

IBCA 2012 International Residential Code Questions

- Carry over all applicable amendments from the 2009 IRC and 2009 IECC.
- R301.2.1 through R301.2.2 No changes suggested.
- R301.5 Truss Live Loads - Remove it entirely.
Response: This is only required where the truss is designed for uninhabitable attic spaces which are constructed/designed for limited storage. Also, the required insulation depth is required to be less than the top of the truss bottom chord. It would make sense to design the truss to resist the proposed storage live load (20 psf) to the bottom chord. Truss design engineers would be required to incorporate this requirement into their design when it has been identified they will installed in an area to be used as limited storage. For these reasons, we would support this code change remain.
- R302.1 through R302.5.1 - No changes suggested.
- **Amendment Requested** – R303.4 Mechanical Ventilation - The subcommittee recommends removing. Discussion included requires owner maintenance and subjects the contractor to more liability. The intent of this group is to revisit this with HVAC guys.
Response: The collaborative members discussed and agreed to amend this section to coincide with the amendment proposal to energy section N1102.4.1.2 and IECC section R402.4. Changing the ACH to 7 will make mechanical ventilation not mandatory. It is recommended to keep the mechanical ventilation provisions as an option just in case the ACH happened to test real low so contractors could have guidelines or options to install a system.
- R303.5 through R308.4.7 - No changes suggested.
- **Possible Amendment Requested or leave, as this would not be applicable very often if ever**
R309.5 Garage Fire Sprinklers - The subcommittee recommends removing.
Response: This section does not require sprinklers to be installed within garages. It only allows garages that have sprinklers installed to be constructed closer to each other or to a property line than what is allowed in other sections of the code. Also, this only applies for an entire subdivision where all dwellings are sprinklered. If we do remove this, then Footnote 'a' of Table R302.1(2) should also be removed.
- R310.1 through R311.3.1 No changes suggested.
- **Amendment Requested** – R501.3 Fire Protection of Floors - Remove entirely.
Response: This was agreed by the collaborative members. Cost was and issue in the discussion. Opposition from fire code officials should be anticipated if we propose to remove this section. Further discussions on this topic will most likely continue at the State Building Code meetings to finalize this process.
- R602.7 through R602.10.9 No changes suggested.
- **Amendment Requested** – R602.12 Simplified Wall Bracing – Clarification/education on how this clears anything up or it helps – would like to see the APA method as an alternative
Response: This has been discussed and clarified in the meeting with ICC Staff Engineer, Sandra Hyde, and BCA of SW Idaho regarding the wall bracing requirements of the 2012 IRC. It was discussed in the collaborative meeting the IRC simplified braced wall provisions covers more the 80% of the building construction within Idaho. It was also discussed that jurisdictions will most likely not have a problem

allowing the use of the APA System Report SR-102A “APA Simplified Wall bracing Method Using Wood Structural Panel Continuous Sheathing” as an approved alternative design as described in IRC Section R104.11. This will be submitted as a code amendment for approval as an approved alternative design and method of construction.

- R602.12.6 through R703.7.4.2 No changes suggested.
- R703.12 Adhered Masonry Veneer Items #2 & #3: Strike the 2 inch section language.
Response: Dan Hunter explained in the meeting this requirement is consistent with some manufacturers’ requirements for the installation of this veneer. Contractors and building officials are required to follow the requirements of the manufacturer. Dan also advised that not all adhered masonry veneer manufacturers require the 2-inch clearance. It was suggested to research and pursue these other manufacturers if this is an issue for the contractors. We would propose to keep this section.
- R802.7 through 802.11 No changes suggested.
- R806.5 Unvented Attic Assemblies - Concerned about where this is going.
Response: This proposal provides further clarification (from the previous code) defining unvented enclosed rafter assemblies and the means to prevent moisture from entering fiberglass-type insulations. This addition of moisture compromises the insulating values of this product. We would propose to keep this section.
- R806.5 through R1003.9.3 No changes suggested.
- **Amendment Requested** – N1102.4.1.2 (R402.4.1.2) Testing. Remove mandatory blower door testing.
Response: This was agreed by the group to revert back to the 2009 code language where blower door testing was still an option (not mandatory). This and the other option of Table R402.4.1.1 with the inspection air sealing checklist would both be available. It may be best to strike Chapter 11 of the IRC and just reference the IECC Residential Provisions (Chapters 1-5) as amended.
- **Amendment Requested** – N1102.4.1.2 (R402.4.1.2) Testing. Change back to 7 ACH.
Response: The collaborative members agreed to this proposal. Reverting back to the 2009 requirement will now not mandate mechanical ventilation requirements. This needs to match amended section R402.4 of the IECC. It may be best to strike Chapter 11 of the IRC and just reference the IECC Residential Provisions (Chapters 1-5) as amended.
- N1103.4.2 (R403.4.2) Remove insulation of hot water pipes, mandatory hot water recirc switch?
Response: This is further clarification of the requirements of the 2009 edition. The requirement of R-3 insulation has not changed. Without understanding why this may be an issue, we would propose keep this section.
- **Amendment Requested**– Table N1102.4.1.1 (R402.4.1.1) Air Barrier and Insulation Installation Table
Response: Eric Makela recommended an amendment to strike the word “gasketed” when referencing fireplaces in the Table. It may be best to strike Chapter 11 of the IRC and just reference the IECC Residential Provisions (Chapters 1-5) as amended.
- M1507 Remove mechanical whole house ventilation
Response: It was discussed and agreed by the collaborative members to keep this section as an option in case the ACH happened to test very low so contractors could have some guidelines or options to install a mechanical ventilation system.