CONCRETE CURBS IN WOOD FRAME BUILDINGS: 2019 CBC

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Division of the State Architect (DSA) documents referenced within this publication are available on the DSA Publications webpages.

PURPOSE

This Interpretation of Regulations (IR) clarifies requirements for a six-inch high concrete curb at the exterior of buildings or at shower and toilet partitions on construction projects under DSA’s jurisdiction.

SCOPE

This IR is applicable to the design and construction of exterior wood framed walls and interior wood framed walls at shower or toilet rooms.

BACKGROUND

California Building Code (CBC) Section 2304.12.1.4.1 requires wood framed walls at shower or toilet rooms and exterior locations be constructed on concrete curbs at least 6 inches tall.

1. EXTERIOR WALLS

The curb may be omitted if the exterior ground surface is paved for 18 inches and sloped away from the building, and the roof overhang length is equal to, or greater than, the height of the exterior wall.

2. SHOWER AND TOILET ROOMS

In lieu of the six-inch high curbs required at shower rooms, or toilet rooms with more than two fixtures, the following stud wall and partition protection, extending a minimum of six-inches up from the finish floor level, may be submitted for approval:

- Continuation of hot-mopped floor membrane.
- Continuation of epoxy resin floor surfacing.
- Copper floor pan.
- Other equivalent products which will prevent water seepage under the wall or partition.

The requirements for exterior wall curbs remains as per the referenced requirements.

For toilet rooms of relocatable buildings, continuous vinyl flooring with fully sealed joints extending a minimum of six-inches up from the finish floor level is acceptable.

REFERENCES:

2019 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24
    Part 2: California Building Code (CBC), Sections 2304.12.1.2 and 2304.12.1.4.1

This IR is intended for use by DSA staff and by design professionals to promote statewide consistency for review and approval of plans and specifications as well as construction oversight of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA, which includes State of California public schools (K–12), community colleges and state-owned or state-leased essential services buildings. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is subject to revision at any time. Please check DSA’s website for currently effective IRs. Only IRs listed on the webpage at https://www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/publications at the time of project application submittal to DSA are considered applicable.