NOTICE OF RULE MAKING PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLIC HEARING

NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Notice of Rule-making Proceedings is hereby given by NC Building Code Council in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.5(d).

Citation to Existing Rule Affected by this Rule-Making: North Carolina Residential, Building, Existing Building, Fire, Administrative, and Plumbing Code amendments.

Authority for Rule-making: G.S. 143-136; 143-138.

Reason for Proposed Action: To incorporate changes in the NC State Building Codes as a result of rulemaking petitions filed with the NC Building Code Council and to incorporate changes proposed by the Council.

Public Hearing: Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 9:00AM, Albemarle Building, 325 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603, 2nd Floor Training Room 240. Comments on both the proposed rule and any fiscal impact will be accepted.

Comment Procedures: Written comments may be sent to Carl Martin, Secretary, NC Building Code Council, NC Department of Insurance, 1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202. Comments on both the proposed rule and any fiscal impact will be accepted. Comment period expires on January 14, 2020.

Statement of Subject Matter:

1. Request by Jackie Flemming and Doug Allen representing Simpson Strong-Tie to amend the 2018 NC Residential Code, Appendix M, Section AM109.1.4.

2x6 diagonal vertical cross bracing is permitted to be provided in two perpendicular directions for free standing decks or parallel to the structure at the exterior column line for attached decks. The 2x6 bracing shall be attached to the posts with one of the methods in Table AM109.1.4. 5/8 inch (16 mm) hot dip galvanized bolt with nut and washer at each end of each bracing member in accordance with Figure AM109.1(4).

TABLE AM109.1.4
FASTENING OF BRACE (CHOOSE ONE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fastener Type</th>
<th>Diameter (inches)</th>
<th>QTY</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolt</td>
<td>5/8&quot; a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>As required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screws</td>
<td>0.27&quot; b</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Long enough to achieve a 1 ½” thread penetration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 screws.

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

FIGURE AM109.1(4)
CROSS BRACING

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 reduce fastener size to reduce damage to structures while providing equal capacity of through bolts.

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.

2. Request by Charles Watts, AIA representing The Apartment Association of North Carolina to amend the 2018 NC Building Code, Section 1107.6.2.2.1.
1107.6.2.2.1. Type A Units. In Group R-2 occupancies containing more than 20 dwelling units or
sleeping units, at least 5 percent but not less than one of the units shall be a Type A unit. All Group R-2
units on a site shall be considered to determine the total number of units and the required number of type
A units. Type A units shall be dispersed among the various classes of units. Bedrooms in monasteries and
convents shall be counted as sleeping units for the purpose of determining the number of units. Where the
sleeping units are grouped into suites, only one sleeping unit in each suite shall count towards the number
of required Type A units.

Exceptions:
1. The number of type A units is permitted to be reduced in accordance with Section 1107.7.
2. Existing structures on a site shall not contribute to the total number of units on a site.
3. For a site with more than 100 units, at least 2 percent of the number of units exceeding 100 shall be
Type A units.

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 reduce the quantity of required Type A dwelling units
in Group R-2 occupancy classifications.
Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.

3. Request by Colin Triming representing North Carolina Fire Code Revision Committee to amend
the 2018 NC Building Code and Fire Prevention Code, Section 905.3.1.

905.3.1 Height. Class III standpipe systems shall be installed throughout buildings where the floor level of
the highest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above the lowest level of the fire department
vehicle access, or where the floor level of the lowest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) below
the heights level of fire department vehicle access.

Exceptions:
1. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in
accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
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.
3. 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
accordance with Section 905.5.
4. Class I standpipes are allowed in basements equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system.
5. In determining the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, it shall not be required to consider
either of the following:
   5.1 Recessed loading docks for four vehicles or less.
   5.2 Conditions where topography makes access from the fire department vehicle to the building impractical
      or impossible

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

Exceptions:
1. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in
   accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
2. Class I standpipes are allowed in Group B and E occupancies.
3. 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.
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
   accordance with Section 905.5.
5. Class I standpipes are allowed in basements equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system.
6. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings where occupant-use hose lines will not be utilized by trained
   personnel or the fire department.
7. In determining the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, it shall not be required to consider
either of the following:
   7.1 Recessed loading docks for four vehicles or less.
   7.2 Conditions where topography makes access from the fire department vehicle to the building impractical
      or impossible


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 more clear intent and direction.

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.

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

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 in good working order. Rust, loose bolts, frayed cables, insufficient weights, welds or any other condition 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 (NCEBC).

Section 1031.10.1 Examination
Fire escape stairways, balconies, and ladders shall be examined for structural adequacy and safety in 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.

Section 1031.10.2 Examination Report
Records of inspections, testing and maintenance shall be maintained.

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 provisions for maintenance of fire escapes.

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.

5. Request by Tim Henshaw representing the N.C. Fire Code Revision Committee to amend the 2018 Existing Building Code, Section 405.
405.6 Marking
The ground under the fire escape stair or ladder shall be identified and marked. Approved signs, other approved notices or markings that include the words NO PARKING – FIRE ESCAPE shall be provided to identify or prohibit the obstruction thereof.

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 provisions for maintenance of fire escapes.

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.

6. Request by Cliff Isaac representing the N.C. Department of Insurance to amend the 2018 N.C. Administrative Code and Policies

107.6 Inspections of component or element. Acceptance of inspection of a component or element by a NC registered architect or engineer will require completion of the “Design Professional Inspection Form” found in Appendix G.

APPENDIX G
**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 a form as required by SL 2019-174 (House Bill 675).

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.

7. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 702.1 Exception.

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 plastic pipe.

Exception: Plastic pipe with an inside diameter of 2 inches (51 mm) and larger shall not be used for storm drainage, drain, waste and vent conductors in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height.

Exception: Stacks in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height shall not be plastic.

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 remove plastic pipe from the list of materials allowed for plumbing stacks.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.

8. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 702.4 Fittings.

Exception: Plastic pipe fittings and plastic plumbing appurtenances with an inside diameter 2 inches (51 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.

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 allow plastic fittings and appurtenances to be used with plastic plumbing piping for horizontal branch drains, wastes, and vents.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.

9. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the 2018 N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 1102.2.

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.

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 remove plastic pipe from the list of materials allowed for plumbing stacks.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.

10. Request by Jerry Fraker and Leon Skinner representing the City of Raleigh to amend the N.C. Plumbing Code, Section 917 and 917.1.

SECTION 917 SINGLE STACK VENT SYSTEM (SOVENT)

917.1 Design and installation shall be in accordance with the design criteria contained in the Copper Development Association (CDA) Handbook No. 802. Materials shall meet standards and specifications listed in Tables 702.1 and 702.4 for drain, waste and vent pipe and fittings.

917.1 Single-stack vent system permitted.

A drainage stack shall serve as a single-stack vent system where sized and installed in accordance with Sections 917.2 through 917.9. The drainage stack and branch piping shall be the vents for the drainage system. The drainage stack shall have a stack vent.

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

TABLE 917.2
SINGLE STACK SIZE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STACK SIZE (inches)</th>
<th>MAXIMUM CONNECTED DRAINAGE FIXTURE UNITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stacks less than 75 feet in height</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>8,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>13,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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.

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.

917.4 Length of horizontal branches.
The length of horizontal branches shall conform to the requirements of Sections 917.4.1 through 917.4.3.

917.4.1 Water closet connection.
Water closet connections shall be not greater than 4 feet (1219 mm) in developed length measured horizontally from the stack.
**Exception**: Where the connection is made with a sanitary tee, the maximum developed length shall be 8 feet (2438 mm).

### 917.4.2 Fixture connections.
Fixtures other than water closets shall be located not greater than 12 feet (3657 mm) in developed length, measured horizontally from the stack.

### 917.4.3 Vertical piping in branch.
The length of vertical piping in a fixture drain connecting to a horizontal branch shall not be considered in computing the fixture’s distance in developed length measured horizontally from the stack.

### 917.5 Minimum vertical piping size from fixture.
The vertical portion of piping in a fixture drain to a horizontal branch shall be 2 inches (51 mm). The minimum size of the vertical portion of piping for a water-supplied urinal or standpipe shall be 3 inches (76 mm). The maximum vertical drop shall be 4 feet (1219 mm). Fixture drains that are not increased in size, or have a vertical drop in excess of 4 feet (1219 mm), shall be individually vented.

### 917.6 Additional venting required.
Additional venting shall be provided where more than one water closet discharges to a horizontal branch where the distance from a fixture trap to the stack exceeds the limits in Section 917.4. Where additional venting is required, the fixture(s) shall be vented by individual vents, common vents, wet vents, circuit vents, or a combination waste and vent pipe. The dry vent extensions for the additional venting shall connect to a branch vent, vent stack, stack vent, air admittance valve, or shall terminate outdoors.

### 917.7 Stack offsets.
Where fixture drains are not connected below a horizontal offset in a stack, a horizontal offset shall not be required to be vented. Where horizontal branches or fixture drains are connected below a horizontal offset in a stack, the offset shall be vented in accordance with Section 907. Fixture connections shall not be made to a stack within 2 feet (610 mm) above or below a horizontal offset.

### 917.8 Prohibited lower connections.
Stacks greater than 2 branch intervals in height shall not receive the discharge of horizontal branches on the lower two floors. There shall not be connections to the stack between the lower two floors and a distance of not less than 10 pipe diameters downstream from the base of the single stack vented system.

### 917.9 Sizing building drains and sewers.
The building drain and building sewer receiving the discharge of a single stack vent system shall be sized in accordance with Table 710.1(1).

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 allow single stack plumbing systems.

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.

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

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.

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 allow single stack plumbing systems.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.

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

1102.7 Fittings. Plastic pipe fittings and plastic plumbing appurtenances with an inside diameter of 2 inches and larger shall not be used for storm drainage conductors in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height.

Exception: Plastic pipe fittings and plastic plumbing appurtenances with inside diameter of 2 inches and larger shall not be used for storm drainage conductors in buildings in which the top occupied floor exceeds 75 feet (23 m) in height.
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 allow plastic fitting where plastic piping is allowed.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.

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

TABLE 504.4ab
ALLOWABLE NUMBER OF STORIES ABOVE GRADE PLANE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SEE FOOTNOTES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TYPE I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-1</td>
<td>NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>UL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(the remainder of the table and footnotes 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 allow fire sprinklered Group S-1 storage buildings of Type IIB construction to be constructed to the same number of stories as was allowed in a previous NC code edition and is being proposed by the International Code Council for the next edition of the International Codes.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.


(substitute language submitted to replace language submitted for the agenda package)
SECTION 718 CURED IN PLACE

718.1 General. This section shall govern the replacement, rehabilitation or repair of existing building sewer piping by cured in place piping methods.

718.2 Scope. Cured in Place Piping (CIPP) installations shall conform to the requirements of ASTM F 1216 and be installed per the manufacturer’s installation instructions.

ASTM STANDARDS
F 1216-09 Standard for Cured in Place Piping (CIPP) ……718.1, 718.2

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).

Reason Given – The purpose of this amendment is to address newer cost saving technology for repair of sewer piping.

Fiscal Statement – This rule is anticipated to provide equivalent compliance with a net decrease 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.


SECTION 321 TEMPORARY SLEEPING UNITS FOR DISASTER RELIEF WORKERS

321.1 General.
This section shall apply to temporary use of existing buildings for purposes of providing sleeping units for volunteer disaster relief workers supporting a disaster declaration issued by the Governor of North Carolina. Existing buildings shall be permitted to provide temporary sleeping facilities for disaster relief workers provided that all the provisions of this section are met and approved by the local code officials.

Facilities complying with 321 shall not require compliance with other provisions of this code or the Building Code.

Exception: Buildings containing the following occupancies or uses shall not be used for temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers:

1. Group F
2. Group H
3. Group S-1 vehicle repair garage
4. Group S-1 bulk tire storage
5. Woodworking operations

321.2 Permit required.
An operational permit as designated in 105.6.49 shall be required.

321.3 Short Term Occupancy.
Short term occupancies meeting the requirements of this section shall be permitted in existing buildings
that have a current certificate of occupancy and connected electrical service. Use of a building or portion
thereof for a short-term occupancy shall not exceed two days within 30 consecutive days.

321.3.1 Fire alarm and detection systems.
Functioning smoke detection as required for the existing building or single station battery operated smoke
alarms where no system exists shall be provided throughout the sleeping room, exit access corridors, and
stairs serving the sleeping units per 907.2.11.
Carbon monoxide detection devices shall be provided as required by 915.1.4 when fuel fired appliances are
present.

321.3.2 Ventilation and temperature control.
Heating, cooling, and ventilation must be provided by equipment installed and approved for such use. Use
of portable space heaters shall be prohibited.

321.3.3 Plumbing fixtures.
Plumbing fixtures shall be provided as required for Group R-2 by the NC Plumbing Code, Section 403 for
the number of disaster relief workers occupying the building. Temporary facilities are permitted as
approved by the local code official.

321.3.4 Accessibility.
Sleeping units for temporary disaster relief workers complying with the NC Building Code, Chapter 11 and
Section 1009 are not required provided that the building owner or supporting organization has other
sleeping facilities that are accessible by the disabled within the same jurisdiction as the temporary sleeping
units.
321.4 Long Term Occupancy.

Long term occupancies meeting the requirements of this section and 321.3 shall be permitted in existing
built structures that have a current certificate of occupancy and connected electrical service. Long term
occupancies are periods exceeding short term occupancy as designated in Section 321.3 with a
maximum of 180 consecutive calendar days. The local fire official may extend the initial time period up to
an additional 180-day period as often as needed if the building owner or his designee provides
documentation satisfactory to the local fire official that an extension of time is necessary to support local
disaster relief efforts and the fire official verifies that the building remains in compliance with this section.

321.4.1 Occupant load and age.

The maximum number of disaster relief workers is 20 ambulatory individuals. The disaster relief workers
must be 18 years of age or older.

Exception: Occupants may be less than 18 years of age if the sleeping unit meets all of the following
conditions:
1. Is intended to serve disaster relief worker families with children and their parents or other legal guardian;
and
2. Equipped with smoke alarms meeting applicable code provisions for such devices in all sleeping areas.

321.4.2 Staff.

The sleeping units must be staffed by a minimum of two individuals of 21 years of age or older trained in
accordance with Chapter 4 of the NC Fire Code and at least one trained individual shall be awake to
monitor the sleeping room and restrooms throughout the time the facility is occupied by the disaster relief
workers.

321.4.3 Fire alarm and detection systems.

Functioning smoke detection as required for the existing building or single station smoke alarms where no
system exists shall be provided throughout the sleeping room, exit access corridors, and stairs serving the
sleeping units per 907.2.11.

Carbon monoxide detection devices shall be provided as required by 915.1.4 when fuel fired appliances are
present.

Building Owner or his designee shall submit documentation illustrating that the smoke alarm is approved
and that all emergency batteries have been tested and are operational.

321.4.4 Fire extinguishers.
There must be an adequate number of fire extinguishers to serve the sleeping units as determined by the local fire code official. Travel distance to an approved fire extinguisher shall not exceed 50 feet. Minimum rating of extinguishers shall be 3A-40BC.

### 321.4.5 Automatic sprinkler system.

No fire protection sprinkler system is required per 903.2.8, Exception #6. Any existing fire sprinkler system shall be operational.

**Exception:** Sprinkler system required by 321.4.7.

### 321.4.6 Means of egress.

There shall be a minimum of two separate code compliant means of egress serving the sleeping units. An evacuation route approved by the local fire code official shall be posted and be in compliance with Sections 401, 403, 404, and 406 of the NC Fire Code.

### 321.4.6.1 Illumination.

The disaster relief workers sleeping rooms and exit access corridors and stairs shall have unswitched illumination and emergency powered illumination with a duration of not less than 90-minutes.

### 321.4.7 Location of sleeping units.

Sleeping units above or below the level of exit discharge are required to have a fire sprinkler system complying with 903.3 or an automatic smoke detection system complying with 907.2.8.2.

### 321.4.8 Occupant restrictions.

1. No smoking shall be permitted in the facility.
2. Candles, incense and similar open-flame-producing items shall not be allowed within the sleeping units or areas immediately adjacent to the sleeping units.
3. No temporary cooking equipment shall be permitted in the facility.

**105.6.49 Temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers** (mandatory permit). An operational permit is required for operation of long-term temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers.

**903.2.8 Group R.** An *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R *fire area.*

**Exceptions:**

6. Temporary sleeping units for disaster relief workers as allowed by Section 321.4.5.
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.


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.

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 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.
NOTICE:

Objections and Legislative Review requests may be made to the NC Office of Administrative Hearings in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) after Rules are adopted by the Building Code Council.

http://www.ncoah.com/rules/