1	NOTICE OF RULE MAKING PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLIC HEARING
2	
3	NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
4	
5	Notice of Rule-making Proceedings is hereby given by NC Building Code Council in accordance with
6	G.S. 150B-21.5(d).
7	
8	Citation to Existing Rule Affected by this Rule-Making: North Carolina Residential, Building, Existing
9	Building, Fire, Administrative, and Plumbing Code amendments.
10	
11	<b>Authority for Rule-making:</b> G.S. 143-136; 143-138.
12	
13	Reason for Proposed Action: To incorporate changes in the NC State Building Codes as a result of
14	rulemaking petitions filed with the NC Building Code Council and to incorporate changes proposed by the
15	Council.
16	
17	Public Hearing: Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 9:00AM, Albemarle Building, 325 North Salisbury Street,
18	Raleigh, NC 27603, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room 240. Comments on both the proposed rule and any fiscal
19	impact will be accepted.
20	
21	Comment Procedures: Written comments may be sent to Carl Martin, Secretary, NC Building Code
22	Council, NC Department of Insurance, 1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202. Comments on
23	both the proposed rule and any fiscal impact will be accepted. Comment period expires on January 14,
24	2020.
25	
26	Statement of Subject Matter:
27	
28	
29	1. Request by Jackie Flemming and Doug Allen representing Simpson Strong-Tie to amend the 2018
30	NC Residential Code, Appendix M, Section AM109.1.4.
31	
32	2x6 diagonal vertical cross bracing is permitted to be provided in two perpendicular directions for free
33	standing decks or parallel to the structure at the exterior column line for attached decks. The 2x6 bracing
34	shall be attached to the posts with one of the methods in Table AM109.1.4 5/8 inch (16 mm) hot dip
35	galavinzed bolt with nut and washer at each end of each bracing member in accordance with Figure
36	AM109.1(4).
37	TABLE AM109.1.4

## FASTENING OF BRACE (CHOOSE ONE)

<u>Fastener Type</u>	<u>Diameter (inches)</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>Length</u>
Bolt	<u>5/8ª</u>	<u>1</u>	As required
<u>Screws</u>	0.27 <sup>b</sup>	2	Long enough to achieve a 1 ½"  thread penetration

2

4

5

1

a. Bolts shall be hot dip galvanized through bolts with nut and washer

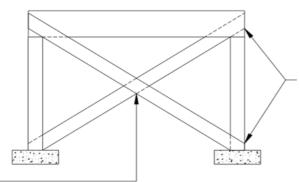
b. Screws shall be hot dip galvanized (ASTM A153, Class C, minimum) self drilling screw fastener having

a minimum diameter of 0.27", and installed in the center of the post with a minimum of 1" space between

6 screws.

7

If span between posts is greater than 7', center blocking and one 5/8" bolt with nut and washer with fastener(s) per Table AM109.1.4



One 5/8" bolt top and bottom end with a nut and washer. Fastener per Table AM109.1.4

FIGURE AM109.1(4)
CROSS BRACING

8

- 10 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 12 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to reduce fastener size to reduce damage to structures
- while providing equal capacity of through bolts.
- 14 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 15 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

17

- 2. Request by Charles Watts, AIA representing The Apartment Association of North Carolina to amend the
- 20 **2018 NC Building Code, Section 1107.6.2.2.1.**

1. Class I standpipes are allowed to in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in

2. Class I manual standpipes are allowed in open parking garages where the highest floor is located not

more than 150 feet (45720 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

31

32

33

3435

36

Exceptions:

the heights level of fire department vehicle access.

accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

- 1 3. Class I manual dry standpipes are allowed in open parking garages that are subject to freezing
- 2 temperatures, provided that the hose connections are located as required for class II standpipes in
- 3 accordance with Section 905.5.
- 4 4. Class I standpipes are allowed in basements equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system.
- 5 5. In determining the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, it shall not be required to consider
- 6 either of the following:
- 7 5.1 Recessed loading docks for four vehicles or less.
- 8 5.2 Conditions where topography makes access from the fire department vehicle to the building impractical
- 9 or impossible

- 11 **905.3.1 Height.** Class III standpipe systems shall be installed throughout buildings where any of the
- 12 <u>following exist:</u>
- 13 <u>1. Four or more stories are above or below grade plane.</u>
- 2. The floor level of the highest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above the lowest level of the
- 15 <u>fire department vehicle access</u>
- 16 3. The floor level of the lowest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) below the highest level of fire
- 17 <u>department vehicle access.</u>

18

#### 19 **Exceptions:**

- 20 1. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in
- 21 <u>accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.</u>
- 22 2. Class I standpipes are allowed in Group B and E occupancies.
- 23 3. Class I manual standpipes are allowed in open parking garages where the highest floor is located not
- 24 more than 150 feet (45720 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
- 25 4. Class I manual dry standpipes are allowed in open parking garages that are subject to freezing
- temperatures, provided that the hose connections are located as required for class II standpipes in
- 27 <u>accordance with Section 905.5.</u>
- 28 5. Class I standpipes are allowed in basements equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system.
- 29 6. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings where occupant-use hose lines will not be utilized by trained
- 30 personnel or the fire department.
- 31 7. In determining the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, it shall not be required to consider
- 32 either of the following:
- 33 <u>7.1 Recessed loading docks for four vehicles or less.</u>
- 34 7.2 Conditions where topography makes access from the fire department vehicle to the building impractical
- 35 <u>or impossible</u>

- 1 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 2 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 3 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to provide more clear intent and direction.
- 4 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 5 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- 6 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

9

4. Request by Tim Henshaw representing the N.C. Fire Code Revision Committee to amend the 2018 NC Fire Code, Section 1031.

11 12

10

## Section 1031.10 Fire Escape Stairs and Ladders

- All fire escape stairs and ladders shall be kept clear and unobstructed at all times and shall be maintained
- 14 <u>in good working order. Rust, loose bolts, frayed cables, insufficient weights, welds or any other condition</u>
- 15 that renders the equipment unusable shall be immediately repaired or replaced. All fire escapes that need
- to be replaced or repaired shall comply with Section 405 of the North Carolina Existing Building Code
- 17 (NCEBC).

18 19

#### Section 1031.10.1 Examination

- 20 Fire escape stairways, balconies, and ladders shall be examined for structural adequacy and safety in
- 21 accordance with Section 1031.10 by a registered design professional or others acceptable to the fire code
- official every 5 years, or as required by the fire code official.

2324

# Section 1031.10.2 Examination Report

25 Records of inspections, testing and maintenance shall be maintained.

26

- 27 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 28 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 29 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to provide provisions for maintenance of fire escapes.
- 30 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 31 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

33

34

5. Request by Tim Henshaw representing the N.C. Fire Code Revision Committee to amend the
 2018 Existing Building Code, Section 405.

1	405.6 Marking
2	The ground under the fire escape stair or ladder shall be identified and marked. Approved signs, other
3	approved notices or markings that include the words NO PARKING – FIRE ESCAPE shall be provided to
4	identify or prohibit the obstruction thereof.
5	
6	<b>Motion/Second/Approved</b> – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
7	2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
8	<b>Reason Given</b> – The purpose of this amendment is to provide provisions for maintenance of fire escapes.
9	Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
10	in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
11	funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.
12	
13	
14	6. Request by Cliff Isaac representing the N.C. Department of Insurance to amend the 2018 N.C.
15	Administrative Code and Policies
16	
17	107.6 Inspections of component or element. Acceptance of inspection of a component or element by a
18	NC registered architect or engineer will require completion of the "Design Professional Inspection Form"
19	found in Appendix G.
20	
21	APPENDIX G

# DESIGN PROFESSIONAL INSPECTION FORM RECORD OF THE INSPECTION OF A COMPONENT OR ELEMENT BY A NC LICENSED ARCHITECT OR ENGINEER

Proi	ject	Inf	orm	nati	on:
			~		~111

Project Information:		
Residential Single-Family P		Commercial Project: Y N
Code Enforcement Project	t No:	Permit No:
Project Name:		Owner:
Project Address:		Suite No:
Date Inspected:		Contractor Name:
Component Inspected:		
Responsible Licensed NC	Architect or NC	Engineer
Name:		
Firm Name:		
Phone Numbers:	Office:	Mobile:
Email Address:		
Mailing Address:		
*(subgrade form/letter may	also be required)	
has been inspected by me o	or someone under m ith the approved pl equirements of the	
Licensed Architect or Eng	ineer	Scal

# Inspection Department disclaimer:

1

3

Upon the receipt of a signed written document as required under subsection (a) of Article 160A-413.5., Code Enforcement shall be discharged and released from any liabilities, duties and responsibilities imposed by this article or in common law from any claim arising out of or attributed to the component or element in the construction of the building for which the signed written document was submitted. Be aware that this inspection will be noted in all inspection records including the Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Compliance. This inspection does not address any local ordinances or zoning requirements.

4/2019

- 2 Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
  - 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).

1 Reason Given – The purpose of this amendment is to provide a form as required by SL 2019-174 (House 2 Bill 675). 3 Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase 4 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state 5 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared. 6 7 8 7. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018 9 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 702.1 Exception. 10 11 **702.1 Above-ground sanitary drainage and vent pipe.** Above-ground soil, waste and vent pipe shall conform to one of the standards listed in Table 702.1. Pipe fittings shall not be solvent-cemented inside of 12 13 plastic pipe. 14 Exception: Plastic pipe with an inside diameter of 2 inches (51 mm) and larger shall not be used for storm 15 drainage, drain, waste and vent conductors in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 16 m) in height. 17 Exception: Stacks in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height shall not be 18 plastic. 19 20 Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1, 21 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021). 22 **Reason Given** – The purpose of this amendment is to remove plastic pipe from the list of materials allowed 23 for plumbing stacks. 24 **Fiscal Statement** – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost. 25 This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A 26 fiscal note has not been prepared. 27 28 29 8. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018 30 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 702.4 Fittings. 31 32 Exception: Plastic pipe fittings and plastic plumbing appurtenances with an inside diameter 2 inches (51 33 mm) and larger shall not be used for drain, waste and vent conductors in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height. 34 35

Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,

2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).

36

- 1 **Reason Given** – The purpose of this amendment is to allow plastic fittings and appurtenances to be used 2 with plastic plumbing piping for horizontal branch drains, wastes, and vents. 3 **Fiscal Statement** – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost. 4 This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A 5 fiscal note has not been prepared. 6 7 8 9. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018 9 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 1102.2. 10 11 Exception: Plastic pipe with an inside diameter of 2 inches and larger shall not be used for Stacks in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height. 12 13 14 Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1, 15 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021). 16 **Reason Given** – The purpose of this amendment is to remove plastic pipe from the list of materials allowed 17 for plumbing stacks. 18 **Fiscal Statement** – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost. 19 This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A 20 fiscal note has not been prepared. 21 22 23 10. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the N.C. 24 Plumbing Code, Section 917 and 917.1. 25
- 26 SECTION 917 SINGLE STACK VENT SYSTEM (SOVENT)
- 27 917.1 Design and installation shall be in accordance with the design criteria contained in the Copper
- 28 Development Association (CDA) Handbook No. 802. Materials shall meet standards and specifications
- 29 <u>listed in Tables 702.1 and 702.4 for drain, waste and vent pipe and fittings.</u>
- 31 **917.1 Single-stack vent system permitted.**
- 32 A drainage *stack* shall serve as a single-stack vent system where sized and installed in accordance with
- 33 Sections 917.2 through 917.9. The drainage *stack* and *branch* piping shall be the vents for the drainage
- 34 <u>system. The drainage stack shall have a stack vent.</u>

36 **917.2 Stack size.** 

30

- 1 <u>Drainage stacks</u> shall be sized in accordance with Table 917.2. Stacks shall be uniformly sized based on the
- 2 total connected drainage fixture unit load. The stack vent shall be the same size as the drainage stack. A 3-
- 3 <u>inch 76 mm</u>) *stack* shall serve not more than two closets.

### 5 TABLE 917.2

# 6 <u>SINGLE STACK SIZE</u>

7

	MAXIMUM CONNECTED DRAINAGE FIXTURE UNITS						
STACK SIZE (inches)	Stacks less than 75 feet in height	Stacks 75 feet to less than 160 feet in height	Stacks 160 feet and greater in height				
3	24	NP	NP				
4	225	24	NP				
5	480	225	24				
6	1,015	480	225				
8	2,320	1,015	480				
10	4,500	2,320	1,015				
12	8,100	4,500	2,320				
15	13,600	8,100	4,500				

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

8 9

10

# 917.3 Branch size.

- Horizontal *branches* connecting to a single-stack vent system shall be sized in accordance with Table

  710.1(2). Not more than one water closet shall discharge into a 3-inch (76 mm) horizontal *branch* at a point
- within a developed length of 18 inches (457 mm) measured horizontally from the *stack*.

1415

Where a water closet is within 18 inches (457 mm) measured horizontally from the *stack* and not more than one fixture with a drain size of not more than 1½ inches (38 mm) connects to a 3-inch (76 mm) horizontal *branch*, the *branch* drain connection to the *stack* shall be made with a sanitary tee.

18 19

16

17

#### 917.4 Length of horizontal branches.

20 The length of horizontal *branches* shall conform to the requirements of Sections 917.4.1 through 917.4.3.

2122

## 917.4.1 Water closet connection.

- 23 Water closet connections shall be not greater than 4 feet (1219 mm) in developed length measured
- 24 <u>horizontally from the stack.</u>

1	Exception: Where the connection is made with a sanitary tee, the maximum developed length shall be 8
2	feet (2438 mm).
3	
4	917.4.2 Fixture connections.
5	Fixtures other than water closets shall be located not greater than 12 feet (3657 mm) in developed length,
6	measured horizontally from the stack.
7	
8	917.4.3 Vertical piping in branch.
9	The length of vertical piping in a fixture drain connecting to a horizontal branch shall not be considered in
10	computing the fixture's distance in developed length measured horizontally from the stack.
11	
12	917.5 Minimum vertical piping size from fixture.
13	The vertical portion of piping in a fixture drain to a horizontal branch shall be 2 inches (51 mm). The
14	minimum size of the vertical portion of piping for a water-supplied urinal or standpipe shall be 3 inches (76
15	mm). The maximum vertical drop shall be 4 feet (1219 mm). Fixture drains that are not increased in size,
16	or have a vertical drop in excess of 4 feet (1219 mm), shall be individually vented.
17	
18	917.6 Additional venting required.
19	Additional venting shall be provided where more than one water closet discharges to a horizontal branch
20	where the distance from a fixture trap to the stack exceeds the limits in Section 917.4. Where additional
21	venting is required, the fixture(s) shall be vented by individual vents, common vents, wet vents, circuit
22	vents, or a combination waste and vent pipe. The dry vent
23	extensions for the additional venting shall connect to a branch vent, vent stack, stack vent, air admittance
24	valve, or shall terminate outdoors.
25	
26	917.7 Stack offsets.
27	Where fixture drains are not connected below a horizontal offset in a stack, a horizontal offset shall not be
28	required to be vented. Where horizontal branches or fixture drains are connected below a horizontal offset
29	in a stack, the offset shall be vented in accordance with Section 907. Fixture connections shall not be made
30	to a stack within 2 feet (610 mm) above or below a horizontal offset.
31	
32	917.8 Prohibited lower connections.
33	Stacks greater than 2 branch intervals in height shall not receive the discharge of horizontal branches on
34	the lower two floors. There shall not be connections to the <i>stack</i> between the lower two floors and a
35	distance of not less than 10 pipe diameters downstream from the base of the single stack vented system.
36	
37	917.9 Sizing building drains and sewers.

- 1 The building drain and building sewer receiving the discharge of a single stack vent system shall be sized
- 2 in accordance with Table 710.1(1).

- 4 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 5 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 6 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to allow single stack plumbing systems.
- 7 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
- 8 in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
- 9 funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.

1011

- 12 11. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018
- 13 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 917.1.1.

14

- 15 **917.1.1 Engineered Single Stack Systems.** Engineered single stack systems shall be listed in accordance
- to the standards of the specific material utilized in the system, designed by a design professional and
- installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

18

- 19 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 20 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 21 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to allow single stack plumbing systems.
- 22 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost.
- 23 This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A
- fiscal note has not been prepared.

2526

- 27 11A. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018
- 28 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 1102.7.

29

- 30 1102.7 Fittings. Plastic pipe fittings and plastic plumbing appurtenances with an inside diameter of 2
- 31 inches and larger shall not be used for storm drainage conductors in buildings in which the top occupied
- 32 floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height.
- 33 **Exception:** Plastic pipe fittings and plastic plumbing appurtenances with inside diameter of 2 inches and
- 34 larger shall not be used for storm drainage conductors in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds
- 35 <del>75 feet (23 m) in height.</del>

- 1 Motion/Second/Approved The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 2 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 3 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to allow plastic fitting where plastic piping is allowed.
- 4 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost.
- 5 This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A
- 6 fiscal note has not been prepared.

9

12. Request by Cothran Harris representing the North Carolina Self Storage Association (NCSSA) to amend the 2018 N.C. Building Code, Table 504.4.

101112

**TABLE 504.4**a,b

#### ALLOWABLE NUMBER OF STORIES ABOVE GRADE PLANE

13 14

OCCUPANCY	TYPE OF CONS	STRUC'	TION							
CLASSIFICATION	SEE	TYPE	I	TYPE	II	TYPE	III	TYPE	TYPE	EV
	FOOTNOTES							IV		
		A	В	A	В	A	В		A	В
S-1	NS	UL	11	4	2	3	2	4	3	1

(the remainder of the table and footnotes remain unchanged)

15 16

- 17 **Motion/Second/Approved** The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
- 18 2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
- 19 **Reason Given** The purpose of this amendment is to allow fire sprinklered Group S-1 storage buildings of
- 20 Type IIB construction to be constructed to the same number of stories as was allowed in a previous NC code
- 21 edition and is being proposed by the International Code Council for the next edition of the International
- 22 Codes.
- 23 **Fiscal Statement** This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost.
- 24 This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A
- 25 fiscal note has not been prepared.

26

2728

- 13. Request by Robert Schwachenwald representing Bizzy Bee Plumbing, Inc. to amend the 2018
- 29 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 718.

30

31 (substitute language submitted to replace language submitted for the agenda package)

1	SECTION 718 CURED IN PLACE
2	
3	718.1 General. This section shall govern the replacement, rehabilitation or repair of existing building
4	sewer piping by cured in place piping methods.
5	
6	718.2 Scope. Cured in Place Piping (CIPP) installations shall conform to the requirements of ASTM F
7	1216 and be installed per the manufacturer's installation instructions.
8	
9	ASTM STANDARDS
10	F 1216-09 Standard for Cured in Place Piping (CIPP)718.1, 718.2
11	
12	<b>Motion/Second/Approved</b> – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
13	2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
14	Reason Given - The purpose of this amendment is to address newer cost saving technology for repair of
15	sewer piping.
16	Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease in cost.
17	This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state funds. A
18	fiscal note has not been prepared.
19	
20	
21	14. Request by Colin Triming representing the N.C. Fire Code Revision Committee to amend the
22	2018 Fire Code, Sections 321, 105.6.49, 903.2.8.
23	
24	SECTION 321 TEMPORARY SLEEPING UNITS FOR DISASTER RELIEF WORKERS
25	
26	<u>321.1 General.</u>
27	This section shall apply to temporary use of existing buildings for purposes of providing sleeping units for
28	volunteer disaster relief workers supporting a disaster declaration issued by the Governor of North
29	Carolina. Existing buildings shall be permitted to provide temporary sleeping facilities for disaster relief
30	workers provided that all the provisions of this section are met and approved by the local code officials.
31	
32	Facilities complying with 321 shall not require compliance with other provisions of this code or the
33	Building Code.
34	
35	Exception: Buildings containing the following occupancies or uses shall not be used for temporary
36	sleeping units for disaster relief workers:
37	1. Group F

1	2. Group H
2	3. Group S-1 vehicle repair garage
3	4. Group S-1 bulk tire storage
4	5. Woodworking operations
5	
6	321.2 Permit required.
7	An operational permit as designated in 105.6.49 shall be required.
8	
9	321.3 Short Term Occupancy.
10	Short term occupancies meeting the requirements of this section shall be permitted in existing buildings
11	that have a current certificate of occupancy and connected electrical service. Use of a building or portion
12	thereof for a short-term occupancy shall not exceed two days within 30 consecutive days.
13	
14	321.3.1 Fire alarm and detection systems.
15	Functioning smoke detection as required for the existing building or single station battery operated smoke
16	alarms where no system exists shall be provided throughout the sleeping room, exit access corridors, and
17	stairs serving the sleeping units per 907.2.11.
18	
19	Carbon monoxide detection devices shall be provided as required by 915.1.4 when fuel fired appliances are
20	<u>present.</u>
21	
22	321.3.2 Ventilation and temperature control.
23	Heating, cooling, and ventilation must be provided by equipment installed and approved for such use. Use
24	of portable space heaters shall be prohibited.
25	
26	321.3.3 Plumbing fixtures.
27	Plumbing fixtures shall be provided as required for Group R-2 by the NC Plumbing Code, Section 403 for
28	the number of disaster relief workers occupying the building. Temporary facilities are permitted as
29	approved by the local code official.
30	
31	321.3.4 Accessibility.
32	Sleeping units for temporary disaster relief workers complying with the NC Building Code, Chapter 11 and
33	Section 1009 are not required provided that the building owner or supporting organization has other
34	sleeping facilities that are accessible by the disabled within the same jurisdiction as the temporary sleeping
35	<u>units.</u>
36	

1	321.4 Long Term Occupancy.
2	Long term occupancies meeting the requirements of this section and 321.3 shall be permitted in existing
3	buildings that have a current certificate of occupancy and connected electrical service. Long term
4	occupancies are for periods exceeding short term occupancy as designated in Section 321.3 with a
5	maximum of 180 consecutive calendar days. The local fire official may extend the initial time period up to
6	an additional 180-day period as often as needed if the building owner or his designee provides
7	documentation satisfactory to the local fire official that an extension of time is necessary to support local
8	disaster relief efforts and the fire official verifies that the building remains in compliance with this section.
9	
10	321.4.1 Occupant load and age.
11	The maximum number of disaster relief workers is 20 ambulatory individuals. The disaster relief workers
12	must be 18 years of age or older.
13	
14	Exception: Occupants may be less than 18 years of age if the sleeping unit meets all of the following
15	conditions:
16	1. Is intended to serve disaster relief worker families with children and their parents or other legal guardian:
17	<u>and</u>
18	2. Equipped with smoke alarms meeting applicable code provisions for such devices in all sleeping areas.
19	
20	<u>321.4.2 Staff.</u>
21	The sleeping units must be staffed by a minimum of two individuals of 21 years of age or older trained in
22	accordance with Chapter 4 of the NC Fire Code and at least one trained individual shall be awake to
23	monitor the sleeping room and restrooms throughout the time the facility is occupied by the disaster relief
24	workers.
25	
26	321.4.3 Fire alarm and detection systems.
27	Functioning smoke detection as required for the existing building or single station smoke alarms where no
28	system exists shall be provided throughout the sleeping room, exit access corridors, and stairs serving the
29	sleeping units per 907.2.11.
30	
31	Carbon monoxide detection devices shall be provided as required by 915.1.4 when fuel fired appliances are
32	present.
33	Building Owner or his designee shall submit documentation illustrating that the smoke alarm is approved
34	and that all emergency batteries have been tested and are operational.
35	
36	321.4.4 Fire extinguishers.

1	There must be an adequate number of fire extinguishers to serve the sleeping units as determined by the
2	local fire code official. Travel distance to an approved fire extinguisher shall not exceed 50 feet. Minimum
3	rating of extinguishers shall be 3A-40BC.
4	
5	321.4.5 Automatic sprinkler system.
6	No fire protection sprinkler system is required per 903.2.8, Exception #6. Any existing fire sprinkler
7	system shall be operational.
8	
9	Exception: Sprinkler system required by 321.4.7.
10	
11	<u>321.4.6 Means of egress.</u>
12	There shall be a minimum of two separate code compliant means of egress serving the sleeping units. An
13	evacuation route approved by the local fire code officials shall be posted and be in compliance with
14	Sections 401, 403, 404, and 406 of the NC Fire Code.
15	
16	<u>321.4.6.1 Illumination.</u>
17	The disaster relief workers sleeping rooms and exit access corridors and stairs shall have unswitched
18	illumination and emergency powered illumination with a duration of not less than 90-minutes.
19	
20	321.4.7 Location of sleeping units.
21	Sleeping units above or below the level of exit discharge are required to have a fire sprinkler system
22	complying with 903.3 or an automatic smoke detection system complying with 907.2.8.2.
23	
24	321.4.8 Occupant restrictions.
25	1. No smoking shall be permitted in the facility.
26	2. Candles, incense and similar open-flame-producing items shall not be allowed within the sleeping units
27	or areas immediately adjacent to the sleeping units.
28	3. No temporary cooking equipment shall be permitted in the facility.
29	
30	105.6.49 Temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers (mandatory permit). An operational
31	permit is required for operation of long-term temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers.
32	
33	903.2.8 Group R. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be
34	provided throughout all buildings with a Group R fire area.
35	
36	Exceptions:
37	6. Temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers as allowed by Section 321.4.5.

(other exceptions remain unchanged)
Motion/Second/Approved – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
Reason Given – The purpose of this amendment is to provide safe temporary housing for disaster relief
workers.
Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.
15. Request by David Smith representing the N.C. Residential Code Ad-Hoc Committee to amend the
2018 N.C. Residential Code, Section R311.7.8.1.
R311.7.8.1 Height. Handrail height, measured vertically
from the sloped plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of ramp slope, shall be not less than 34
inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm).
Exceptions:
1. The use of a volute, turnout, or starting easing or starting newel shall be allowed over the lowest tread.
2. When handrail fittings or bendings are used to provide continuous transition between flights, the
transition from handrail to guardrail, or used at the start of a flight, the handrail height at the fittings or
bendings shall be permitted to exceed the maximum height.
<b>Motion/Second/Approved</b> – The request was granted. The proposed effective date of this rule is June 1,
2020 (earliest through RRC), unless the BCC assigns a delayed effective date (January 1, 2021).
<b>Reason Given</b> – The purpose of this amendment is to clarify the use of newel posts at the top and bottom or
residential stairs.
Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with no net decrease/increase
in cost. This rule is not expected to either have a substantial economic impact or increase local and state
funds. A fiscal note has not been prepared.
endings shall be permitted to exceed the maximum height.
NOTICE:
Appeals and Interpretations of the North Carolina State Building Codes are published online at the
following link.

1	http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering and Codes/Default.aspx?field1=Code Interpretations&user=Code Interpretations
2	ode_Enforcement_Resources
3	
4	
5	NOTICE:
6	Objections and Legislative Review requests may be made to the NC Office of Administrative Hearings in
7	accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) after Rules are adopted by the Building Code Council.
8	http://www.ncoah.com/rules/
9	
10	