Introduced by _____

First Reading _____ Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____ Council Bill No. _____B 246-13_____

AN ORDINANCE

repealing Article II of Chapter 9 of the City Code relating to the 2009 Edition of the International Fire Code and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article II adopting the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Article II of Chapter 9 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Columbia, Missouri, relating to the 2009 Edition of the International Fire Code, is hereby repealed and in lieu thereof a new Article II, relating to the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, is hereby enacted reading in words and figures as follows:

CHAPTER 9. FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

. . .

ARTICLE II. FIRE CODE

Sec. 9-21. Adopted.

The 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, published by the International Code Council, Inc., including Appendices A, B, and C, one copy of which has been on file with the city clerk for a period of ninety (90) days prior to the adoption of this article, is hereby adopted by reference and made a part of the Code of Ordinances, City of Columbia, Missouri as fully as if set forth in its entirety. At least one (1) copy of the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code shall remain on file in the office of the city clerk and shall be kept available for public use, inspection and examination.

Sec. 9-22. - Amendments.

The code adopted by this article is hereby amended by substituting the following sections in lieu of those sections with corresponding numbers in the code, or, where there is no corresponding section in the code, the following sections shall be enacted as additions to the code:

101.1 Title: These regulations shall be known as the Fire Code of Columbia, Missouri, and hereinafter referred to as "this code."

101.2.2 Appendix A is hereby adopted as published. Appendices B and C are hereby adopted as amended.

Section 103.0 Fire Prevention

103.1 Director: The administration and enforcement of this ordinance shall be the duty of the director of community development and the fire chief, who are hereby authorized to take such action as may be reasonably necessary to enforce the provisions of this code. Such persons may be appointed and authorized as assistants or representatives of the director of community development and the fire chief as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this code.

103.2: Appointment: Delete

103.4 Liability: Any officer or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting on behalf of the city, shall not thereby render such individual liable personally, and is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of any act performed in the discharge of official duties. Any suit instituted against any officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by the legal representative of the jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings. The officer or employee shall not be liable for costs in any action, suit or proceeding that is instituted pursuant to the provisions of this code; and any officer or employee acting within the scope of employment and in good faith and without malice, shall be free from liability for acts performed under any of its provisions or by reason of any act or omission in the performance of official duties in connection therewith. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed a waiver of the immunities and protection afforded to the city or officers and employees pursuant to state and federal law.

105.6.47 Fire Performance Art. An operational permit is required to use open flames defined as Fire Performance Art under amended code section 316.

105.7 Required construction permits. The building fire code official is authorized to issue construction permits for work as set forth in Sections 105.7.1 through 105.7.16.

108.1 Application for Appeal: Any aggrieved person shall have the right to appeal a decision of the fire code official to the Building Construction Codes Commission (BCCC). An application for appeal shall be filled in accordance with the procedures set out in section 112 of the 2009 edition of the International Building Code as amended by section 6-17 of the Code of Ordinances. The application shall be filed on a form obtained from the fire code official.

108.2 Limitation on authority: Delete.

108.3 Qualifications: Delete.

109.4 Violation penalties: Any person who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) or by imprisonment not exceeding one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

111.4 Failure to comply: Delete.

308.1.4 Open-flame cooking devices - Charcoal burner and other open flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within ten (10) feet of combustible construction.

Exceptions:

1. One-and-two family dwellings.

2. Apartment buildings and condominiums.

3. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system.

313.3 Fire Sprinklers. A builder of single family dwellings or residences or multi-unit dwellings of four (4) or fewer units shall offer to any purchaser on or before the time of entering into the purchase contract the option, at the purchaser's cost, to install or equip fire sprinklers in the dwelling, residence, or unit. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, no purchaser of such a single family dwelling, residence, or multi-unit dwelling shall be denied the right to choose or decline to install a fire sprinkler system in such dwelling or residence being purchased by any code, ordinance, rule, regulation, order, or resolution by any county or other political subdivision. Pursuant to Section 67.281 RSMo, the mandatory option for a purchaser to have the right to choose and the requirement that offers to the purchaser the option to purchase fire sprinklers in connection with the purchase of any single family dwelling, residence, or multi-family dwelling of four (4) or fewer units is hereby incorporated into the code.

Section 319 Fire Performance Art

319.1 General. Fire Performance Art shall be defined as any act (fire juggling, fire eating, etc.) in a public or private place, which utilizes fire for entertainment purposes, outside of a protective housing or in ways in which it travels through the air (by one person or multiple

persons). These acts do not include pyrotechnics or other open flame devices as regulated by other code sections or permits.

319.2 Permits. A permit in accordance with 105.6.32 shall be secured from the fire code official prior to the date of the fire performance art taking place.

319.3 Space considerations. A ten (10) foot distance shall be maintained between the fire-involved item and the any member of an audience, any combustible decoration, and any combustible item within the immediate performance area. A minimum ten (10) foot ceiling height is required.

319.4 Extinguishing Agents. At minimum, one (1) 2A-10BC multipurpose fire extinguisher shall be required for every five (5) performers at each performance. Additional fire extinguishers may be required by the fire code official based upon the unique circumstances of the performance and occupancy.

319.4.1 One (1) wet towel for each active fire performer shall be provided to extinguish the fire implement. The towel shall be white in color to differentiate its use from other colors that may be used to clean up flammable or combustible liquid spills. Towels used for cleaning up flammable or combustible liquid spills shall be stored in a metal container with a tight fitting lid.

319.4.2 One (1) listed fire blanket shall be provided for every five (5) performers.

319.5 Personal Safety. A five (5) gallon open-topped bucket of water will be provided for each fire performance area.

319.5.1 Spotter. One (1) trained spotter shall be provided for each performance. The spotter shall be positioned between the active fire performer and the audience. Spotters should be trained in the proper use of fire extinguishers. The spotter may be a performer who is not engaged in the current performance. The fire code official may require additional spotters based on the unique circumstances of the performance and occupancy.

319.6 Fuels. Approved common fuels used for fire performance art include:

Denatured alcohol;
Lamp oil (odorless and smokeless);
Kerosene (for outdoor performances only);
Stove Fuel;
"Shell Sol T" brand fuel;
"Allume Fue" brand fuel;
"Fire Water" brand fuel;

Gasoline is prohibited under any circumstances.

319.6.1 Fuel Quantities and Storage. All fuels shall be stored in their original container(s) with the caps in place when not in use. The maximum quantity of fuel on the site shall be one (1) U.S. gallon per performer.

319.7 Wicks. Wick material shall consist of cotton wrapped in Kevlar to prevent the breakdown of the cotton as it burns. Synthetic wick material shall be avoided.

319.8 Clothing. It is recommended that the clothing worn by the performers be made of fire resistive materials such as natural fibers or Nomex™/PBI.

319.9 Smoking. Smoking is prohibited by within fifty (50) feet of the performance area and fuel storage. No smoking signs shall be posted accordingly.

507.3 Fire Flow. Fire hydrants in areas zoned as single family or duplex shall be spaced no greater than every five hundred (500) feet and shall be capable of flowing a minimum of eight hundred (800) gallons of water per minute for a minimum of four (4) hours. In all other areas, fire hydrants shall be spaced no greater than every three hundred (300) feet and shall be capable of flowing a minimum of one thousand five hundred (1,500) gallons of water per minute for a minimum of four (4) hours; as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building, onsite fire hydrants and mains shall be provided where required by the fire code official.

507.5.1 Delete

604.5 Emergency lighting equipment: Delete.

609.4 Existing fire suppression systems not meeting the UL 300 criteria shall be upgraded to UL 300 compliant systems within three (3) years of the adoption of this code.

704.1 Enclosure. (Add exception)

Exception: Where any structure has previously received a certificate of compliance or a certificate of occupancy has been maintained accordingly and complies with the following:

a. Smoke detectors shall be installed in all shafts and corridors, if such exist.

b. Shaft and corridor smoke detectors shall receive their primary power from the building wiring and when primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for over current protection.

c. All smoke detectors in shafts and corridors, if such exist, shall be interconnected such that the actuation of one alarm will actuate all the alarms in the shafts and corridors.

d. Any structure in compliance with the provisions of section 704.1 shall maintain such compliance.

This exception shall not apply to structures that are renovated, remodeled or altered in excess of fifty (50) percent of the current value of the structure.

903.2.1.2 Group A-2. An automatic fire sprinkler system shall be provided for Group A-2 occupancies where one of the following conditions exists:

1. The fire area exceeds five thousand (5,000) square feet (465m2);

2. The fire area has an occupancy load of two hundred (200) or more; or

3. The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.

903.2.8.3 Fraternity and Sorority Houses. Each fraternity and sorority house and fraternity and sorority annex with sixteen (16) or more occupants existing on March 16, 2009 shall install at a minimum an automatic fire sprinkler system, designed and installed under the current edition of the National Fire Protection Association Standard 13R, in accordance with Section 903.3 of the 2006 International Fire Code, no later than March 16, 2016.

New fraternity and sorority houses and fraternity and sorority annexes and such houses and annexes that undergo renovation of their space, shall install at a minimum an NFPA 13R fire sprinkler system.

The city council may vary the requirements of this section for any fraternity or sorority house the owners of which have been unable to comply with this section despite making good faith efforts to do so.

For purposes of this section, “fraternity and sorority house” means any building used as a dwelling and occupied by and maintained exclusively or primarily for college, university or professional school students who are affiliated with a social, honorary or professional organization recognized currently or in the past by a college, university or professional school

904.1.1. Certification of service personnel shall include those who install and service water based fire protection systems, automatic detection and manual fire alarm systems. At least one person employed by the company providing the service shall posses either UL or NICET Level 1 certification for the system they are working on.

912.3.1 (Add the words) Locking fire department connection caps. Fire department connections (FDC) shall be a four (4) inch Storz ™ connection and shall utilize a Knox™ locking FDC cap.

1011.2 Floor level exit signs in groups A1, A2, R-1 and R-2. Illuminated exit signs in A1, A2, R-1 and R-2 use groups shall be placed above exit doors and to the side of exit doors eighteen (18) inches from the floor. The floor level exit signs shall be protected by a guard to prevent physical damage. This amendment shall not be retroactive in nature, and shall not apply to structures prior to January 1, 2007.

1011.6.2 Exit Sign Illumination (Add the words)

Internally illuminated exit signs shall not use incandescent light bulbs relying upon a filament for the source of illumination. This amendment shall be applicable under the following conditions:
In all new and remodeled construction where illuminated exit signs are required or provided; and when exit signs are replaced or deemed inoperable by the jurisdiction having authority; and where an exit sign is installed in new locations in existing buildings, upon order of the City Fire Marshall.

This amendment shall not be retroactive in nature, and shall not apply to structures constructed prior to January 1, 2003.

1018.1 Corridors (add exception)

> Exception: Where any structure has previously received a certificate of compliance or a certificate of occupancy, has been maintained accordingly and complies with the following:
>
> a. Smoke detectors shall be installed in all shafts and corridors, if such exist.
>
> b. Shaft and corridor smoke detectors shall receive their primary power from the building wiring and when primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for over-current protection.
>
> c. All smoke detectors in shafts and corridors, if such exist, shall be interconnected such that the actuation of one alarm will actuate all the alarms in the shafts and corridors.

This exception shall not apply to structures that are renovated, remodeled or altered in excess of fifty (50) percent of the current value of the structure.

1020. 1 General. (add exception)

> Exception. Where any structure has previously received a certificate of compliance or a certificate of occupancy, has been maintained accordingly and complies with the following:

a. Smoke detectors shall be installed in all shafts and corridors, if such exist.

b. Shaft and corridor smoke detectors shall receive their primary power from the building wiring and when primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for over-current protection.

c. All smoke detectors in shafts and corridors, if such exist, shall be interconnected such that the actuation of one alarm will actuate all alarms in the shafts and corridors.

d. Existing windows in a sleeping room shall not be eliminated.

3103.2 Approval required. Tents and membrane structures having an area in excess of four hundred (400) square feet (37 m2) shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining a permit from the community development department and inspection from the fire code official.

Exceptions to permit and inspection:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.

Exceptions to inspections (permit required):

1. Tents which comply with all of the following:

1.1. Individual tents having a maximum size of one thousand (1,000) square feet (92.9 m 2) and erected for less than three (3) days.

1.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of twelve (12) feet (3,658 mm), not exceeding one thousand (1,000) square feet (92.9 m 2) total and erected for less than three (3) days.

3103.8.2 Location. Tents or membrane structures shall not be located within twenty (20) feet (6096 mm) of buildings, other tents or membrane structures, or internal combustion engines for generators. For the purpose of determining required distances, support ropes and guy wires shall be considered as part of the temporary membrane structure or tent.

Exceptions:

1. Membrane structures or tents need not be separated from buildings when all of the following conditions are met:

1.1. The aggregate floor area of the membrane structure or tent shall not exceed ten thousand (10,000) square feet (929 m 2).

1.2. The aggregate floor area of the building and membrane structure or tent shall not exceed the allowable floor area including increases as indicated in the International Building Code.

1.3. Required means of egress are provided for both the building and the membrane structure or tent including travel distances.

1.4. Fire apparatus access roads are provided in accordance with Section 503.

3103.8.6 Fire break. An unobstructed fire break passageway or fire road not less than twelve (12) feet (3658 mm) wide and free from guy ropes or other obstructions shall be maintained on all sides of all tents and membrane structures where separation is required per Section 2403.8.2 unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.

3103.12.7 Means of egress illumination (add exception):

Exception: Tents used during daylight hours and open on all sides are not required to provide means of egress illumination unless required by the fire code official.

5601.3 Add the following prohibited explosive: Fireworks. The possession, manufacture, storage, sale and use of fireworks are prohibited, except where allowed under section 16-234 of the Code of Ordinances.

B105.1 One- and Two-Family Dwellings. The minimum fire flow requirements for one- and two-family dwellings having a fire area which does not exceed three thousand six hundred (3,600) square feet (344m2) shall be eight hundred (800) gallons per minute (3785L/min) for a minimum of four (4) hours.

B105.2 Buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings. The minimum fire flow and flow duration for buildings other than one- and two-family dwelling units shall be one thousand five hundred (1,500) gallons per minute for a minimum of four (4) hours. The fire code official may use table B105.1 to determine fire flows under special circumstances.

C105.1 Fire Hydrant spacing. Fire hydrants shall have a maximum spacing of 500 feet in all R-1 (Single family) and R-2 (Duplex) developments and 300 feet in all other zoning districts. Fire hydrant spacing for buildings that are required by the 2012 edition of the International Building Code to have a fire flow greater than or equal to 6,000 gallons per minute shall be regulated by Table C105.1.

C105.1.2 Fire hydrant spacing. A fire hydrant capable of flowing a minimum of one thousand five hundred (1,500) gallons per minute for a minimum of four (4) hours shall be placed within one hundred (100) feet of any fire department connection (FDC). This hydrant shall be placed so that it does not impede access to the building or area by responding fire department equipment.

SECTION 2. The repeal of Article II of Chapter 9 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Columbia, Missouri, relating to the 2009 Edition of the International Fire Code shall not affect any offense or act committed or done or any penalty or forfeiture incurred before the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after October 1, 2013.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2013.

ATTEST:

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____

City Counselor

Source: Community Development - BSD

Agenda Item No:

To: City Council
From: City Manager and Staff

Council Meeting Date: Sep 3, 2013

Re: Update of Building Codes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Building Construction Codes Commission has completed their review of the 2012 International Code Council Codes and 2011 National Electrical Code for adoption by the city. There are numerous minor changes and several major changes. The new codes provide clarity and enhance the life safety, protection of property, and energy efficiency of buildings. Among the major changes, the cost implications of the energy efficiency chapter of the residential code is the largest concern.

DISCUSSION:

Numerous meetings were held evaluating the effect of the new codes and determining what local addendums would be needed. These meetings were staffed by representatives of the Building and Site Development Division of the Community Development Department and the Fire Department.

Some of the most significant changes deal with the energy conservation requirements of the code. Staff has attached memorandums from both the BCCC and the Environment and Energy Commission (EEC). Members of the BCCC and EEC met to discuss the changes in the code. The BCCC brought forth their suggestions and the EEC agreed with all but three items. Staff supports the BCCC's recommendations on the basis that the codes are specifically designed to be minimum requirements. The EEC has made recommendations for higher standards on the broader basis of long term energy conservation.

The three differences between the BCCC and EEC recommendations are:

1. The amount of attic insulation.
2. The amount of wall insulation (changing from 2x4 framing to 2x6 framing).
3. Perimeter foundation insulation.

If the codes are to continue to be minimum standards, the recommendation of the BCCC should be adopted. Adopting the higher standards of insulation recommended by the EEC, on the other hand, would be in keeping with the City's commitment to conservation of energy resources. It is important that the new codes be adopted even if there is to be further consideration of the energy code requirements.

Below are some of the other significant changes and the BCCC's recommendations. Where no recommendations are listed, the BCCC is in favor of adopting the code as written:

International Residential Code:

1. Manufactured wood I-joists used in floor assemblies will be required to have ½" of gypsum board applied to the underside of the floor framing member. The new code requires a closer on the door between the residence and garage. The BCCC chose not to adopt this provision due to the inconvenience to the home owner.

2. Whole house mechanical ventilation is required (an exhaust fan running intermittently or continuously). The BCCC made provisions to add an exterior opening ducted to the return ductwork to provide additional natural ventilation in lieu of mechanical ventilation.
3. The BCCC has now defined that grass and landscaped areas are not walking surfaces therefore adjacent walls do not require guards.
4. A simplified wall bracing section has been added which is applicable to how homes are constructed in Columbia and will simplify construction and inspection of braced walls.
5. The 2012 code requires additional hold downs are required for long span rafters and trusses.
6. Continuous sidewall flashing is now acceptable in lieu of step flashing only.
7. The 2012 code requires a drip edge is now required at roofs.
8. The BCCC has amended the code so that the use of purple primer on waste and vent piping obviates the need for testing.
9. The BCCC decided to delete the requirement for Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters in one and two family dwellings.
10. The BCCC amended the requirement for sanitary sewer backwater valves that the waste piping does not need to be separated based on the flood rim of the fixture.
11. The BCCC has established a maximum number of receptacles based on the circuit breaker amperage. This simplifies the code requirements.
12. The supplemental electrode (additional grounding rod) requirement was deleted by the BCCC.

International Building Code:

1. The 2012 code more clearly defines different types of care facilities.
2. Children's structures (playgrounds) are more broadly regulated.
3. The area of furniture manufacturing and sales where a sprinkler system is required is now defined. The BCCC has accepted the code change and removed our current amendment.
4. Basements with walls or partitions must be sprinklered.
5. Educational occupancies are required to have an Emergency Voice/Alarm Communication System (EV/ ACS). The BCCC recommended this requirement only apply to occupancies over 75 people.
6. Reduced exit widths are allowable for buildings equipped with EV/ACS.
7. Carbon monoxide alarms are now required in buildings with residential or institutional occupancies that have fuel burning appliances.
8. Exits may now be arranged to serve a portion of a story instead of the entire story.
9. Retained the reference to the 2009 International Energy Conservation code due to the complexity of the 2012 IECC and the fact that there is no software that meets the 2012 IECC requirements.
10. Firestop system third party inspections are now mandatory in risk category III or IV buildings.
11. No thermal barrier is required on the floor side of a structural insulated panel system floor.
12. Foam plastic meeting certain requirements may be used in plenums.
13. Toilet facilities are no longer required in parking garages.
14. Chapter 34 provisions take precedence over other codes. The BCCC has included an amendment which further clarifies which other codes are applicable.
15. The previous amendment regarding retaining walls has been removed as it is adequately addressed by the code book.

Other changes include the number of members for a quorum and the ability of alternates to sit on the commission for any absent member.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

VISION IMPACT:
http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Meetings/visionimpact.php

By adopting the 2012 ICC Codes, new homes will be more energy efficient.

SUGGESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Passage of the ordinances.

FISCAL and VISION NOTES:					
City Fiscal Impact Enter all that apply		**Program Impact**		**Mandates**	
City's current net FY cost	$0.00	New Program/Agency?	No	Federal or State mandated?	No
Amount of funds already appropriated	$0.00	Duplicates/Epands an existing program?	No	**Vision Implementation impact**	
Amount of budget amendment needed	$0.00	Fiscal Impact on any local political subdivision?	No	Enter all that apply: Refer to Web site	
Estimated 2 year net costs:		**Resources Required**		Vision Impact?	Yes
One Time	$0.00	Requires add'l FTE Personnel?	No	Primary Vision, Strategy and/or Goal Item #	9.3.3
Operating/Ongoing	$0.00	Requires add'l facilities?	No	Secondary Vision, Strategy and/or Goal Item #	
		Requires add'l capital equipment?	No	Fiscal year implementation Task #	

Significant changes from the 2009 to 2012 IRC energy code:

Background:

The BCCC spent eight weeks reviewing the energy code portion of the IRC, far longer than they spent on any other portion of the code. During this period they sought the advice of several experts including:

Terry Freeman, Energy Services Supervisor, Water & Light
Fred Malicoat, P.E., Malicoat-Winslow Engineers (chairman of the BCCC)
Guy Ford, Missouri Insulation Supply
Dan Riepe, Home Performance Experts

The committee also reviewed the following documents:

- North Carolina 2012 Energy Code
- BCAP - Kansas City Residents Buying 2012 IECC Homes Will Save Thousands
- USDoE – Missouri Energy and Cost Savings
- BCAP - Illinois – Your Home, More Affordable with the 2012 IECC
- Alliance for Environmental Sustainability – Comparing IECC in Illinois to Above-Code Programs
- BCAP - Local Energy Code Action Kit for Municipalities in Missouri
- Texas A&M University Energy Systems Laboratory – A Comparison of Building Energy Code Stringency: 2009 IRC Versus 2012 IRC for Single-Family Residences in Texas
- Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance – 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (Residential)
- Instructions for the Residential Building Data Collection Checklist 2012 IECC – Residential Provisions
- Carroll County Maryland – 2012 IECC Residential Energy Efficiency Code Requirement Flow Chart
- USDoE – Residential Code Change Proposals for the 2015 IECC
- Energy Efficient Codes Coalition – Estimate of Energy and Cost Savings from Proposed IECC Code Changes for 2012
- USDoE – Guide to the Changes between the 2009 and 2012 International Energy Conservation Code
- Testimony Regarding Montgomery County (MD) Department of Permitting Services Proposal to Adopt the 2012 International Residential and Energy Conservation Codes
- USDoE – Air Leakage Guide
- Association of Professional Energy Consultants – Measuring the Baseline Compliance Rate for Residential and Non-Residential Buildings in Illinois Against the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code
- BCAP – True Cost of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code

The committee members who attended included:

John Page, Owner, J-Bar Construction
Fred Malicoat, P.E., Owner, Malicoat-Winslow Engineers
Kas Carlson, Owner, C&C Construction
Jay Creasy, Benchmark Testing and Inspections
Doug Muzzy, Owner, Muzzy Builders
David Weber, P.E., Allstate Consultants
Phil Clithero, Kliethermes Custom Homes
Dan McCray, McCray Builders

Others in regular attendance included:

David Forward, Chief Building Inspector, Boone County
Phil Teeple, P.E., Building Regulations Supervisor, City of Columbia
Stephen Adair, Building Inspector, City of Columbia
Shane Creech, P.E., Building and Site Development Manager, City of Columbia

General issues:

The 2012 code allows for a prescriptive based approach and a simulated performance alternative. In the discussions and based on the APEC report, the way to higher compliance is thru having an easy to understand prescriptive compliance option. The BCCC has drafted a one page section of a house that shows what insulation goes where and other important energy considerations. This is based on work done by North Carolina. When dealing with a large number of builders of various size and complexity, the KISS (keep it simple stupid) method should be adopted to achieve a high rate of compliance.

The simulated performance option will still be available however the APEC study showed that both the modelers and code officials did not properly perform or understand the modeling and there were substantial compliance problems.

The Department of Energy plans to achieve 50% better energy performance over the 2006 code by changing the energy code. They are limited to heating, cooling, water heating, and lighting. However they do not get to take credit for increased efficiency of the furnace or air conditioner as it is considered an appliance which falls under the NAECA. The DoE is mandating that furnaces be 90% efficient starting in March of 2013. They are currently required to be 78% efficient. This presents its own unique challenges to the building community. All of the studies reviewed by the committee were based on 78% efficient furnaces. The result of this is the magnitude of savings shown by some studies will be reduced by the required appliance changes.

Individual Changes

Wall Insulation requirements

The code requires R-20 or R-13+5 for exterior walls. Essentially for most builders this would mean 2x6 framing for exterior walls. BCAP estimates the increased framing cost for their model 2,400 ft^2 house at $1,404. This does not include additional costs for jamb extensions for windows and doors. The usable area of the home is also reduced. The Texas A&M study found that the increased wall insulation accounted for 3.3% energy savings above the 2009 code. The structural requirements should govern and it is the BCCC's opinion that at a minimum the wall cavity should be filled with insulation. High density batts are also available for 2x4 walls though they are more expensive (approximately 2.5x more expensive than R-13 batts).

BCCC recommendation: Walls must meet an R-20, R-13+5, or be completely filled with insulation. On a 2x4 wall, the minimum R-value shall be R-15.

Slab-on-grade floors

The 2012 code requires that for slab on grade floors a minimum of 2' of R-10 insulation be provided either interior or exterior, vertically or horizontally. The code says this insulation is not required in jurisdictions designated by the building official as having a very heavy termite infestation. The committee views adding this insulation as a route and place for termites to enter buildings and live. According to the IRC we are in the "moderate to heavy" termite infestation probability portion of the country.

BCCC recommendation: Exempt the requirement for slab-on-grade floor insulation unless it is a heated floor.

Air leakage

The 2012 code requires a blower door test on all new houses to determine the rate of air leakage. Based on testimony by Terry Freeman of the Columbia Water & Light Department and Dan Riepe of Home Performance Experts, the houses currently being constructed and blower door tested meet the code requirements of less than 3 air changes per hour. Texas A&M research found that meeting the air leakage requirements would provide the most substantial cost saving of any of the changes in the 2012 code. Mr. Freeman also stated that walls of current houses are often too tight to meet fresh air requirements. The other issue with blower door tests is that they are performed when construction is near completion and addressing flaws in the building envelope would be difficult and expensive. The test alone costs approximately $250.

BCCC recommendation: Ensure the building envelope is properly sealed at the insulation inspection. Allow the blower door test if a contractor does not agree with the building inspector as an option.

Mechanical ventilation

The proposed code requires mechanical ventilation but this is not mentioned in the Energy Efficiency chapter. It is specified in Section R303 – Light, Ventilation and Heating and is further specified in Section M1507 – Mechanical Ventilation. The code requires for a 1,500 square foot, 3 bedroom home, continuous exhaust of 45 CFM. This is 64,800 ft^3 per day, or for a house with 8' ceilings, 5.4 air changes per day. The report by the Montgomery County Energy and Air Quality Advisory Committee found that the code requirements for air leakage and mechanical ventilation are at odds with each other. Montgomery County, MD is a county of approximately 1 million residents. Two Illinois jurisdictions had concerns about this as well as stated in the APEC report. The tight envelope requires forced mechanical ventilation which increases energy use compared with the natural ventilation thru the walls. Terry Freeman made similar comments. The Montgomery County Energy and Air Quality Advisory Committee proposed to keep houses naturally ventilating. The BCCC has provided a middle of the road solution because they often see combustion air intakes filled with insulation and are also concerned that if there is a fan that runs continuously or intermittently, people could shut it off.

BCCC recommendation: Provide a duct from the return air to the outside. A 4" duct for houses < 1,500 ft^2, a 6" duct for houses < 2,400 ft^2, and an 8" duct for larger houses. The duct would be insulated to prevent condensation, contain a manual damper to adjust to the required amount of fresh air, and have a screen on the exterior to stop insects and animals.

Duct tightness

The adopted code requires testing if the duct is outside of the building's thermal envelope. Nemow Insulation has done a significant amount of duct testing in Columbia. When Phil Teeple contacted Nemow, they stated they had one failure in over 90 tests. Similar sentiments were echoed by Mr. Freeman and Mr. Riepe. Boone County requires the ducts to be sealed but not tested. Ducts which have been subsequently tested in Boone County have passed. The test costs $400.

BCCC recommendation: Allow a duct test if a contractor does not agree with the visual inspection performed by the building inspector.

Building cavities as ducts/plenums

The energy code does not allow building framing cavities to be used as ducts or plenums. The mechanical code still allows this. This would require all returns to be ducted. BCAP mentions this change but only caught the ducts in floor joists, and not the returns that go up the walls to the grills and estimated this would cost $172. Ducting the returns in the wall would add substantial costs above and beyond those BCAP figured.

BCCC recommendation: Amend the energy code to conform to the mechanical code.

Hot water pipe insulation

The code has a list of 9 different instances combined with a table with pipe diameter and run length to determine if hot water pipes should be insulated. Water use in homes is on an intermittent basis. The committee based on their experience with standard and recirculating water systems did not see value in insulating the hot water pipes due to the substantial increase in costs and minimal energy savings.

BCCC recommendation: Amend the energy code to remove the hot water pipe insulation requirement.

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY COMMISSION

City of Columbia & County of Boone

City Hall, Conference Room 1A

January 17, 2013

Mayor McDavid and Council Members,

The Environment & Energy Commission has reviewed the 2012 Energy Code (Chapter 11 of the International Residential Code), and the recommendations of the Building Code Commission. The BCCC has done extensive research into the energy conservation sections of the residential code, and deserves recognition for this effort. The recommendations of the EEC are as follows:

Insulation of hot water piping: Along with BCCC, the EEC recommends eliminating hot water insulation requirements except in the case of hot water circulating pump piping.

Wood Frame Wall Insulation: The 2012 Energy Code requires R20 or R13+5 (R13 batt and R5 cladding). We agree with the BCCC that this new insulation requirement be kept in force. The Code also allows an overall U-Factor of 0.057, roughly equivalent to an average R-value of R17.5. As this can be achieved with a high-density R-15 batt in a standard 2X4 wall, we recommend that this be an allowable method as it meets the letter of the new code.

Termite Exemption for slab-on-grade and foundation insulation: We recommend that the Columbia jurisdiction continue to exempt houses from slab and foundation insulation requirements as this is a heavy termite infestation area, and these kinds of insulation can allow termites access to walls. This practice has a long history and is consistent with BCCC recommendations.

Cieling or Attic R-Value: The 2012 Code recommends an increase in Attic insulation from R-38 to R-49, and in the case of an "Energy Band" truss, R-38 is allowed. The EEC Recommends that this requirement, which may result in reduced mechanical equipment size if properly implemented, will be cost effective. Contractors using proper "Manual J" Calculations will reduce equipment size, thus reduce overall building cost and energy use compared to the old Code. This reduced HVAC

equipment size can directly reduce electric utility demand charges, reaping benefits to the City Utility as well as to the consumer. This is not in agreement with BCCC recommendations.

Air Leakage: The 2012 Code requires a blower door test on all new houses to determine air leakage. The EEC would agree with BCCC that a relaxed standard which requires a visual inspection of air leakage control measures during construction is feasible. The blower door test should be allowed as an option at the discretion of the Building Inspector in questionable or disputed cases.

Duct Leakage: The 2012 Code requires a duct pressure test on all new houses to determine duct leakage. Mechanical contractors are more aware of leakage requirements, and testimony shows they are taking care to seal ductwork. The EEC would agree with the BCCC that a relaxed standard which requires a visual inspection of duct leakage control measures during construction be allowed. The duct pressure test should be allowed as an option at the discretion of the Building Inspector in questionable or disputed cases.

Outdoor Air Duct: The EEC agrees with the BCCC recommendation of a single outside air duct, with insect screen and damper, routed to the furnace return air intake to satisfy Section R303 and M1507 Mechanical Ventilation requirements. This duct should be 4" for houses less than 1500 square feet, 6" for houses less than 2400 square feet, and 8" for larger houses. If there are multiple furnaces, the requirements may be applied to the area served by the furnace, or to one of the multiple furnaces as long as the furnace is properly sized to handle the additional heating or cooling load imposed by the outside air. The duct should be placed as to discharge into the return air filter, to reduce allergens or dust from outdoors.

Building Cavities as Return Air The EEC agrees with the BCCC that building cavities may be used as return air cavities without full duct lining, as long as leakage to outside air, attics, or unconditioned spaces is prevented by visually inspection.

High Efficacy Lamps: The EEC recommends that the 2012 requirement that 75 percent of the *lamps* in light fixtures be high efficacy type, be changed to read 75 percent of the *fixtures* be high efficacy. This allows a few multiple bulb fixtures, such as candelabras, to be conventional bulbs, while retaining the requirement for high efficacy bulbs in most areas. Previously the 2009 amendment changed *shall* to *should* in this paragraph.

Programmable Thermostats: The 2012 Code specifies that the initial heating setpoint shall be 70F and the cooling setpoint be 78F. The EEC recommends that this paragraph be changed from *shall* to *should,* which makes the requirement non-mandatory.

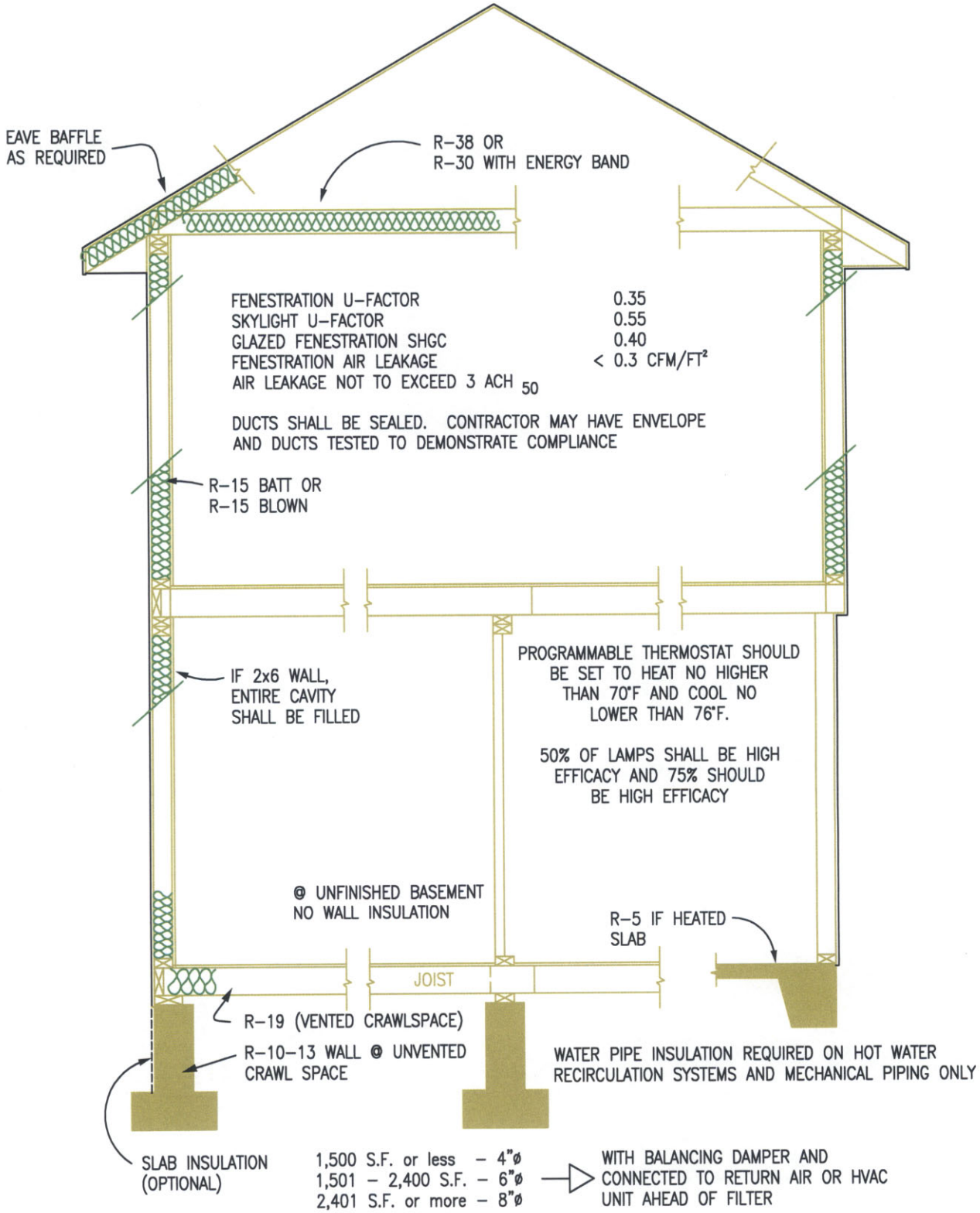
Respectfully Yours,

Karl Skala,

Chair

Environment and Energy Commission

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY CODE REQUIREMENTS DIAGRAM



THIS SHEET IS NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST. SEE IRC CHAPTER 11 FOR FULL REQUIREMENTS

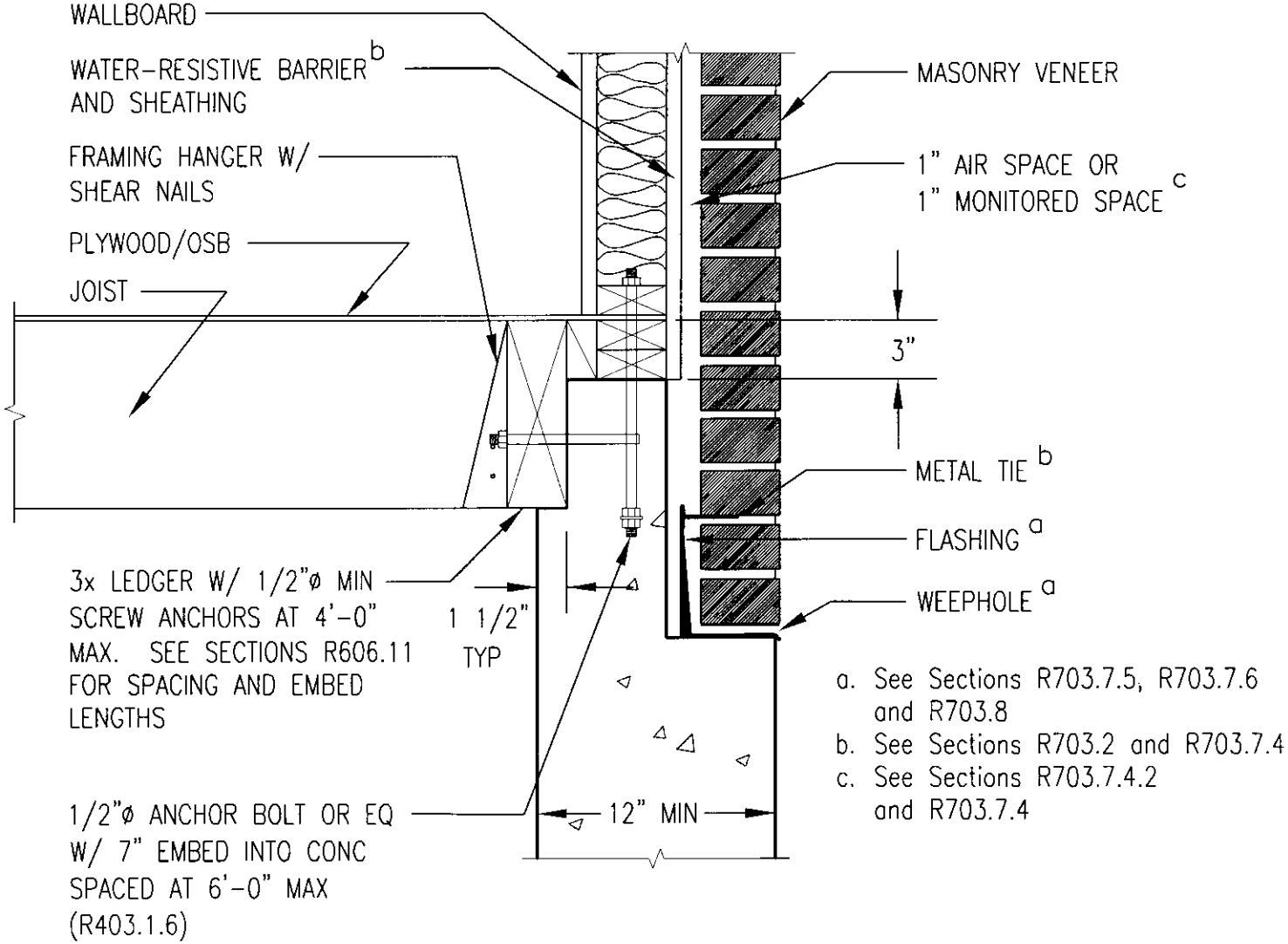
ALTERNATIVE 1.1
Joist Perpendicular to Wall W/ Brick

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls

Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

*This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.



a. See Sections R703.7.5, R703.7.6 and R703.8
b. See Sections R703.2 and R703.7.4
c. See Sections R703.7.4.2 and R703.7.4

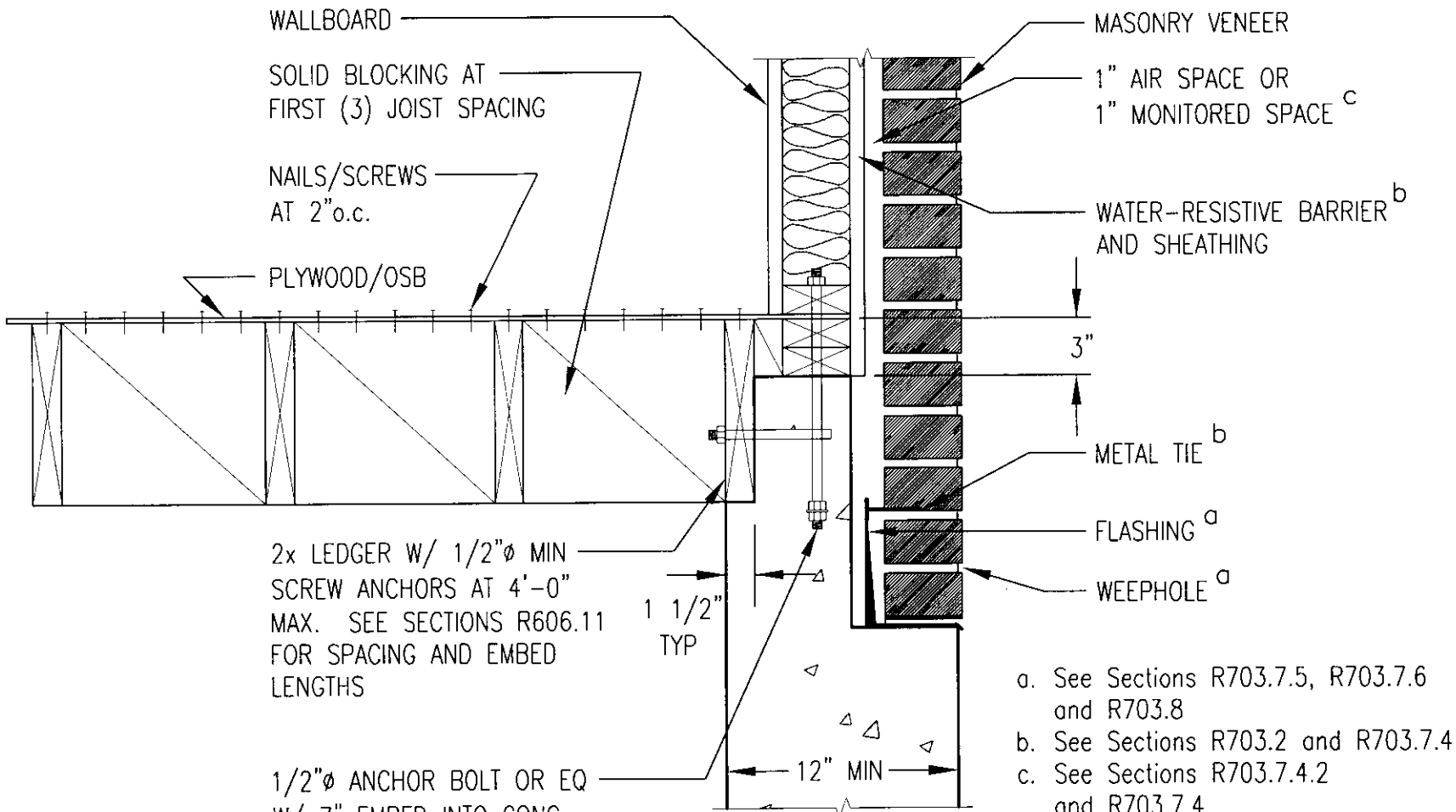
ALTERNATIVE 1.2

Joist Parallel to Wall W/ Brick

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls
Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

*This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.



a. See Sections R703.7.5, R703.7.6 and R703.8
b. See Sections R703.2 and R703.7.4
c. See Sections R703.7.4.2 and R703.7.4

ALTERNATIVE 1.3

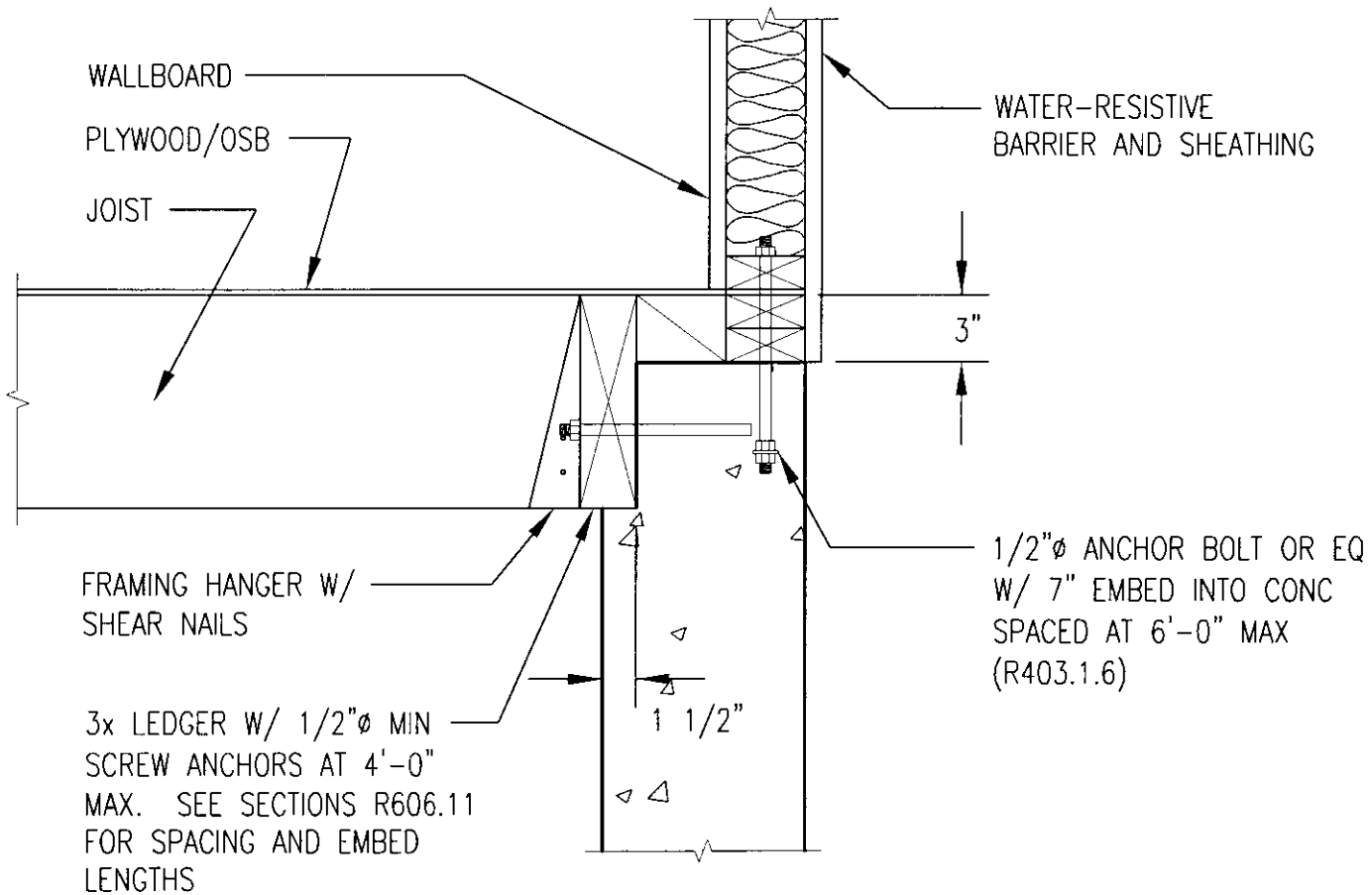
Joist Perpendicular to Wall W/O Brick

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls

Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.



ALTERNATIVE 1.4

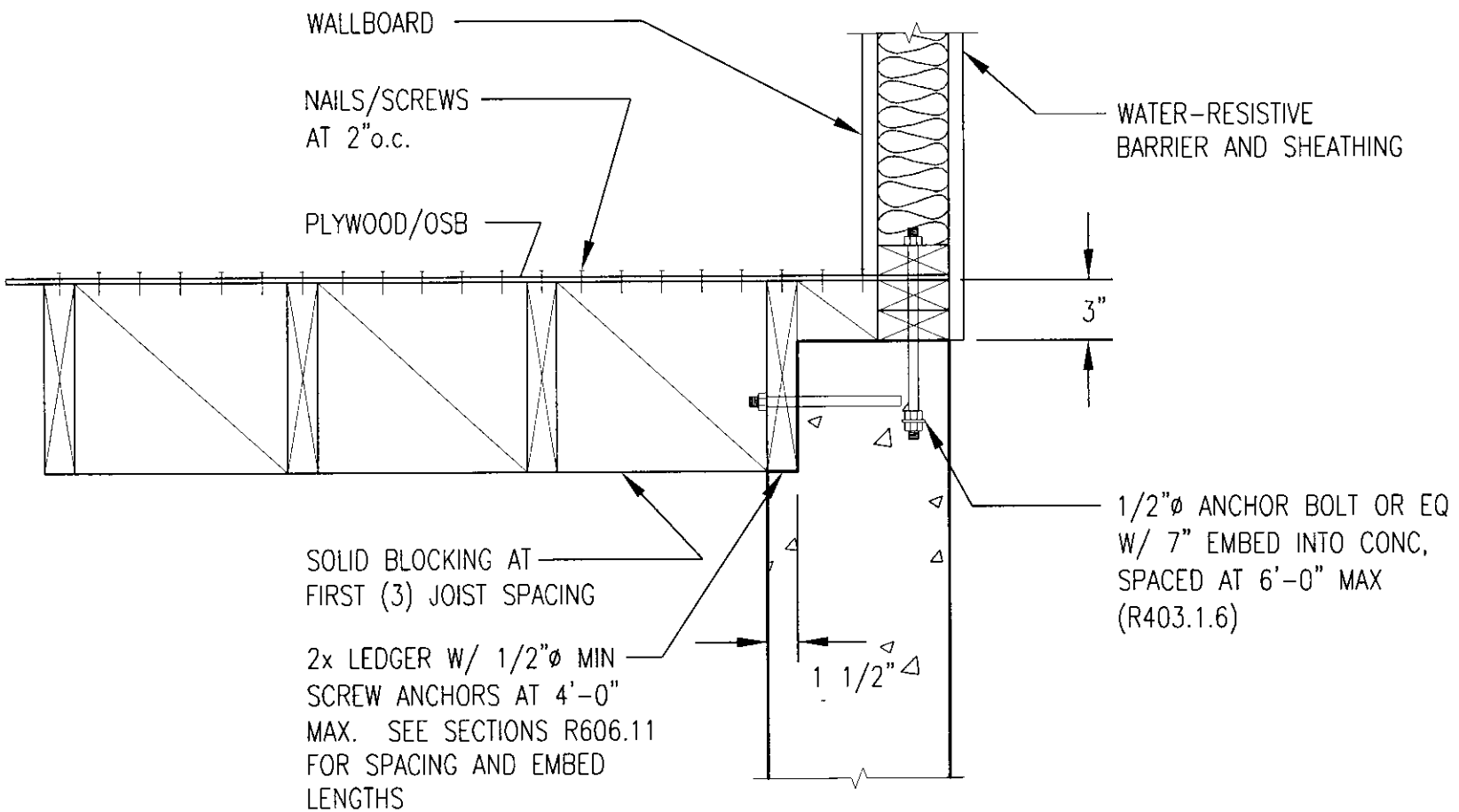
Joist Parallel to Wall W/O Brick

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls

Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.



ALTERNATIVE 2.1

Joist Perpendicular to Wall

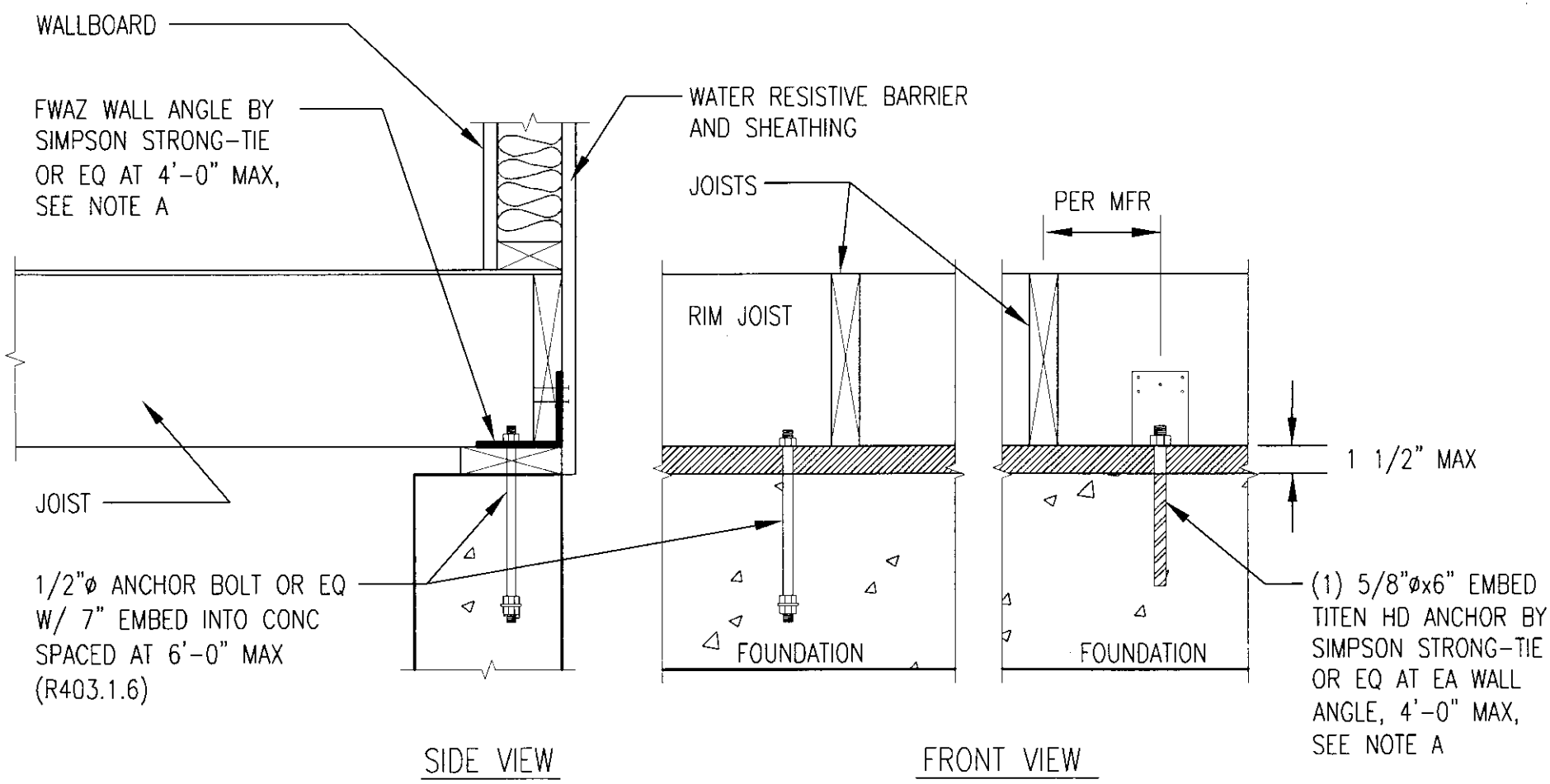
2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls

Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.

NOTE A: Refer to the manufacturers tables for required spacing and placement of FWAZ wall angles



ALTERNATIVE 2.2

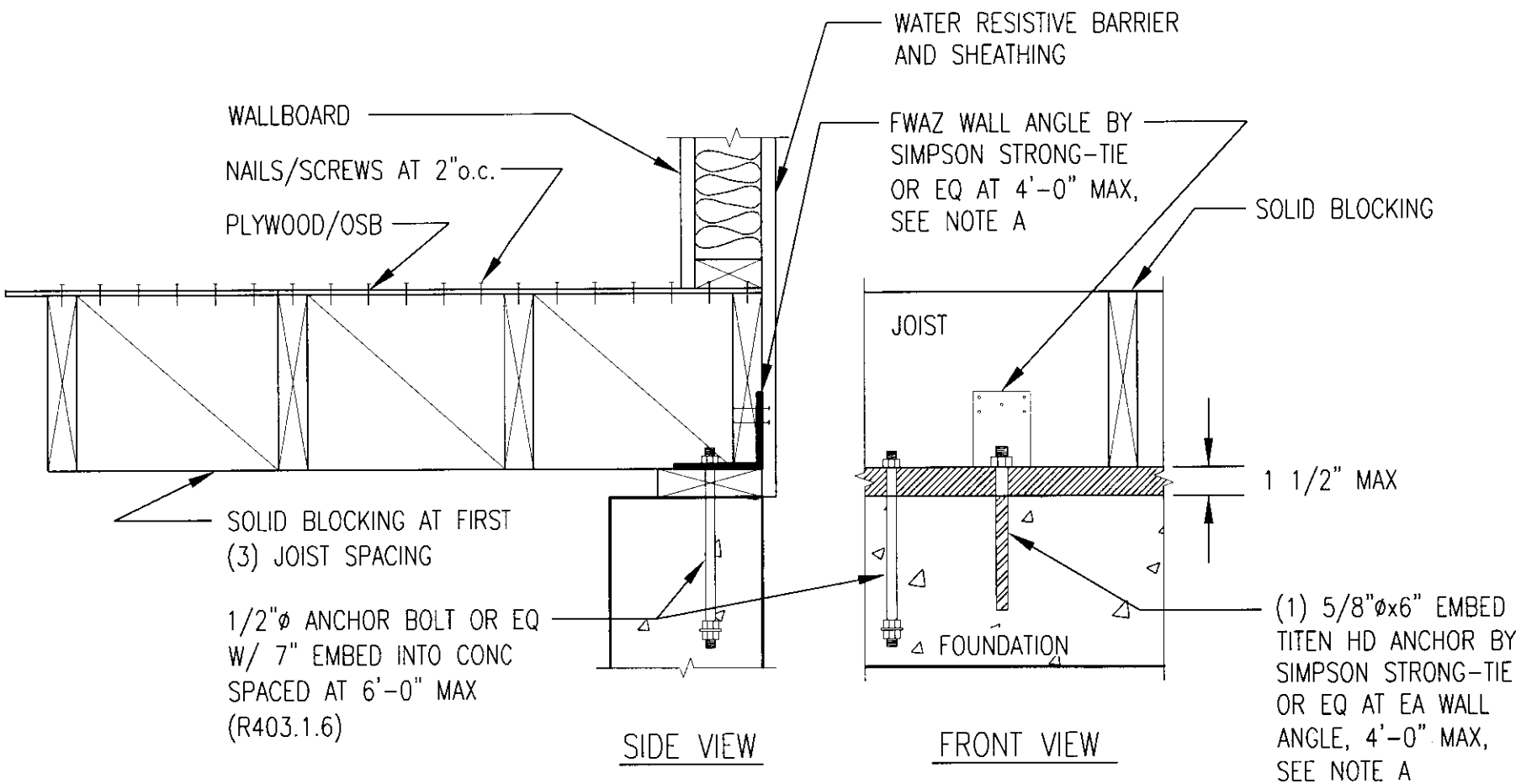
Joist Parallel to Wall

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls
Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.

NOTE A: Refer to the manufacturers tables for required spacing and placement of FWAZ wall angles



ALTERNATIVE 3.1

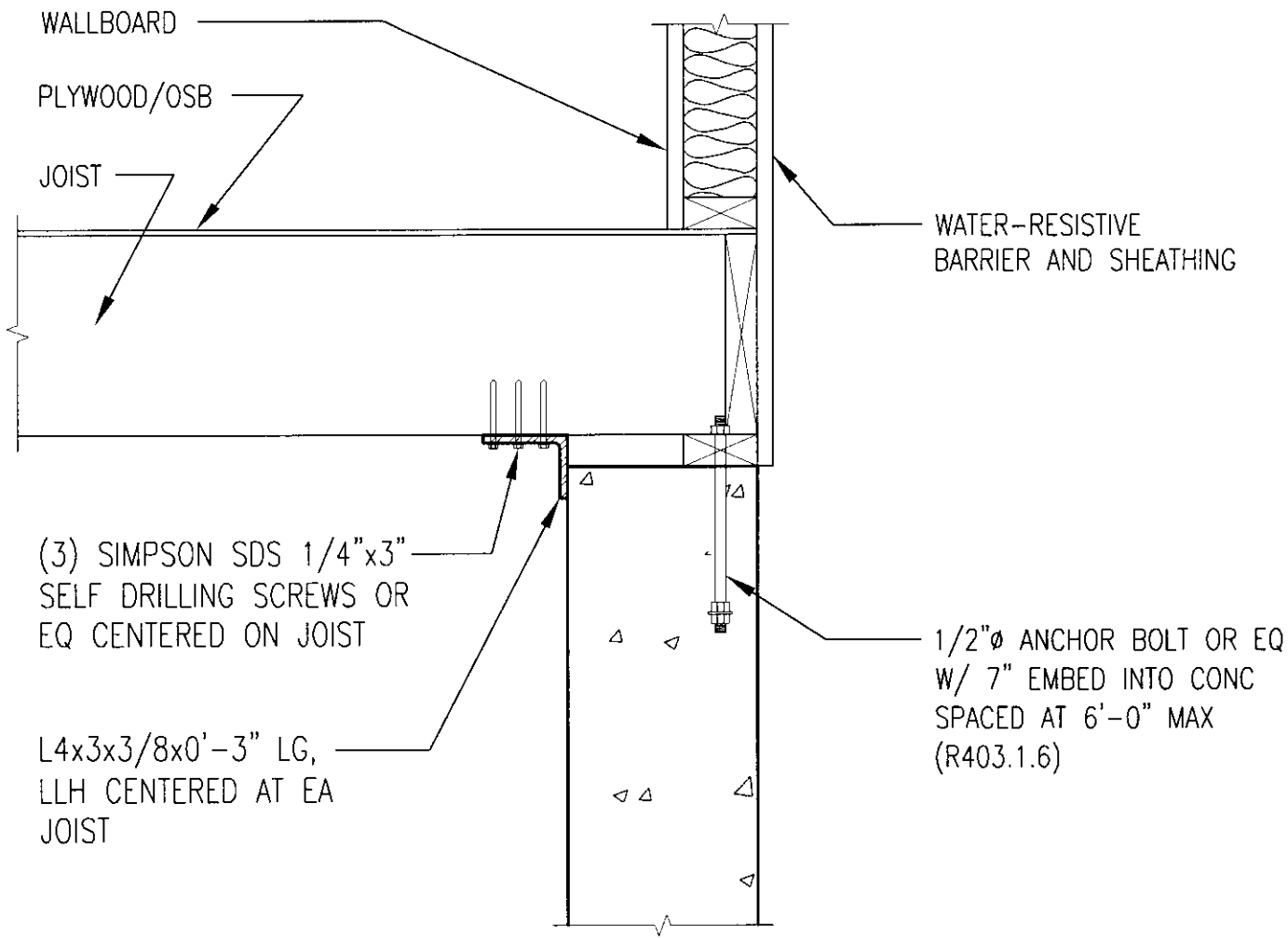
Joist Perpendicular to Wall W/O Brick

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls

Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.



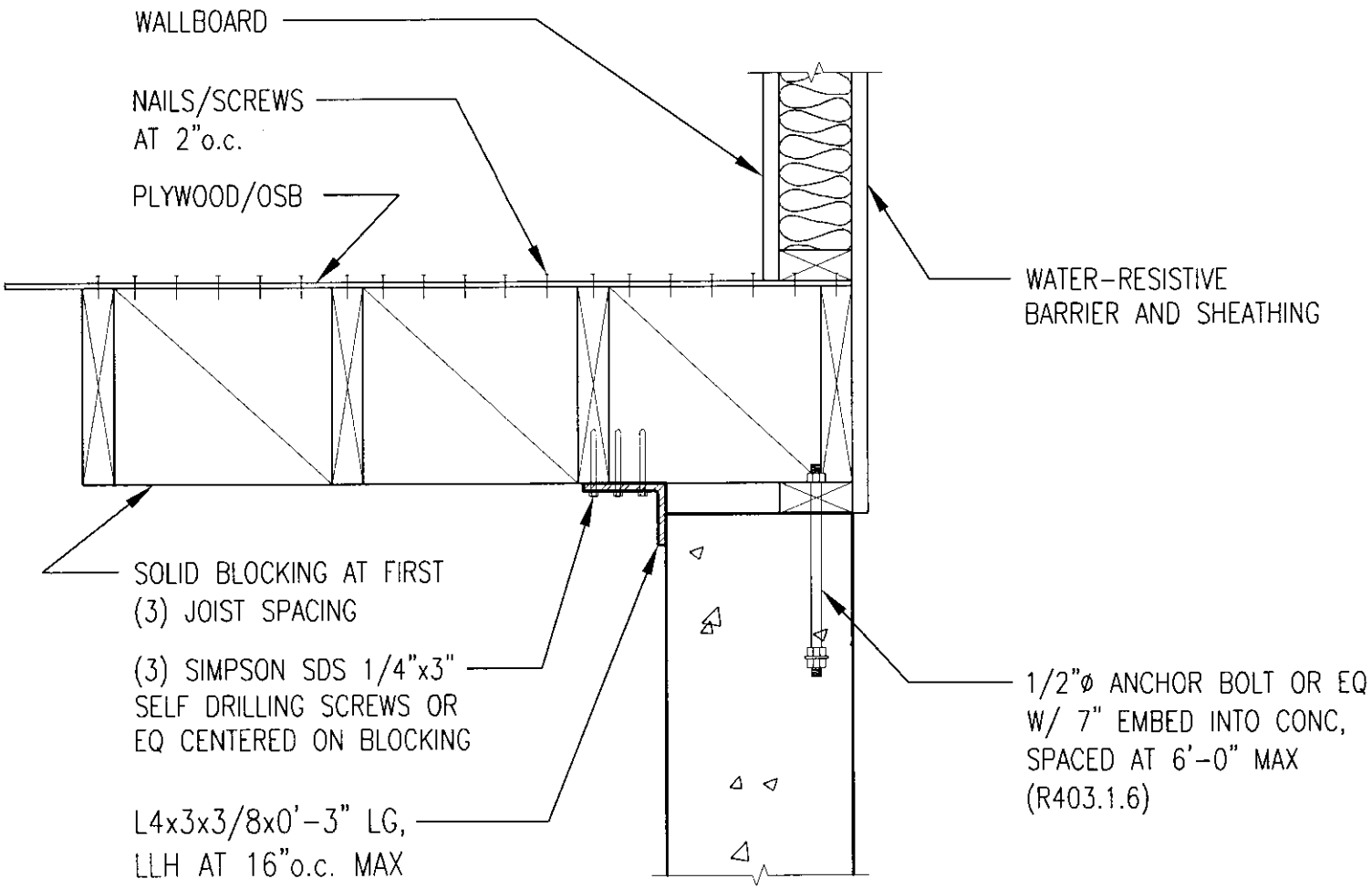
ALTERNATIVE 3.2

Joist Parallel to Wall W/O Brick

2012 IRC

Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls
Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

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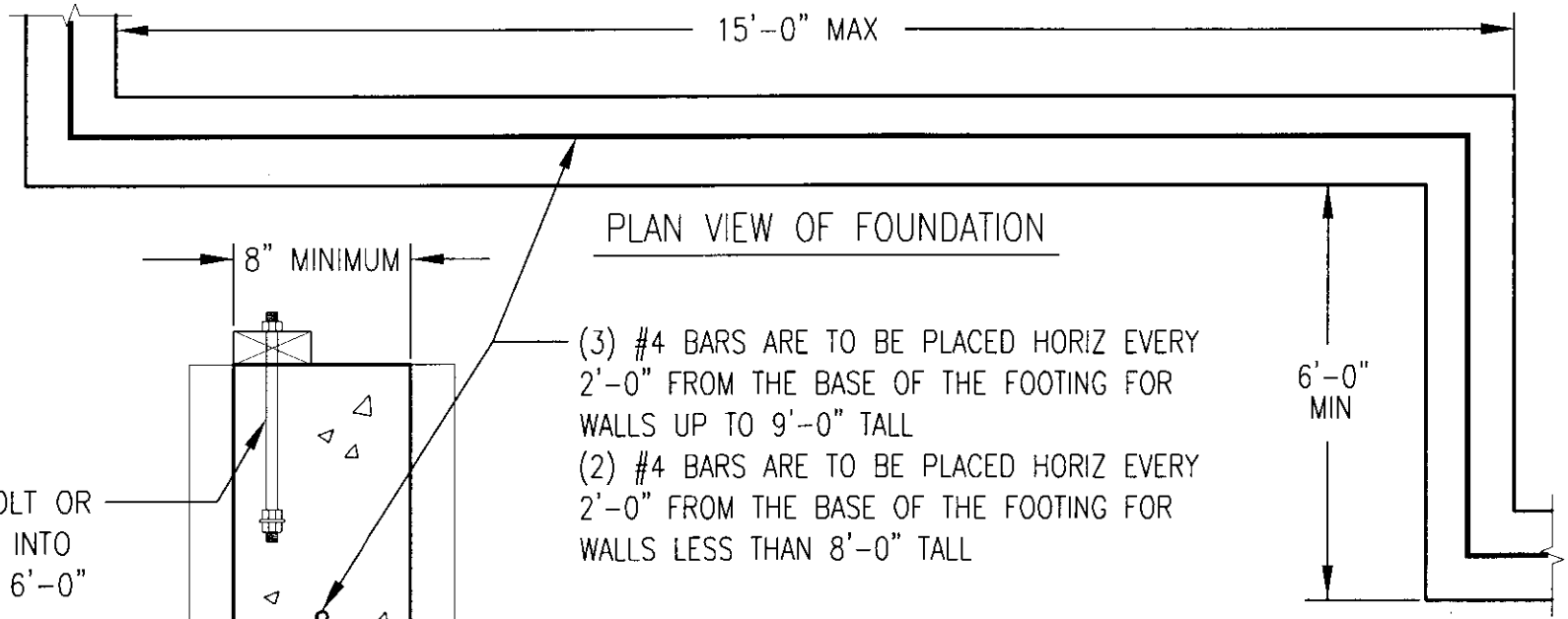
ALTERNATIVE 4

2012 IRC

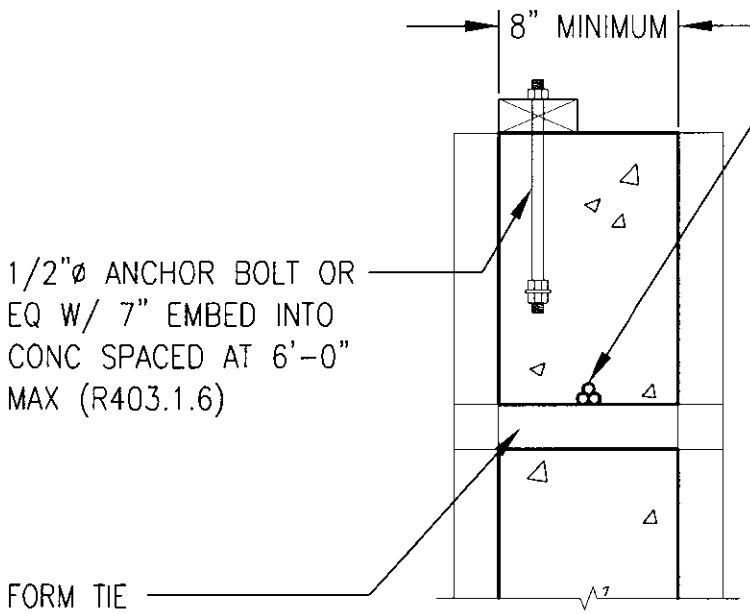
Section R404 Foundations and Retaining Walls

Section R404.1 Concrete and Masonry Foundation Walls

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.



PLAN VIEW OF FOUNDATION



CROSS SECTION OF FOUNDATION WALL

(3) #4 BARS ARE TO BE PLACED HORIZ EVERY 2'-0" FROM THE BASE OF THE FOOTING FOR WALLS UP TO 9'-0" TALL

(2) #4 BARS ARE TO BE PLACED HORIZ EVERY 2'-0" FROM THE BASE OF THE FOOTING FOR WALLS LESS THAN 8'-0" TALL

NOTES:

1. (3) #4 BARS CAN BE REPLACED BY (1) #7
2. (2) #4 BARS CAN BE REPLACED BY (1) #6
3. MIN 48 BAR DIAMETER LAP SPLICES
4. GRADE 60 STEEL REINFORCEMENT

FOUNDATION DRAINAGE

FIGURE R405.1

2012 IRC

Section R405 Foundation Drainage

Section R406 Foundation Waterproofing and Dampproofing

* This figure is provided as an example. This in not an all inclusive list of code requirements.

** Either a filter fabric sock around draintile or filter fabric on the gravel shall be required, not both unless desired by the contractor.

