

## **MAJOR CHANGES 2007 CODE UPDATES**

### **Building Code**

1. Fire protection of exterior walls and windows has been changed for Single Family Dwellings (SFD). The new code requires protection for buildings within 5 feet of property line. The old code requires protection for buildings within 3 feet of property line.
2. Under the new code, soils report is required for all projects with footing improvement located within Seismic Design Category D, E or F. The old code has exemption for single story SFD.
3. Termite resistant floor framing is now required under the new code. The old code has no requirements.
4. Smoke detectors in bedrooms and hallways are required for any projects with improvements over \$1,000.00. The old code has exemption for exterior improvements such as re-roofing or stucco.
5. The new code has fire protection requirements for Exterior Wildfire Exposure. The old code has requirements for Special Fire Protection Areas. The new code has fire protection on all four sides of the buildings and protection for gap between roof tiles. The old code has fire protection on exposed side (the side facing wildfire).
6. Retaining walls are required to include seismic force under the new code. The old code was silent and it was left to professional engineering judgment.
7. The new code is more stringent on seismic safety requirements than the old code.
8. The new code requires 5% grade away from the building for 10 feet and the old code has 2% grade for 5 feet.
9. The new ordinance has requirement for fire sprinkler in non-residential buildings over 5,000 sf. The old ordinance has a limit of 6,000 sf.
10. The new ordinance allows increase in floor area or building height (number of stories) when fire sprinkler system is provided. The building code allows increase in both floor area and building height.

### **Plumbing Code**

1. The new code allows CPVC (Chlorinated Poly Vinyl Chloride) for pipes used in potable water system. The old code did not allow the use.

### **Electrical Code**

1. Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupters are required in dwelling unit bedrooms. This requirement became effective after the adoption of the old Electrical Code.