provided with a 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard membrane, 5/8-inch (16 mm) wood structural panel membrane, or equivalent on the underside of the floor framing member. Penetrations or openings for ducts, vents, electrical outlets, lighting, devices, luminaires, wires, speakers, drainage, piping and similar openings or penetrations shall be permitted.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Floor assemblies located directly over a space protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with ((~~Appendix AWU~~)) Section P2904, NFPA 13D, or other approved equivalent sprinkler system.

2. Floor assemblies located directly over a crawl space not intended for storage or fuel-fired appliances.

3. Portions of floor assemblies shall be permitted to be unprotected when complying with the following:

3.1. The aggregate area of the unprotected portions shall not exceed 80 square feet (7.4 m2) per story.

3.2. Fire blocking in accordance with Section R302.11.1 is installed along the perimeter of the unprotected portion to separate the unprotected portion from the remainder of the floor assembly.

4. Wood floor assemblies using dimension lumber or structural composite lumber with a cross sectional area equal to or greater than 2inch by 10-inch (50.8 mm by 254 mm) nominal dimension, or other approved floor assemblies demonstrating equivalent fire performance.

5. Wood floor assemblies less than 600 square feet (55.7 m2) within detached accessory structures with no habitable space above them.

[W] Relocates existing amendments from R303 into updated model code section R325

~~Section R303 Light, ventilation and heating. Reserved~~

~~R303.1 Natural light.~~

~~R303.2 Adjoining rooms.~~

~~R303.3 Bathrooms.~~

~~R303.4 Minimum ventilation performance.~~

~~R303.5.1 Intake openings.~~

~~EXCEPTIONS:~~

~~R303.5.2 Exhaust openings.~~

~~R303.5.2.1 Exhaust ducts.~~

~~R303.7 Interior stairway illumination.~~

~~R303.8 Exterior stairway illumination.~~

~~R303.9 Required glazed openings~~

~~R303.10 Required heating~~

~~R303.10.1 Definitions~~

~~DESIGNATED AREAS~~

~~SUBSTANTIALLY REMODELED~~

~~R303.10.2 Primary heating source.~~

~~R303.10.3 Solid fuel burning devices~~

~~EXCEPTIONS:~~

[W] Relocates existing amendments – R307 moved to Section R327 to align with model code reorganization

((~~**Section R307—Toilet, bath and shower spaces.**~~)) **Reserved.** ((~~**R307.1 Space required.** Fixtures shall be spaced in accordance with Figure R307.1, and in accordance with the requirements of the state plumbing code Section 402.5.~~))

[W] Relocates existing amendments - R309 moved to Section R317 to align with model code reorganization.

R313 moved to Section R309 to align with model code reorganization

~~**Section R309—((Garages and carports)) Automatic fire sprinkler systems.**~~
~~**R309.6 Electric vehicle charging.**~~
~~**R309.6.1 Application.**~~
~~**R309.6.2 Dedicated circuit for electric vehicle charging.**~~

[W] R309.1 Townhouse automatic fire sprinkler systems. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in a townhouse unit.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required where additions or alterations are made to an existing townhouse unit that does not have an automatic residential fire sprinkler system installed.

2. Townhouse buildings containing no more than four townhouse units.

[W] R309.1.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems for a townhouse unit shall be designed and installed in accordance with Section P2904 or NFPA 13D.

[W] R309.2 One- and two-family dwellings automatic sprinkler systems. This section is not adopted. ((~~An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in one- and two-family dwellings.~~
~~Exception: An automatic sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing buildings that are not already provided with a sprinkler system.~~))

[W] Relocates existing amendments R310 moved to Section R319 to align with model code reorganization. R314 moved to Section R310to align with model code reorganization

Section 310—((~~Emergency escape and rescue openings~~)) Smoke alarms and heat detection. ((~~R310.1 Emergency escape and rescue opening required.~~

~~EXCEPTIONS:~~

~~R310.2.4 Emergency escape and rescue openings under decks, porches, and cantilevers.~~

~~R310.5 Replacement windows for emergency escape and rescue openings. This section is not adopted.~~

Section 310—((~~Emergency escape and rescue openings~~)) Smoke alarms and heat detection. ((~~R310.1 Emergency escape and rescue opening required.~~

EXCEPTIONS:

~~R310.2.4 Emergency escape and rescue openings under decks, porches, and cantilevers.~~

~~R310.5 Replacement windows for emergency escape and rescue openings. This section is not adopted.~~

R310.1 General. Smoke alarms, heat detectors, and heat alarms shall comply with NFPA 72(~~,~~) (~~and this~~) (~~S~~)section R310 and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

R310.1.1 Listings. Smoke alarms shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 217. Heat detectors and heat alarms shall be listed and labeled for the intended application. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 217 and UL 2034.

R310.2 Where required. Smoke alarms, heat detectors, and heat alarms shall be provided in accordance with this section.

R310.2.1 New construction. Smoke alarms shall be provided in dwelling units. A heat detector or heat alarm shall be provided in new attached garages.

R310.2.2 Alterations, repairs, and additions. Where alterations, repairs, or additions requiring a permit occur, (~~the individual~~) or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, or where a new dwelling unit is created within an existing dwelling unit in accordance with Section R302.3, each dwelling unit shall be equipped with smoke alarms (~~located~~) as required for new dwellings.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Work involving the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, the addition or replacement of windows or doors, or the addition of a porch or deck are exempt from the requirements of this section.

2. Installation, alteration, or repairs of plumbing, electrical, or mechanical systems are exempt from the requirements of this section.

R310.2.3 New attached garages. A heat detector or heat alarm rated for the ambient outdoor temperatures and humidity shall be installed in new garages that are attached to or located under new and existing dwellings. Heat detectors and heat alarms shall be installed in a central location and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. EXCEPTION: Heat detectors and heat alarms shall not be required in dwellings without commercial power.

R310.3 Location. Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

1. In each sleeping room.

2. Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.

3. On each additional story of the dwelling unit, including basements and habitable attics and not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. In dwelling units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.

4. Smoke alarms shall be installed not less than 3 feet (914 mm) horizontally from the door or opening of a bathroom that contains a bathtub or shower unless this would prevent placement of a smoke alarm required by this section.

5. In napping areas in family home child care.

6. In the hallway and in the room open to the hallway in dwelling units where the ceiling height of a room open to a hallway serving bedrooms exceeds that of the hallway by 24 inches (610 mm) or more.

(~~6~~)7. Within the room to which a (~~sleeping~~) loft is open, in the immediate vicinity of the (~~sleeping~~) loft.

[W] R310.4 modifies existing amendment and removes the use of term “accessory dwelling” because it is not used in model code.

R310.4 Interconnection. Where more than one smoke alarm is required to be installed within an individual *dwelling unit* in accordance with Section R310.3, the alarm devices shall be interconnected in such a
manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual *dwelling unit*. Where a new *dwelling unit* is created within an existing *dwelling unit* in accordance with Section R302.3, all required smoke alarms, in the new *dwelling unit* and the existing *dwelling unit*, shall be interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all alarms in both the existing *dwelling unit* and the new *dwelling unit*. Physical interconnection of smoke alarms shall not be required where listed wireless alarms are
installed and all alarms sound upon activation of one alarm.
EXCEPTION: Smoke alarms and alarms installed to satisfy Section R310.4.1 shall not be required to be interconnected to existing smoke alarms where such existing smoke alarms are not

interconnected or where such new smoke alarm or alarm is not capable of being interconnected to the existing smoke alarms.

[W] R310.4.1 Heat detection interconnection. Heat detectors and heat alarms shall be connected to an alarm or a smoke alarm that is installed in the dwelling. Alarms and smoke alarms that are installed for this purpose shall be located in a hallway, room, or other location that will provide occupant notification.

R310.6 Power source. Smoke alarms, heat alarms, and heat detectors shall receive their primary power from the building wiring ~~(shall receive their primary power from the building wiring)~~where such wiring is served from a commercial source and, where primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection.
EXCEPTIONS:

1. Smoke alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated where installed in buildings without commercial power.

2. Smoke alarms installed in accordance with Section R310.2.2 shall be permitted to be battery powered.