

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

## County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2021 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. **16**

### Bill No. 71 -2021

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT adopting the International Building Code, 2021, the International Residential Code, 2021, the International Mechanical Code, 2021, and the International Energy Conservation Code, 2021; providing that such codes collectively comprise the Howard County Building Code; regulating the design, construction, alteration, improvement, or modification of a building, structure, or other related equipment; adopting certain local amendments to the Building Code; adopting penalties for the violation of the Building Code; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to the regulation of building and construction in Howard County.

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Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2021. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 at \_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the  
2 Howard County Code is amended as follows:

3 *By repealing and reenacting:*

4 *Title 3. Buildings.*

5 *Subtitle 1. Building Code.*

6 *Section 3.100. Howard County Building Code; adoption of international codes.*

7

8 *Title 3. Buildings.*

9 *Subtitle 1. Building Code.*

10 *Section 3.101. Amendments to the International Building Code, 2021 Edition.*

11

12 *Title 3. Buildings.*

13 *Subtitle 1. Building Code.*

14 *Section 3.102. Amendments to the International Residential Code, 2021 Edition.*

15

16 *Title 3. Buildings.*

17 *Subtitle 1. Building Code.*

18 *Section 3.103. Amendments to the International Mechanical Code, 2021 Edition.*

19

20 *Title 3. Buildings.*

21 *Subtitle 1. Building Code.*

22 *Section 3.104. Amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code, 2021*  
23 *Edition.*

24

25 **Title 3. Buildings.**

26 **Subtitle 1. Building code.**

27

28 **SECTION 3.100. HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE; ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL**  
29 **CODES.**

30 (A) *IN GENERAL.* EXCEPT AS AMENDED IN SECTIONS 3.101, 3.102, 3.103, AND 3.104 OF  
31 THIS SUBTITLE, THE CODES ENUMERATED IN THIS SECTION ARE HEREBY ADOPTED AS

1 THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE AS IF THE CODES WERE SET OUT IN FULL IN  
2 THIS SECTION.

3 (B) *ADOPTED CODES.*

4 (1) THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021 EDITION, PUBLISHED BY THE  
5 INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC.

6 (2) THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY  
7 DWELLINGS, 2021 EDITION, PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE  
8 COUNCIL, INC.

9 (3) THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, 2021 EDITION, PUBLISHED BY  
10 THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC.

11 (4) THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, 2021 EDITION,  
12 PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC.

13 (5) THE LIFE SAFETY CODE, 2021 EDITION, PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL FIRE  
14 PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

15 (6) THE HOWARD COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE  
16 3, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

17 (7) THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED  
18 PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

19 (8) THE MARYLAND STATE ACCESSIBILITY CODE.

20 (9) THE HOWARD COUNTY SIGN CODE, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 3,  
21 SUBTITLE 5 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

22

23 **SECTION 3.101. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021**  
24 **EDITION.**

25 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

26 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE TERM “THIS CODE” MEANS THE  
27 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021 EDITION.

28 (2) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM “BUILDING OFFICIAL” MEANS THE  
29 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS  
30 OR THE DIRECTOR’S AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE.

- 1 (3) WHERE THE NAME OF THE JURISDICTION IS TO BE INDICATED IN ANY  
2 SECTION OF THIS CODE, INSERT “HOWARD COUNTY”.
- 3 (4) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM “DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY”  
4 MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS.
- 5 (B) *LOCAL AMENDMENTS.* THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
6 OF THE ADOPTED CODE.
- 7 (1) *SUBSECTION 101.1 TITLE.*  
8 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.
- 9 (2) *SUBSECTION 101.2 SCOPE.*  
10 DELETE THE EXCEPTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:  
11 **EXCEPTION 1:** DETACHED ONE-FAMILY AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND  
12 MULTIPLE SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS (TOWNHOUSES) NOT MORE THAN  
13 THREE STORIES HIGH WITH SEPARATE MEANS OF EGRESS AND THEIR  
14 ACCESSORY STRUCTURES SHALL COMPLY WITH THE INTERNATIONAL  
15 RESIDENTIAL CODE AND SECTION 3114 OF CHAPTER 31, SPECIAL  
16 CONSTRUCTION, OF THIS CODE.  
17 **EXCEPTION 2:** AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CODE  
18 SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, ADDITION, REPAIR,  
19 REMOVAL, DEMOLITION, USE, LOCATION OR MAINTENANCE OF  
20 AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS. THIS PROVISION DOES NOT EXEMPT THE OWNER  
21 OF AN AGRICULTURAL BUILDING FROM OBTAINING REQUIRED ELECTRICAL  
22 OR PLUMBING PERMITS OR FROM COMPLYING WITH ALL OTHER APPLICABLE  
23 LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS, LAWS AND ORDINANCES.
- 24 (3) *SUBSECTION 101.3.1 NATURE OF CERTAIN ACTIONS.*  
25 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.3.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.3 AS FOLLOWS:  
26 **101.3.1. NATURE OF CERTAIN ACTIONS.** THE PURPOSE OF ACTIONS TAKEN  
27 BY THE JURISDICTION PURSUANT TO THIS CODE IS PURELY GOVERNMENTAL  
28 IN NATURE AND ARE CONDUCTED SOLELY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.  
29 ACTIONS TAKEN PURSUANT TO THIS CODE ARE NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS  
30 PROVIDING ANY WARRANTY OF DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION TO ANY PERSON.
- 31 (4) *SUBSECTION 101.4 REFERENCED CODES.*

1 IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH, DELETE “101.4.7” AND SUBSTITUTE “101.4.11”.

2 (5) *SUBSECTION 101.4.1 GAS.*

3 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.1 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

4 **101.4.1 GAS.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE*” IS  
5 USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR HOWARD  
6 COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

7 (6) *SUBSECTION 101.4.2 MECHANICAL.*

8 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.2 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

9 **101.4.2 MECHANICAL.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL*  
10 *MECHANICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE MECHANICAL CODE OF  
11 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.103 OF THIS  
12 SUBTITLE.

13 (7) *SUBSECTION 101.4.3 PLUMBING.*

14 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.3 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

15 **101.4.3 PLUMBING.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING*  
16 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
17 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE AND  
18 WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CODE*” IS  
19 USED IT SHALL MEAN HOWARD COUNTY WATER AND SEWER REGULATIONS  
20 ADOPTED IN TITLE 18, SUBTITLE 1, SUBTITLE 12, AND SUBTITLE 15 AND IN  
21 TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

22 (8) *SUBSECTION 101.4.4 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.*

23 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.4 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

24 **101.4.4 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.** WHENEVER THE TERM  
25 “*INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE*” IS USED IT SHALL MEAN  
26 THE HOWARD COUNTY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE FOR RENTAL  
27 HOUSING ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 7 OF THIS TITLE.

28 (9) *SUBSECTION 101.4.5 FIRE PREVENTION.*

29 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.5 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

30 **101.4.5 FIRE PREVENTION.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FIRE*  
31 *PREVENTION CODE*” IS USED IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE

1 PREVENTION CODE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 17.104 OF THE  
2 HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

3 (10) *SUBSECTION 101.4.6 ENERGY.*

4 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.6 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

5 **101.4.6 ENERGY.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL ENERGY*  
6 *CONSERVATION CODE*” IS USED IT SHALL MEAN THE ENERGY CONSERVATION  
7 CODE OF HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.104 OF THIS  
8 SUBTITLE.

9 (11) *SUBSECTION 101.4.7 EXISTING BUILDINGS.*

10 DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.7 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

11 **101.4.7 EXISTING BUILDINGS.** EXISTING BUILDINGS UNDERGOING REPAIR,  
12 ALTERATION, ADDITION, OR CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY MAY COMPLY WITH  
13 THE MARYLAND REHABILITATION CODE.

14 (12) *SUBSECTIONS 101.4.8 ELECTRICAL.*

15 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.4.8 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.4.7 AS FOLLOWS:

16 **101.4.8 ELECTRICAL.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*NFPA 70 NATIONAL*  
17 *ELECTRICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR  
18 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS TITLE.

19 (13) *SUBSECTION 101.4.9 ACCESSIBILITY.*

20 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.4.9 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.4.8 AS FOLLOWS:

21 **101.4.9 ACCESSIBILITY.** THE PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND  
22 ACCESSIBILITY CODE SHALL APPLY TO ALL MATTERS AFFECTING  
23 HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY AND USE OF BUILDINGS AND SITES.

24 (14) *SUBSECTION 101.4.10 SIGNS.*

25 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.4.10 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.4.9 AS FOLLOWS:

26 **101.4.10 SIGNS.** THE PROVISIONS OF SUBTITLE 5 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY  
27 CODE SHALL APPLY TO THE LOCATION, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE  
28 OF SIGNS IN HOWARD COUNTY.

29 (15) *SUBSECTION 101.4.11 RESIDENTIAL CODE.*

30 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.4.11 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.4.10 AS FOLLOWS:

1 **101.4.11 RESIDENTIAL.** WHENEVER THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL*  
2 *RESIDENTIAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE RESIDENTIAL CODE FOR  
3 ONE-AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS OF HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED  
4 PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.102 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

5 (16) *SECTION 103 CODE COMPLIANCE AGENCY.*

6 DELETE THE TITLE OF THIS SECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING AS  
7 THE NEW TITLE:

8 **“SECTION 103**  
9 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY”**

10 (17) *SUBSECTION 103.1 CREATION OF ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.*

11 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

12 **103.1 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.** THE HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
13 INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE  
14 PROVISIONS OF THIS CODE. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
15 INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS OR THE DIRECTOR’S AUTHORIZED  
16 DESIGNEE SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

17 (18) *SUBSECTION 103.2 APPOINTMENT.*

18 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.

19 (19) *SUBSECTION 103.3 DEPUTIES.*

20 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.

21 (20) *SUBSECTION 104.1.1 RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY.*

22 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 104.1.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 104.1 AS FOLLOWS:

23 **104.1.1 RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY.** IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC HEALTH,  
24 SAFETY, AND GENERAL WELFARE, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ADOPT  
25 RULES AND REGULATIONS TO INTERPRET AND IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS  
26 OF THIS CODE. RULES AND REGULATIONS SHALL NOT WAIVE STRUCTURAL  
27 OR FIRE PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS  
28 CODE. RULES AND REGULATIONS SHALL NOT VIOLATE ACCEPTED  
29 ENGINEERING PRACTICES INVOLVING PUBLIC SAFETY.

30 (21) *SUBSECTION 104.8.1 LEGAL DEFENSE.*

1 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS SUBSECTION, DELETE “LEGAL  
2 REPRESENTATION OF THE JURISDICTION UNTIL THE FINAL TERMINATION OF  
3 THE PROCEEDINGS” AND SUBSTITUTE “HOWARD COUNTY IN ACCORDANCE  
4 WITH MARYLAND LAW”.

5 (22) *SUBSECTION 104.10.1 FLOOD HAZARD AREAS.*

6 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.

7 (23) *SUBSECTION 105.1.1 ANNUAL PERMIT.*

8 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

9 **105.1.1. MASTER PERMIT.** INSTEAD OF AN INDIVIDUAL PERMIT FOR EACH  
10 ALTERATION TO AN ALREADY APPROVED BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, FIRE, GAS,  
11 MECHANICAL, OR PLUMBING INSTALLATION, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY  
12 ISSUE A MASTER PERMIT UPON APPLICATION BY ANY PERSON, FIRM, OR  
13 CORPORATION REGULARLY EMPLOYING ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED  
14 PROFESSIONAL OR TRADESPERSON IN THE BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR ON THE  
15 PREMISES OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE APPLICANT.

16 (24) *SUBSECTION 105.1.2 ANNUAL PERMIT RECORDS.*

17 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

18 **105.1.2. MASTER PERMIT RECORDS.** A PERSON WHO IS ISSUED A MASTER  
19 PERMIT SHALL KEEP A DETAILED RECORD OF ALTERATIONS MADE UNDER  
20 THE MASTER PERMIT. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL HAVE ACCESS TO THE  
21 RECORDS AT ALL TIMES OR THE RECORDS SHALL BE FILED WITH THE  
22 BUILDING OFFICIAL. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY PERIODICALLY INSPECT  
23 WORK THAT HAS BEEN PERFORMED UNDER A MASTER PERMIT.

24 (25) *SUBSECTION 105.1.2.1 BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE MANUAL.*

25 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 105.1.2.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 105.1.2 AS FOLLOWS:

26 **105.1.2.1. BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE MANUAL.** AN  
27 APPLICANT FOR A MASTER PERMIT SHALL PROVIDE TO THE BUILDING  
28 OFFICIAL A BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE MANUAL THAT  
29 SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

30 (i) A STATEMENT OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT WILL BE  
31 USED TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THE ALTERATION AND



- 1 RENOVATION PROCESS TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE HOWARD  
2 COUNTY CODE;
- 3 (II) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE APPLICANT ASSURES CODE  
4 COMPLIANCE BY ADHERING TO WRITTEN PROCEDURES OF QUALIFIED  
5 PERSONS TO PERFORM THE SCOPE OF THE WORK COVERED BY THE  
6 APPLICATION;
- 7 (III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE APPLICANT’S PROCESS FOR PLAN  
8 DEVELOPMENT, PLAN REVIEW, AND INSPECTION;
- 9 (IV) A DESCRIPTION OF THE MEANS TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE  
10 PROTECTION ELEMENTS OF THE BUILDING AND SYSTEMS AFFECTED  
11 BY THE PROPOSED ALTERATION OR RENOVATION; AND
- 12 (V) IF APPLICABLE, A STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE FOR ACCESSIBILITY.
- 13 (26) *SUBSECTION 105.2 WORK EXEMPT FROM PERMIT.* IN THE SUBSECTION TITLED  
14 “BUILDING”:
- 15 (I) IN ITEM 1, DELETE “120 SQUARE FEET (11 M<sup>2</sup>)” AND SUBSTITUTE  
16 “200 SQUARE FEET WITH A ROOF EAVE HEIGHT OF NOT MORE THAN  
17 10 FT”;
- 18 (II) IN ITEM 4, DELETE “4 FEET (1219 MM)” AND SUBSTITUTE “3 FEET”  
19 AND DELETE “BOTTOM OF THE FOOTING” AND SUBSTITUTE “LOWEST  
20 ADJACENT GRADE”;
- 21 (III) IN ITEM 6, AFTER “ADJACENT GRADE”, DELETE THE REST OF THE  
22 SENTENCE;
- 23 (IV) IN ITEM 11, DELETE “ACCESSORY TO DETACHED ONE- AND TWO-  
24 FAMILY DWELLINGS”;
- 25 (V) IN ITEM 12, DELETE “IN GROUP R-3 AND U OCCUPANCIES,” AND  
26 DELETE “54 INCHES (1372 MM)” AND SUBSTITUTE “48 INCHES”; AND
- 27 (VI) ADD THE FOLLOWING AS ITEM 14 AT THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION:  
28 14. THE FOLLOWING WORK ON EXISTING SINGLE-FAMILY  
29 DWELLINGS:  
30 A. EXTERIOR:

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1. REPLACEMENT OF ROOF COVERINGS WITH NO OTHER STRUCTURAL REPAIRS.  
EXCEPTION: UP TO 64 SQUARE FOOT OF ROOF SHEATHING;
  2. INSTALLATION OF SIDING, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ALUMINUM OR VINYL SIDING;
  3. INSTALLATION OF FASCIA, SOFFIT TRIM, GUTTERS, OR DOWNSPOUTS;
  4. REPLACEMENT OF WINDOWS OR DOORS WHEN THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE ROUGH OPENING SIZE;
  5. INSTALLATION OF CANVAS OR FIXED AWNINGS;
  6. REPLACEMENT OF EXTERIOR LIGHTING FIXTURES; OR
  7. CONSTRUCTION OR INSTALLATION OF DETACHED FREESTANDING DECKS THAT ARE LESS THAN 25 SQUARE FEET IN AREA AND LESS THAN 30 INCHES ABOVE GRADE.
- B. INTERIOR:
1. INSTALLATION OF RADON SYSTEMS;
  2. PAINTING, WALLPAPERING, OR FLOOR COVERING;
  3. INSTALLATION OF KITCHEN OR BATHROOM CABINETS, COUNTER TOPS, APPLIANCES, OR FIXTURES;
  4. REPLACEMENT OF PANELING OR WALLBOARD;
  5. REPLACEMENT OF DOORS WHEN THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE ROUGH OPENING SIZE;
  6. INSTALLATION OF INSULATION;
  7. INSTALLATION OF BURGLAR, FIRE, AND OTHER ALARM SYSTEMS AND SMOKE DETECTORS;
  8. REPLACEMENT OF CEILING FANS, LIGHT FIXTURES, OR RECEPTACLES.
- C. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES:

- 1 1. ONE STORY DETACHED ACCESSORY STRUCTURES
- 2 LESS THAN 200 SQUARE FEET IN AREA INCLUDING,
- 3 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, STORAGE SHEDS, KIOSKS,
- 4 GAZEBOS, ARBORS, OR PLAYHOUSES;
- 5 2. INSTALLATION OF GREENHOUSES;
- 6 3. INSTALLATION OF TENTS OR CANOPIES;
- 7 4. INSTALLATION OF FENCES UNLESS THE FENCE IS
- 8 OVER 7 FEET HIGH OR ENCLOSES A SWIMMING POOL;
- 9 OR
- 10 5. INSTALLATION OF MAILBOXES.

11 D. SITE WORK:

- 12 1. PAVING DRIVEWAYS;
- 13 2. INSTALLATION OF PATIOS, SIDEWALKS, OR
- 14 LANDSCAPING;
- 15 3. INSTALLATION OF RETAINING WALLS THAT ARE 3
- 16 FEET OR LESS IN HEIGHT MEASURED FROM THE
- 17 LOWEST ADJACENT GRADE TO THE TOP OF THE WALL;
- 18 OR
- 19 4. INSTALLATION OF FLAGPOLES OR FLAGPOLE BASES.

20 (27) *SUBSECTION 105.3 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT.*

21 DELETE THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE  
22 FOLLOWING:

23 TO OBTAIN A PERMIT, THE OWNER, OWNER'S AGENT, LESSEE, LESSEE'S  
24 AGENT, OR THE REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYED TO  
25 COMPLETE THE PROPOSED WORK ON A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE SHALL  
26 APPLY FOR A PERMIT. THE APPLICATION SHALL STATE, AS APPLICABLE, THE  
27 FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE OWNER, OWNER'S AGENT, LESSEE,  
28 LESSEE'S AGENT, AND THE REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYED  
29 TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED WORK. IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT AN  
30 INDIVIDUAL, SUCH AS, WITHOUT LIMITATION, A PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED  
31 PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, OR OTHER

1 SUCH ENTITY, THE APPLICATION SHALL STATE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF  
2 THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE BUSINESS INCLUDING, BUT  
3 NOT LIMITED TO, PARTNERS, DIRECTORS, OR OFFICERS. SUCH APPLICATION  
4 SHALL:

5 (28) *SUBSECTION 105.8. CONTRACTOR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS IN RESIDENTIAL*  
6 *ONE AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS:*

7 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 105.8 AFTER SUBSECTION 105.7 AS FOLLOWS:

8 **SECTION 105.8 CONTRACTOR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS IN**  
9 **RESIDENTIAL ONE AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS:**

10 HOMEOWNERS OF ONE AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS, AS DEFINED BY THE  
11 HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE, MAY ACT AS THEIR OWN GENERAL  
12 CONTRACTOR FOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS IF THEY OWN THE  
13 PROPERTY IN QUESTION AND THE PROPERTY IS THEIR PRIMARY RESIDENCE. IF  
14 THE PROPERTY IS RENTAL PROPERTY, OR NOT THEIR PRIMARY RESIDENCE,  
15 THEN THEY MUST HAVE A MARYLAND HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS  
16 LICENSE OR A MARYLAND HOME BUILDERS LICENSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
17 THE STATE OF MARYLAND LICENSING LAWS.

18 (29) *SECTION 106 FLOOR AND ROOF DESIGN LOADS*

19 DELETE THIS SECTION.

20 (30) *SUBSECTION 107.2.1.1. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED.*

21 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 107.2.1.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 107.2.1 AS FOLLOWS:

22 **107.2.1.1 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED.**

23 (i) DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR DETACHED ONE- OR TWO-FAMILY  
24 DWELLINGS INCLUDING NEW CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATIONS, MINOR  
25 ADDITIONS, OR OTHER STRUCTURES SHALL INCLUDE THE  
26 FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

27 A. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBSECTION,  
28 2 SETS OF CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS DRAWN TO SCALE  
29 WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY AND DETAIL TO SHOW THE  
30 NATURE AND CHARACTER OF THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED  
31 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

- 1 1. PLANS OF EACH FLOOR LEVEL;
- 2 2. 4 ELEVATIONS AND TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS; AND
- 3 3. 4 COPIES OF PLOT PLANS OR 1 COPY OF THE
- 4 APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHEN A SITE
- 5 DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS REQUIRED BY THE HOWARD
- 6 COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS.
- 7 B. 1. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY WAIVE THE
- 8 REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH A OF THIS
- 9 SUBSECTION FOR:
  - 10 I. ALTERATIONS; OR
  - 11 II. OTHER STRUCTURES ACCESSORY TO A ONE-
  - 12 OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLING CONTAINING
  - 13 LESS THAN 200 SQUARE FEET IN AREA.
- 14 2. WHERE WAIVED, THE APPLICATION SHALL BE
- 15 ACCOMPANIED BY 4 COPIES OF PLOT PLANS OR 1
- 16 COPY OF THE APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
- 17 WHEN A SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS REQUIRED BY
- 18 THE HOWARD COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS.
- 19 (II) EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN ITEMS B AND C OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH,
- 20 DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR NEW NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS,
- 21 ADDITIONS, OR ALTERATIONS TO BUILDINGS OTHER THAN DETACHED
- 22 ONE- OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
- 23 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
  - 24 A. 3 COMPLETE SETS OF ARCHITECTURAL, STRUCTURAL,
  - 25 MECHANICAL (INCLUDING HEATING, VENTILATION, AND AIR
  - 26 CONDITIONING), PLUMBING, AND ELECTRICAL
  - 27 CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS. THE DOCUMENTS SHALL:
    - 28 1. BE DRAWN TO SCALE WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY AND
    - 29 DETAIL TO SHOW THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF
    - 30 THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED;
    - 31 2. BE PREPARED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS CODE; AND

1 3. BEAR THE SEAL, SIGNATURE, AND DATE OF THE  
2 APPROPRIATE MARYLAND STATE PROFESSIONAL  
3 ENGINEER OR ARCHITECT THAT SHALL BE AFFIXED TO  
4 ALL SHEETS OF ALL SETS AND AT LEAST ONE SET  
5 SHALL BEAR THE ORIGINAL SEAL, SIGNATURE, AND  
6 DATE.

7 B. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ALLOW MECHANICAL,  
8 ELECTRICAL, OR PLUMBING DRAWINGS TO BE SIGNED BY THE  
9 LICENSED CONTRACTOR DOING THE PROPOSED WORK. THE  
10 CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE THEIR NAME, LICENSE  
11 NUMBER, DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER, AND DATE OF  
12 SIGNATURE. EACH SET OF PLANS SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED  
13 BY A COPY OF THE APPROVED AND SIGNED SITE  
14 DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHEN A SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS  
15 REQUIRED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY SUBDIVISION  
16 REGULATIONS.

17 C. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
18 PLANS SUBMITTED IF THE WORK IS OF A MINOR INTERIOR OR  
19 NONSTRUCTURAL NATURE.

20 (31) *SUBSECTION 107.2.6.2 SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS,*  
21 *TITLE 16 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.*

22 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 107.2.6.2 AFTER SUBSECTION 107.2.6.1 AS  
23 FOLLOWS:

24 **107.2.6.2 SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TITLE**  
25 **16 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.** IF A SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS  
26 REQUIRED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS, A PERMIT  
27 SHALL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL THE SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS APPROVED  
28 UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING.

29 (32) *SUBSECTION 109.2 SCHEDULE OF PERMIT FEES.*

30 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

1           **109.2 SCHEDULE OF PERMIT FEES.** THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL  
2 ANNUALLY ADOPT, BY RESOLUTION, A SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR BUILDING,  
3 ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, MECHANICAL, FIRE PROTECTION, AND GRADING  
4 PERMITS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND  
5 PERMITS.

6           (33)   *SUBSECTION 109.2.1 FEE EXEMPTIONS.*

7           ADD NEW SUBSECTION 109.2.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 109.2 AS FOLLOWS:

8           **109.2.1 FEE EXEMPTIONS.** WORK ON BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES OWNED  
9 OR OPERATED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT, HOWARD  
10 COMMUNITY COLLEGE, HOWARD COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE  
11 CORPORATIONS, THE HOWARD COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, OR THE  
12 HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ARE EXEMPT FROM PERMIT FEES.

13          (34)   *SUBSECTION 109.5.1 REINSPECTION FEES.*

14          ADD NEW SUBSECTION 109.5.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 109.5 AS FOLLOWS:

15          **109.5.1 REINSPECTION FEES.** A REINSPECTION FEE SHALL BE CHARGED  
16 FOR EACH REINSPECTION IF THE WORK HAS TO BE REINSPECTED BECAUSE:

- 17           (I)       THE WORK WAS NOT READY FOR INSPECTION AT THE PRE-ARRANGED  
18                    TIME FOR INSPECTION;
- 19           (II)      THE INSPECTOR DID NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE WORK AT THE PRE-  
20                    ARRANGED TIME FOR INSPECTION;
- 21           (III)     THE INSPECTOR HAD TO RETURN MORE THAN ONCE TO INSPECT A  
22                    CORRECTION OF THE SAME VIOLATION OF THIS CODE; OR
- 23           (IV)     THE INSPECTOR DISCOVERS A FLAGRANT NON-COMPLIANCE DURING  
24                    A REQUESTED INSPECTION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
- 25                    A.       CUT OR BROKEN TRUSSES OR JOISTS;
- 26                    B.       MISSING LOAD BEARING STUDS; OR
- 27                    C.       THE OMISSION OF FIRE STOPPING.

28          (35)   *SUBSECTION 110.3 REQUIRED INSPECTIONS.*

29          DELETE THE SENTENCE THAT BEGINS “THE *BUILDING OFFICIAL*” AND  
30          SUBSTITUTE: AFTER ISSUING A BUILDING PERMIT, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
31          SHALL CONDUCT INSPECTIONS FROM TIME TO TIME DURING AND UPON

1 COMPLETION OF THE WORK FOR WHICH THE PERMIT HAS BEEN ISSUED.  
2 RECORDS OF INSPECTIONS AND VIOLATIONS SHALL BE MAINTAINED BY THE  
3 BUILDING OFFICIAL. AN INSPECTION MAY INCLUDE ANY OF THE  
4 INSPECTIONS AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS 110.3.1 THROUGH 110.3.12 OF  
5 THIS SECTION.

6 (36) *SUBSECTION 111.1 CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY.*

7 AFTER THE FIRST SENTENCE, INSERT THE FOLLOWING:

8 IF THERE IS AN APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND GRADING HAS  
9 OCCURRED, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL NOT ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF  
10 USE AND OCCUPANCY UNLESS THE PERMITTEE SUBMITS A CERTIFICATION BY  
11 A REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR THAT THE SITE GRADING AND DRAINAGE  
12 COURSES ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT  
13 PLAN. IF THERE IS NOT AN APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND  
14 GRADING HAS OCCURRED, THE PERMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT A CERTIFICATION  
15 BY A REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR THAT THE SITE GRADING AND DRAINAGE  
16 COURSES ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROVED EROSION AND SEDIMENT  
17 CONTROL PLAN AND GRADING PLAN. THE CERTIFICATION SHALL BE  
18 SUBMITTED TO THE COUNTY. THE FINE GRADING AND SOIL STABILIZATION  
19 MAY BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING GROWING SEASON UPON THE  
20 POSTING OF ADEQUATE SURETY EQUAL TO THE COST TO COMPLETE THE  
21 GRADING AND STABILIZATION.

22 (37) *SUBSECTION 111.2 CERTIFICATE ISSUED.*

23 AFTER "OCCUPANCY" INSERT A PERIOD AND DELETE THE REMAINDER OF  
24 THIS SECTION.

25 (38) *SECTION 113 BOARD OF APPEALS.*

26 DELETE THIS SECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

27 **SECTION 113 MEANS OF APPEAL.**

28 **113.1 APPLICATION FOR APPEAL.** EXCEPT FOR A NOTICE OF VIOLATION, A  
29 PERSON MAY APPEAL THE APPROVAL, DENIAL, REVOCATION, SUSPENSION,  
30 OR EXTENSION OF A PERMIT TO A HEARING EXAMINER OF THE HOWARD  
31 COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS. AN APPLICATION FOR AN APPEAL SHALL BE



1                   BASED ON A CLAIM THAT THIS CODE HAS BEEN INCORRECTLY INTERPRETED,  
2                   THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CODE DO NOT APPLY, OR AN EQUALLY GOOD OR  
3                   BETTER FORM OF CONSTRUCTION IS PROPOSED. A NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
4                   MAY NOT BE APPEALED.

5                   **113.2 BOARD OF APPEALS.** THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS’  
6                   HEARING EXAMINER SHALL HEAR AND DECIDE APPEALS IN ACCORDANCE  
7                   WITH THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE HOWARD  
8                   COUNTY CODE. NEITHER THE BOARD OF APPEALS’ HEARING EXAMINER  
9                   NOR THE BOARD OF APPEALS SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY TO WAIVE  
10                  REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE.

11                  (39)    *SUBSECTION 114.2 NOTICE OF VIOLATION.*

12                  AMEND THIS SUBSECTION AS FOLLOWS:

13                  (I)     INSERT “OWNER OR” BEFORE “PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR”; AND

14                  (II)    ADD THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE TO THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION:

15                         A NOTICE OF VIOLATION MAY BE SERVED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING  
16                         METHODS:

17                         A.     PERSONAL SERVICE;

18                         B.     CERTIFIED OR REGISTERED MAIL, RESTRICTED DELIVERY,  
19                         RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED;

20                         C.     FIRST CLASS MAIL TO THE OWNER’S ADDRESS AS STATED IN  
21                         THE RECORDS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS  
22                         AND TAXATION; OR

23                         D.     WHEN SERVICE IS NOT OBTAINED BY ONE OF THESE  
24                         METHODS, THE NOTICE MAY BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS  
25                         PLACE AT THE JOB SITE.

26                  (40)    *SUBSECTION 114.4 VIOLATION PENALTIES.*

27                  DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

28                  **114.4 VIOLATION PENALTIES.** ALTERNATIVELY, AND IN ADDITION TO AND  
29                  CONCURRENT WITH ALL REMEDIES PROVIDED AT LAW OR IN EQUITY AND AS  
30                  SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION 114.3 OF THIS CODE, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
31                  MAY ENFORCE THIS SUBTITLE WITH CIVIL PENALTIES PURSUANT TO TITLE 24

1 “CIVIL PENALTIES” OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE. EXCEPT FOR A FIRST  
2 VIOLATION OF SECTION 115 OR SECTION 116 OF THIS CODE, A FIRST  
3 VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS A CLASS C OFFENSE. A SUBSEQUENT  
4 VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS A CLASS B OFFENSE. EACH DAY THAT A  
5 VIOLATION CONTINUES IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

6 (41) *SUBSECTION 114.5 WITHHOLDING OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.*

7 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 114.5 AFTER SUBSECTION 114.4 AS FOLLOWS:

8 **114.5 WITHHOLDING OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.** IF THE BUILDING  
9 OFFICIAL FINDS THAT AN OWNER OR PERSON RESPONSIBLE IS IN VIOLATION  
10 OF A PROVISION OF THIS CODE, THIS SUBTITLE, OR ANY REGULATION THAT  
11 IMPLEMENTS THIS CODE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION,  
12 MAINTENANCE, ALTERATION, OR REPAIR OF ANY BUILDING, EQUIPMENT, OR  
13 LAND WITHIN HOWARD COUNTY, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY REFUSE TO  
14 GRANT AN INSPECTION OR PERMIT TO THE CONTRACTOR, DEVELOPER,  
15 OWNER, OR OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE UNTIL ALL VIOLATIONS HAVE BEEN  
16 CORRECTED AND ALL FEES AND FINES HAVE BEEN PAID.

17 (42) *SUBSECTION 115.2.1 SERVICE OF STOP WORK ORDERS.*

18 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 115.2.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 115.2 AS FOLLOWS:

19 **115.2.1 SERVICE OF STOP WORK ORDERS.** A STOP WORK ORDER SHALL BE  
20 SERVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SERVICE PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN  
21 SUBSECTION 114.2 OF THIS CODE.

22 (43) *SUBSECTION 115.3 EMERGENCIES.*

23 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

24 **115.3 UNLAWFUL CONTINUANCE.** A PERSON SHALL NOT PERFORM WORK  
25 AFTER SERVICE OF A STOP WORK ORDER EXCEPT WORK THAT IS PERFORMED  
26 AT THE DIRECTION OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL TO ABATE A VIOLATION OF  
27 THIS CODE OR AN UNSAFE CONDITION.

28 (44) *SUBSECTION 115.4 FAILURE TO COMPLY.*

29 DELETE SUBSECTION 115.4 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

30 **115.4 PROSECUTION FOR FAILING TO STOP WORK.** THE BUILDING  
31 OFFICIAL MAY REQUEST THAT THE OFFICE OF LAW INSTITUTE THE

1 APPROPRIATE PROCEEDING AT LAW OR IN EQUITY TO PREVENT OR RESTRAIN  
2 ANY WORK PERFORMED IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

3 (45) *SUBSECTION 115.5 VIOLATION PENALTIES.*

4 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 115.5 AFTER SUBSECTION 115.4 AS FOLLOWS:

5 **115.5 VIOLATION PENALTIES.** ALTERNATIVELY, AND IN ADDITION TO AND  
6 CONCURRENT WITH THE REMEDIES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION 115.4, THE  
7 BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ENFORCE THIS SECTION PURSUANT TO TITLE 24,  
8 “CIVIL PENALTIES” OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE. A VIOLATION OF THIS  
9 SECTION IS A CLASS B OFFENSE. EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES  
10 IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

11 (46) *SUBSECTION 116.6 DISREGARDING NOTICE.*

12 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 116.6 AFTER SUBSECTION 116.5 AS FOLLOWS:

13 **116.6 DISREGARDING NOTICE.** FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A NOTICE  
14 ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION IS A VIOLATION OF THIS CODE.

15 (47) *SUBSECTION 116.7 PROSECUTION.*

16 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 116.7 AFTER SUBSECTION 116.6 AS FOLLOWS:

17 **116.7 PROSECUTION.** THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY REQUEST THAT THE  
18 OFFICE OF LAW INSTITUTE THE APPROPRIATE PROCEEDING AT LAW OR IN  
19 EQUITY TO PREVENT OR RESTRAIN ANY WORK PERFORMED IN VIOLATION OF  
20 THIS SECTION.

21 (48) *SUBSECTION 116.8 VIOLATION PENALTIES.*

22 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 116.8 AFTER SUBSECTION 116.7 AS FOLLOWS:

23 **116.8 VIOLATION PENALTIES.** ALTERNATIVELY, AND IN ADDITION TO AND  
24 CONCURRENT WITH THE REMEDIES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION 116.6, THE  
25 BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ENFORCE THIS SECTION PURSUANT TO TITLE 24,  
26 “CIVIL PENALTIES” OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE. A VIOLATION OF THIS  
27 SECTION IS A CLASS B OFFENSE. EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES  
28 IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

29 (49) *SECTION 117 EMERGENCY MEASURES.*

30 ADD NEW SECTION 117 AFTER SECTION 116 AS FOLLOWS:

31 **SECTION 117 EMERGENCY MEASURES.**

1 **117.1 IMMINENT DANGER.** WHENEVER THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
2 DETERMINES THAT THERE IS AN EMERGENCY OR IMMINENT DANGER OF  
3 FAILURE OR COLLAPSE OF A BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR ANY PART OF A  
4 BUILDING OR STRUCTURE THAT ENDANGERS LIFE, OR WHEN ANY BUILDING,  
5 STRUCTURE, OR PART OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE HAS FALLEN AND LIFE  
6 IS ENDANGERED BY THE OCCUPATION OF THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, THE  
7 BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ORDER AN OCCUPANT TO VACATE THE BUILDING  
8 OR STRUCTURE. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL POST A NOTICE AT EACH  
9 ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. THE NOTICE SHALL STATE AS  
10 FOLLOWS: "THIS STRUCTURE IS UNSAFE AND ITS OCCUPANCY HAS BEEN  
11 PROHIBITED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL." EXCEPT FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
12 MAKING A REQUIRED REPAIR OR DEMOLISHING THE BUILDING OR  
13 STRUCTURE, A PERSON SHALL NOT ENTER THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE.

14 **117.2 TEMPORARY SAFEGUARDS.** WHENEVER THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
15 DETERMINES THAT THERE IS IMMINENT DANGER DUE TO AN UNSAFE  
16 CONDITION, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY CAUSE THE NECESSARY WORK TO  
17 BE DONE TO MAKE THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE TEMPORARILY SAFE,  
18 WHETHER OR NOT THE LEGAL PROCEDURE AS SET FORTH IN THIS CODE HAS  
19 BEEN INSTITUTED.

20 **117.3 CLOSING STREETS AND BUILDINGS.** IF NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC  
21 SAFETY, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY TAKE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING  
22 ACTIONS:

- 23 (I) TEMPORARILY CLOSE A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE;
- 24 (II) CLOSE OR ORDER THE JURISDICTION TO CLOSE A SIDEWALK, STREET,  
25 PUBLIC WAY, OR PLACE ADJACENT TO AN UNSAFE BUILDING OR  
26 STRUCTURE; OR
- 27 (III) PROHIBIT THE USE OF A SIDEWALK, STREET, PUBLIC WAY, OR PLACE  
28 ADJACENT TO AN UNSAFE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE.

29 **117.4. DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES.**  
30 WHENEVER THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DETERMINES THAT THERE IS IMMINENT  
31 DANGER DUE TO AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY

1 CAUSE THE STRUCTURE TO BE DEMOLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
2 118 OF THIS CODE.

3 **117.5 EMERGENCY REPAIRS.** FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, THE  
4 BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY EMPLOY THE NECESSARY LABOR AND MATERIALS  
5 TO PERFORM THE REQUIRED WORK AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

6 **117.6 COST OF EMERGENCY REPAIRS.** COSTS INCURRED IN THE  
7 PERFORMANCE OF EMERGENCY WORK MAY BE PAID FROM THE TREASURY OF  
8 THE JURISDICTION. THE OFFICE OF LAW SHALL INSTITUTE APPROPRIATE  
9 ACTION TO SEEK REIMBURSEMENT AGAINST THE OWNER OF THE PREMISES  
10 WHERE THE UNSAFE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE IS OR WAS LOCATED FOR THE  
11 COST OF THE REPAIRS OR ACTIONS NECESSARY TO MAKE THE PREMISES  
12 SAFE.

13 **117.7 UNSAFE EQUIPMENT.** WHENEVER THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
14 DETERMINES THAT EQUIPMENT IS UNSAFE, THE EQUIPMENT SHALL NOT BE  
15 OPERATED AFTER THE DATE STATED IN THE NOTICE UNLESS THE REQUIRED  
16 REPAIRS, REPLACEMENT, OR CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE AND THE  
17 EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED OR UNLESS THE BUILDING OFFICIAL HAS  
18 AGREED, IN WRITING, TO AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO MAKE THE REQUIRED  
19 REPAIRS, REPLACEMENT, OR CHANGES.

20 **117.7.1 AUTHORITY TO SEAL EQUIPMENT.** IN THE CASE OF AN  
21 EMERGENCY, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY IMMEDIATELY SEAL OUT OF  
22 SERVICE ANY UNSAFE DEVICE OR EQUIPMENT REGULATED BY THIS CODE.

23 **117.7.2 UNLAWFUL TO REMOVE SEAL.** ANY DEVICE OR EQUIPMENT  
24 SEALED OUT OF SERVICE BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL BE PLAINLY  
25 IDENTIFIED IN AN APPROVED MANNER. EXCEPT BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL,  
26 THE IDENTIFICATION SHALL NOT BE TAMPERED WITH, DEFACED, OR  
27 REMOVED. THE IDENTIFICATION SHALL INDICATE THE REASON FOR THE  
28 SEALING OF THE EQUIPMENT.

29 (50) *SECTION 118 DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES.*

30 ADD NEW SECTION 118 AFTER SECTION 117 AS FOLLOWS:

1                   **SECTION 118 DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES.**

2                   **118.1 SERVICE CONNECTIONS.** BEFORE A STRUCTURE IS DEMOLISHED OR  
3                   REMOVED, THE OWNER OR AGENT SHALL NOTIFY ALL UTILITIES HAVING  
4                   SERVICE CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE STRUCTURE INCLUDING, BUT NOT  
5                   LIMITED TO, WATER, ELECTRIC, GAS, OR SEWER. A PERMIT TO DEMOLISH OR  
6                   REMOVE A STRUCTURE SHALL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL A RELEASE IS OBTAINED  
7                   FROM THE UTILITIES. THE RELEASE SHALL STATE THAT THE UTILITY’S  
8                   RESPECTIVE SERVICE CONNECTIONS AND APPURTENANT EQUIPMENT, SUCH  
9                   AS METERS AND REGULATORS, HAVE BEEN REMOVED, SEALED, OR PLUGGED  
10                  IN A SAFE MANNER.

11                  **118.2 NOTICE TO ADJOINING OWNERS.** A PERMIT TO REMOVE OR  
12                  DEMOLISH A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE MAY BE GRANTED IF WRITTEN NOTICE  
13                  HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE APPLICANT TO THE OWNERS OF ADJOINING LOTS  
14                  AND TO THE OWNERS OF WIRED OR OTHER FACILITIES THAT MAY NEED TO BE  
15                  TEMPORARILY REMOVED DUE TO THE PROPOSED WORK.

16                  **118.3 LOT REGULATION.** WHENEVER A STRUCTURE IS DEMOLISHED OR  
17                  REMOVED, THE PREMISES SHALL BE MAINTAINED FREE FROM ALL UNSAFE OR  
18                  HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS BY THE PROPER REGULATION OF THE LOT,  
19                  RESTORATION OF ESTABLISHED GRADES, AND THE ERECTION OF THE  
20                  NECESSARY RETAINING WALLS AND FENCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
21                  PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 33 OF THIS CODE.

22                  (51)    *SUBSECTION 406.2.7 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS AND SYSTEMS.*

23                                 DELETE THE LAST SENTENCE.

24                  (52)    *SUBSECTION: 406.2.7.1 NUMBER OF ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE SPACES.*

25                                 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 406.2.7.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 406.2.7 AS FOLLOWS:  
26                                 AT LEAST ONE OF EACH TYPE OF ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING SYSTEM,  
27                                 SHALL BE ACCESSIBLE.

28                  (53)    *SUBSECTION 406.2.7.2 VEHICLE SPACE SIZE.*

29                                 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 406.2.7.2 AFTER SUBSECTION 406.2.7.1 AS FOLLOWS:  
30                                 THE ACCESSIBLE EV SPACE SHALL COMPLY WITH SECTIONS 502.2 THROUGH  
31                                 502.5 OF THE 2010 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ACCESSIBILITY

1 GUIDELINE (ADAAG) STANDARD. NO SIGNAGE REQUIRED IDENTIFYING THE  
2 SPACE AS ACCESSIBLE.

3 (54) *SUBSECTION 411.5 PUZZLE ROOM EXITING.*

4 DELETE ITEM #3 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

5 ALL EXITS AND EXIT ACCESS DOORS FROM EACH PUZZLE ROOM SHALL BE  
6 OPEN AND READILY AVAILABLE UPON ACTIVATION BY THE AUTOMATIC FIRE  
7 ALARM SYSTEM, AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM, A MANUAL CONTROL AT A  
8 CONSTANTLY ATTENDED LOCATION AND SHALL HAVE A READILY ACCESSIBLE  
9 CONTROL LOCATED INSIDE EACH PUZZLE ROOM.

10 (55) *SUBSECTION 703.5 MARKING AND IDENTIFICATION.*

11 AMEND ITEM 1 AS FOLLOWS:

12 (I) DELETE “WITHIN 15 FEET (4572 MM) OF THE END OF EACH WALL  
13 AND”;

14 (II) DELETE “30 FEET (914 MM)” AND SUBSTITUTE “10 FEET (3048  
15 MM)”;

16 (III) AFTER “WALL OR PARTITION” INSERT “ON BOTH SIDES”; AND

17 (56) *SUBSECTIONS 903.2.1.1 GROUP A-1; 903.2.1.3 GROUP A-3; AND 903.2.1.4*  
18 *GROUP A-4.*

19 DELETE ITEM NUMBER 2 IN EACH SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE  
20 FOLLOWING IN EACH INSTANCE:

21 2. THE FIRE AREA HAS A CALCULATED OCCUPANT LOAD OF 100 OR MORE;

22 OR

23 (57) *SUBSECTION 903.2.1.6 ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES ON ROOFS.*

24 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE DELETE “300” AND SUBSTITUTE “100”.

25 (58) *903.2.1.7 MULTIPLE FIRE AREAS.*

26 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE DELETE “300” AND SUBSTITUTE “100”.

27 (59) *SUBSECTION 903.2.3 GROUP E.*

28 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

29 **903.2.3 GROUP E.** AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM SHALL BE PROVIDED  
30 FOR ALL GROUP E OCCUPANCIES.

1           **EXCEPTION:** AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM IS NOT REQUIRED IF A  
2           STUDENT OCCUPIED AREA HAS A DOOR DIRECTLY TO THE OUTSIDE.

3           (60)   *SUBSECTION 903.2.13 ADDITIONAL SUPPRESSION REQUIREMENTS.*

4           ADD NEW SUBSECTION 903.2.13 AFTER SUBSECTION 903.2.12 AS FOLLOWS:

5           **903.2.13 ADDITIONAL SUPPRESSION REQUIREMENTS.** FIRE SUPPRESSION  
6           SYSTEMS SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR RESIDENTIAL AND NONRESIDENTIAL  
7           BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AS FOLLOWS:

8           **903.2.13.1** IF AN ADDITION OR RENOVATION TO AN EXISTING R-1 OR R-2  
9           BUILDING EXCEEDS 50% OF THE GROSS FLOOR AREA, THE ENTIRE BUILDING  
10          SHALL BE PROTECTED BY AN APPROVED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM.

11          **903.2.13.2** ANY NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR ADDITION TO  
12          AN EXISTING NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING OR STRUCTURE FOR WHICH THE  
13          INITIAL BUILDING PERMIT WAS ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1992, SHALL BE  
14          PROTECTED BY AN AUTOMATIC FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEM.

15          **903.2.13.3 APPLICABLE CONDITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS:**

16          (i)       EXCEPTION: A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE CONTAINING LESS THAN  
17                   5,000 GROSS SQUARE FEET IN FLOOR AREA. THE GROSS SQUARE  
18                   FEET OF A BUILDING OR ADDITION SHALL BE THE SUM TOTAL OF THE  
19                   FLOOR AREA FOR ALL FLOOR LEVELS, BASEMENTS, AND  
20                   SUBBASEMENTS, MEASURED FROM OUTSIDE WALLS, IRRESPECTIVE  
21                   OF THE EXISTENCE OF INTERIOR FIRE-RESISTIVE WALLS, FLOORS, OR  
22                   CEILINGS.

23          (ii)       IF AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING BUILDING EXCEEDS 5,000 GROSS  
24                   SQUARE FEET IN FLOOR AREA, THE ADDITION SHALL COMPLY WITH  
25                   THIS SECTION.

26          (iii)      IF AN ALTERATION TO AN EXISTING BUILDING EXCEEDS 5,000 GROSS  
27                   SQUARE FEET IN FLOOR AREA, THE ALTERATION SHALL COMPLY  
28                   WITH THIS SECTION. IF THE ALTERATION EXCEEDS 50% OF THE  
29                   GROSS FLOOR AREA OF THE BUILDING, THE ENTIRE BUILDING SHALL  
30                   COMPLY WITH THIS SECTION.



1 (IV) IF AN ALTERATION AND ADDITION OCCUR SIMULTANEOUSLY IN A  
2 BUILDING, ARE CONTIGUOUS, AND THE TOTAL AFFECTED FLOOR  
3 AREA EXCEEDS 5,000 GROSS SQUARE FEET IN FLOOR AREA, THE  
4 ENTIRE ALTERATION AND ADDITION AREAS SHALL COMPLY WITH  
5 THIS SECTION.

6 (V) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY GRANT A WAIVER FROM THE  
7 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR AN UNUSUAL BUILDING,  
8 STRUCTURE, OR OCCUPANCY.

9 (VI) A SPRINKLER SYSTEM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE  
10 INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NFPA STANDARD 13, 13D, OR  
11 13R, AS APPLICABLE.

12 (61) *SUBSECTION 903.2.14 HOSE CONNECTIONS.*

13 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 903.2.14 AFTER SUBSECTION 903.2.13 AS FOLLOWS:

14 **903.2.14 HOSE CONNECTIONS.** WHERE FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS ARE  
15 REQUIRED IN GROUP M, S-1 AND F-1 OCCUPANCIES, A 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> INCH HOSE  
16 CONNECTION WITH 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> INCH REDUCERS SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR FIRE  
17 DEPARTMENT USE. HOSE CONNECTIONS SHALL BE PLACED NEAR EXIT  
18 DOORS THAT DO NOT HAVE FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCESS WITHIN 100  
19 FEET. TWO HOSE CONNECTIONS SHALL BE LOCATED NO MORE THAN 200  
20 FEET APART. EXIT DOORS SHALL BE PLACARDED ON THE OUTSIDE TO  
21 INDICATE THE LOCATION OF HOSE CONNECTIONS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT  
22 ACCESS.

23 (62) *SUBSECTION 905.12 PIPING DESIGN.*

24 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 905.12 AFTER SUBSECTION 905.11 AS FOLLOWS:

25 **905.12 PIPING DESIGN.** THE RISER PIPING, SUPPLY PIPING, AND WATER  
26 SERVICE PIPING SHALL BE SIZED TO MAINTAIN A RESIDUAL PRESSURE OF AT  
27 LEAST 100 PSI AT THE TOP MOST OUTLET OF EACH RISER WHILE FLOWING  
28 THE MINIMUM QUANTITY OF WATER AS SPECIFIED IN NFPA 14. THE PIPE  
29 SIZE SHALL BE BASED ON EITHER THE CAPACITY OF THE AUTOMATIC WATER  
30 SUPPLY SYSTEM OR THE SUPPLY OF 1000 GPM AT 150 PSI AT THE FIRE  
31 DEPARTMENT CONNECTION WHERE AN AUTOMATIC WATER SUPPLY IS

1 NEITHER REQUIRED NOR PROVIDED TO MAINTAIN THE RESIDUAL PRESSURE  
2 OF 100 PSI. IF A FIRE PUMP IS REQUIRED TO SUPPLY AN AUTOMATIC  
3 SPRINKLER SYSTEM, THE PUMP SHALL BE SIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS  
4 SECTION.

5 **EXCEPTION:** THE RESIDUAL PRESSURE OF 100 PSI IS NOT REQUIRED IN  
6 BUILDINGS WHERE ALL THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

- 7 (I) THAT ARE EQUIPPED THROUGHOUT WITH AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER  
8 SYSTEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 903.3.1.1 OR 903.3.1.2 OF  
9 THIS CODE;
- 10 (II) WHERE THE HIGHEST FLOOR LEVEL IS NOT MORE THAN 75 FEET  
11 ABOVE THE LOWEST LEVEL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCESS;  
12 AND
- 13 (III) WHERE A PUMP IS NOT REQUIRED TO MEET THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM  
14 DEMAND,

15 (63) *SUBSECTION 910.2 WHERE REQUIRED.*

- 16 (I) IN EXCEPTION NUMBER 1, BEFORE “FROZEN”, INSERT “FOOD  
17 HANDLING FACILITIES AND”; AND
- 18 (II) DELETE EXCEPTIONS 2, AND 3.

19 (64) *SUBSECTION 910.2.2 HIGH PILED COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE.*

- 20 (I) IN THE FIRST SENTENCE, DELETE “TABLE 3206.2 OF THE  
21 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE” AND SUBSTITUTE “TABLE 910.2.2 OF  
22 THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE”.
- 23 (II) INSERT TABLE 910.2.2 AS FOLLOW:

24 TABLE 910.2.2

[F] TABLE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR DRAFT CURTAINS AND SMOKE AND HEAT VENTS<sup>a</sup>

OCCUPANCY GROUP AND COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION	DESIGNATED STORAGE HEIGHT (feet)	MINIMUM DRAFT CURTAIN DEPTH (feet)	MAXIMUM AREA FORMED BY DRAFT CURTAINS (square feet)	VENT-AREA-TO-FLOOR-AREA RATIO <sup>b</sup>	MAXIMUM SPACING OF VENT CENTERS (feet)	MAXIMUM DISTANCE FROM VENTS TO WALL OR DRAFT CURTAIN <sup>c</sup> (feet)
High-piled Storage (see Section 910.2.2) Class I-IV commodities (Option 1)	≤ 20	6	10,000	1:100	100	60
	> 20 ≤ 40	6	8,000	1:75	100	55
High-piled Storage (see Section 910.2.2) Class I-IV commodities (Option 2)	≤ 20	4	3,000	1:75	100	55
	> 20 ≤ 40	4	3,000	1:50	100	50
High-piled Storage (see Section 910.2.2) High-hazard commodities (Option 1)	≤ 20	6	6,000	1:50	100	50
	> 20 ≤ 30	6	6,000	1:40	90	45
High-piled Storage (see Section 910.2.2) High-hazard commodities (Option 2)	≤ 20	4	4,000	1:50	100	50
	> 20 ≤ 30	4	2,000	1:30	75	40

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

a. Additional requirements for rack storage heights in excess of those indicated shall be in accordance with Chapter 52 of the *International Fire Code*. For solid-piled storage heights in excess of those indicated, an approved engineered design shall be used.

b. Vents adjacent to walls or draft curtains shall be located within a horizontal distance not greater than the maximum distance specified in this column as measured perpendicular to the wall or draft curtain that forms the perimeter of the draft curtained area.

c. Where draft curtains are not required, the vent area to floor area ratio shall be calculated based on a minimum draft curtain depth of 6 feet (Option 1).

d. "H" is the height of the vent, in feet, above the floor.

1

(65) *SUBSECTION 910.3.4. VENT OPERATION.*

2

DELETE "AUTOMATIC AND".

3

(66) *CHAPTER 11. ACCESSIBILITY.*

4

DELETE THIS CHAPTER IN ITS ENTIRETY.

5

(67) *SUBSECTION 1210.4 DIAPER CHANGING AMENITY.*

6

ADD NEW SUBSECTION 1210.4 AFTER SUBSECTION 1210.3 AS FOLLOWS:

7

**1210.4 DIAPER-CHANGING AMENITY.**

8

(I) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING OCCUPANCY TYPES:

9

ASSEMBLY GROUP A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, AND A-5, BUSINESS GROUP B, EDUCATIONAL GROUP E, INSTITUTIONAL GROUP I-1, I-2, AND I-4, MERCANTILE GROUP M, RESIDENTIAL GROUP R-1, AND STORAGE GROUP S-2.

10

11

12

13

(II) IN EACH PORTION OF THE OCCUPANCY THAT CONTAINS A PUBLIC TOILET OR BATHROOM, PERSONS OF ALL GENDERS MUST HAVE ACCESS TO A DIAPER-CHANGING STATION OR SIMILAR AMENITY THAT IS SAFE, SANITARY, AND CONVENIENT.

14

15

16

17

(III) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

18

- A. BUILDINGS THAT ALREADY HAVE A NEW BUILDING PERMIT AND ARE NOT UNDERGOING RENOVATIONS;
- B. BUILDINGS UNDERGOING RENOVATIONS IF THE RENOVATIONS DO NOT REQUIRE A BUILDING PERMIT;

19

20

21

22

- 1 C. BUILDINGS THAT PROHIBIT ENTRANCE TO MINORS; AND  
2 D. BUILDINGS FOR WHICH THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DETERMINES  
3 THAT THE INSTALLATION OF A DIAPER-CHANGING FACILITY  
4 OR SIMILAR AMENITY IS NOT FEASIBLE.

5 (68) *SUBSECTION 1608.2 GROUND SNOW LOADS.*

6 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE, AFTER “SHALL BE”, INSERT “40 PSF AND FOR FLAT  
7 ROOFS UP TO 2% SLOPES CAN USE 30 PSF FOR DESIGN REQUIREMENTS”

8 (69) *SUBSECTION 1803.2 INVESTIGATIONS REQUIRED.*

9 INSERT AT THE END OF THE FIRST SENTENCE AFTER “1805.5” “OR WHERE  
10 THE BUILDING EXCEEDS 2 STORIES”.

11 (70) *SUBSECTION 1809.5 FROST PROTECTION.*

12 DELETE EXCEPTION NUMBER 2 AND SUBSTITUTE “2. AREA OF 400 SQUARE  
13 FEET OR LESS;”.

14 (71) *SUBSECTION 1809.5.2 FROST LINE.*

15 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 1809.5.2 AFTER SUBSECTION 1809.5.1 AS FOLLOWS:  
16 **1809.5.2 FROST LINE.** THE FROST LINE SHALL BE AT LEAST 30 INCHES  
17 BELOW FINISHED GRADE.

18 (72) DELETE CHAPTERS 28 THROUGH 29.

19 (73) *SUBSECTION 3001.3 REFERENCED STANDARDS.*

20 ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE END OF THE SUBSECTION:

21 **EXCEPTION:** THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND ELEVATOR  
22 CODE, ASME A17.1, SAFETY CODE FOR ELEVATORS AND ESCALATORS, AS  
23 ADOPTED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SHALL APPLY TO  
24 ELEVATORS AND CONVEYING SYSTEMS.

25 (74) *SUBSECTION 3107.1 GENERAL.*

26 INSERT THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF THIS SENTENCE AFTER “CODE”:  
27 AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE HOWARD COUNTY SIGN CODE SET FORTH  
28 IN TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

29 (75) *SUBSECTION 3108.3 RADIO AND TELEVISION ANTENNAS.*

30 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 3108.3 AFTER SUBSECTION 3108.2 AS FOLLOWS:

31 **3108.3 RADIO AND TELEVISION ANTENNAS.**

1 **3108.3.1 PERMITS NOT REQUIRED.** BUILDING PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED  
2 FOR ROOF INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAL STRUCTURES THAT ARE LESS THAN  
3 12 FEET IN HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROOF AND USED FOR PRIVATE RADIO OR  
4 TELEVISION RECEPTION. ANTENNAL STRUCTURES SHALL NOT BE ERECTED  
5 SO AS TO DAMAGE THE ROOF COVERING. WHEN REMOVED FROM THE ROOF,  
6 THE ROOF COVERING SHALL BE REPAIRED TO MAINTAIN WEATHER AND  
7 WATER TIGHTNESS. THE INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAL STRUCTURES ON THE  
8 ROOF OF A BUILDING SHALL NOT BE NEARER TO THE LOT LINE THAN THE  
9 TOTAL HEIGHT OF THE ANTENNAL STRUCTURE ABOVE THE ROOF.

10 ANTENNAL STRUCTURES SHALL NOT BE ERECTED NEAR ELECTRIC POWER  
11 LINES AND SHALL NOT ENCROACH UPON ANY STREET OR OTHER PUBLIC  
12 SPACE.

13 **3108.3.2 PERMITS REQUIRED.** IF THE APPLICATION MEETS THE CRITERIA  
14 SET FORTH IN THIS CODE, AN APPLICATION FOR ROOF-MOUNTED ANTENNAL  
15 STRUCTURES MORE THAN 12 FEET IN HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROOF SHALL BE  
16 APPROVED. A PERMIT APPLICATION FOR A ROOF-MOUNTED ANTENNAL  
17 STRUCTURE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DETAILED  
18 DRAWINGS OF THE STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF ANCHORAGE. ALL  
19 CONNECTIONS TO THE ROOF STRUCTURE SHALL BE PROPERLY FLASHED TO  
20 MAINTAIN WATER TIGHTNESS. THE DESIGN AND MATERIALS OF  
21 CONSTRUCTION SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
22 SUBSECTION (3108.3) FOR CHARACTER, QUALITY, AND MINIMUM  
23 DIMENSION.

24 **3108.3.3 DISH ANTENNAS.** A DISH ANTENNA IS AN ANTENNA THAT  
25 CONSISTS OF A RADIATION ELEMENT THAT TRANSMITS OR RECEIVES  
26 RADIATION SIGNALS GENERATED AS ELECTRICAL, LIGHT, OR SOUND  
27 ENERGY. A DISH ANTENNA IS SUPPORTED BY A STRUCTURE WITH OR  
28 WITHOUT A REFLECTIVE COMPONENT TO THE RADIATING DISH, USUALLY IN  
29 A CIRCULAR SHAPE WITH A PARABOLIC CURVE DESIGN CONSTRUCTED OF A  
30 SOLID OR OPEN MESH SURFACE.

1           **3108.3.3.1 PERMITS.** A PERMIT SHALL BE OBTAINED FOR DISH ANTENNAL  
2 STRUCTURES THAT ARE GREATER THAN 3 FEET IN DIAMETER AND THAT ARE  
3 ERECTED ON THE ROOF OF OR ATTACHED TO BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES.  
4 PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR DISH ANTENNAS THAT ARE 3 FEET OR LESS  
5 IN DIAMETER AND THAT ARE ERECTED AND MAINTAINED ON THE ROOF OF A  
6 BUILDING.

7           **3108.3.3.2 STRUCTURAL PROVISIONS.** DISH ANTENNAS LARGER THAN 3  
8 FEET IN DIAMETER ARE SUBJECT TO THE STRUCTURAL PROVISIONS OF  
9 SECTIONS 1608 AND 1609. THE SNOW LOAD PROVISION OF SECTION 1608  
10 SHALL NOT APPLY WHERE THE ANTENNA HAS A HEATER TO MELT FALLING  
11 SNOW.

12       (76)   *SUBSECTION 3109 SWIMMING POOL ENCLOSURES AND SAFETY DEVICES.*

13           DELETE THIS SECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

14           **SUBSECTION 3109: SWIMMING POOL ENCLOSURES AND SAFETY DEVICES:**

15           **3109.1 GENERAL.** SWIMMING POOLS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE  
16 REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 3109.2 THROUGH 3109.3 AND OTHER  
17 APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CODE.

18           **3109.2 RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS.** RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS  
19 SHALL BE COMPLETELY ENCLOSED BY A BARRIER COMPLYING WITH  
20 SECTIONS 3109.2.1 THROUGH 3109.2.3.

21           **EXCEPTION:** WHEN APPROVED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL, A SWIMMING  
22 POOL WITH A POWER SAFETY COVER OR A SPA WITH A SAFETY COVER  
23 COMPLYING WITH ASTM F 1346 DOES NOT NEED TO BE COMPLETELY  
24 ENCLOSED AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION. .

25           **3109.2.1 BARRIER HEIGHT AND CLEARANCES.** THE TOP OF THE BARRIER  
26 SHALL BE AT LEAST 48 INCHES (1219 MM) ABOVE GRADE MEASURED ON THE  
27 SIDE OF THE BARRIER WHICH FACES AWAY FROM THE SWIMMING POOL. THE  
28 MAXIMUM VERTICAL CLEARANCE BETWEEN GRADE AND THE BOTTOM OF  
29 THE BARRIER SHALL BE 2 INCHES (51MM) MEASURED ON THE SIDE OF THE  
30 BARRIER WHICH FACES AWAY FROM THE SWIMMING POOL. WHERE THE TOP  
31 OF THE POOL STRUCTURE IS ABOVE GRADE, SUCH AS AN ABOVE-GROUND

1 POOL, THE BARRIER MAY BE AT GROUND LEVEL, SUCH AS THE POOL  
2 STRUCTURE OR MOUNTED ON TOP OF THE POOL STRUCTURE. WHERE THE  
3 BARRIER IS MOUNTED ON TOP OF THE POOL STRUCTURE, THE MAXIMUM  
4 VERTICAL CLEARANCE BETWEEN THE TOP OF THE POOL STRUCTURE AND THE  
5 BOTTOM OF THE BARRIER SHALL BE 4 INCHES (102MM).

6 **3109.2.1.1 OPENINGS.** OPENINGS IN THE BARRIER SHALL NOT ALLOW  
7 PASSAGE OF A 4-INCH-DIAMETER (102 MM) SPHERE.

8 **3109.2.1.2 SOLID BARRIER SURFACES.** SOLID BARRIERS WHICH DO NOT  
9 HAVE OPENINGS SHALL NOT CONTAIN INDENTATIONS OR PROTRUSIONS  
10 EXCEPT FOR NORMAL CONSTRUCTION TOLERANCES AND TOOLED MASONRY  
11 JOINTS.

12 **3109.2.1.3 CLOSELY SPACED HORIZONTAL MEMBERS.** WHERE THE  
13 BARRIER IS COMPOSED OF HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL MEMBERS AND THE  
14 DISTANCE BETWEEN THE TOPS OF THE HORIZONTAL MEMBERS IS LESS THAN  
15 45 INCHES (1143 MM), THE HORIZONTAL MEMBERS SHALL BE LOCATED ON  
16 THE SWIMMING POOL SIDE OF THE FENCE. SPACING BETWEEN VERTICAL  
17 MEMBERS SHALL BE NOT GREATER THAN 1¾ INCHES (44 MM) IN WIDTH.  
18 WHERE THERE ARE DECORATIVE CUTOUTS WITHIN VERTICAL MEMBERS,  
19 SPACING WITHIN THE CUTOUTS SHALL BE NOT GREATER THAN 1¾ INCHES  
20 (44 MM) IN WIDTH.

21 **3109.2.1.4 WIDELY SPACED HORIZONTAL MEMBERS.** WHERE THE  
22 BARRIER IS COMPOSED OF HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL MEMBERS AND THE  
23 DISTANCE BETWEEN THE TOPS OF THE HORIZONTAL MEMBERS IS 45 INCHES  
24 (1143 MM) OR MORE, SPACING BETWEEN VERTICAL MEMBERS SHALL BE NOT  
25 GREATER THAN 4 INCHES (102 MM). WHERE THERE ARE DECORATIVE  
26 CUTOUTS WITHIN VERTICAL MEMBERS, SPACING WITHIN THE CUTOUTS  
27 SHALL BE NOT GREATER THAN 1¾ INCHES (44 MM) IN WIDTH.

28 **3109.2.1.5 CHAIN LINK DIMENSION.** MESH SIZE FOR CHAIN LINK FENCES  
29 SHALL BE NOT GREATER THAN A 2¼ INCH SQUARE (57 MM SQUARE) UNLESS  
30 THE FENCE IS PROVIDED WITH SLATS FASTENED AT THE TOP OR THE BOTTOM  
31 THAT REDUCE THE OPENING TO NOT MORE THAN 1¾ INCHES (44 MM).

1 **3109.2.1.6 DIAGONAL MEMBERS.** WHERE THE BARRIER IS COMPOSED OF  
2 DIAGONAL MEMBERS, THE OPENING FORMED BY THE DIAGONAL MEMBERS  
3 SHALL BE NOT GREATER THAN 1¾ INCHES (44 MM).

4 **3109.2.1.7 GATES.** ACCESS DOORS OR GATES SHALL COMPLY WITH THE  
5 REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 3109.2.1.1 THROUGH 3109.2.1.6, AND SHALL BE  
6 EQUIPPED TO ACCOMMODATE A LOCKING DEVICE. PEDESTRIAN ACCESS  
7 GATES SHALL OPEN OUTWARD AWAY FROM THE POOL AND SHALL BE SELF-  
8 CLOSING AND HAVE A SELF-LATCHING DEVICE. DOORS OR GATES OTHER  
9 THAN PEDESTRIAN ACCESS DOORS OR GATES SHALL HAVE A SELF-LATCHING  
10 DEVICE. RELEASE MECHANISMS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS  
11 1010.1.9 AND 1109.13. WHERE THE RELEASE MECHANISM OF THE SELF-  
12 LATCHING DEVICE IS LOCATED LESS THAN 54 INCHES (1372 MM) FROM THE  
13 BOTTOM OF THE DOOR OR GATE, THE RELEASE MECHANISM SHALL BE  
14 LOCATED ON THE POOL SIDE OF THE DOOR OR GATE 3 INCHES (76 MM) OR  
15 MORE, BELOW THE TOP OF THE DOOR OR GATE, AND THE DOOR OR GATE AND  
16 BARRIER SHALL BE WITHOUT OPENING LARGER THAN ½ INCH (13 MM)  
17 WITHIN 18 INCHES (457 MM) OF THE RELEASE MECHANISM.

18 **3109.2.1.8 DWELLING WALL AS A BARRIER.** WHERE A WALL OF A  
19 DWELLING SERVES AS PART OF THE BARRIER, ONE OF THE FOLLOWING  
20 SHALL APPLY:

21 1. DOORS WITH DIRECT ACCESS TO THE POOL THROUGH THAT WALL SHALL  
22 BE EQUIPPED WITH AN ALARM WHICH PRODUCES AN AUDIBLE WARNING  
23 WHEN THE DOOR AND/OR ITS SCREEN, IF PRESENT, ARE OPENED. THE ALARM  
24 SHALL BE LISTED AND LABELED IN ACCORDANCE WITH UL 2017. IN  
25 DWELLINGS NOT REQUIRED TO BE *ACCESSIBLE UNITS*, *TYPE A UNITS* OR *TYPE*  
26 *B UNITS*, THE DEACTIVATION SWITCH SHALL BE LOCATED 54 INCHES (1372  
27 MM) OR MORE ABOVE THE THRESHOLD OF THE DOOR. IN DWELLINGS  
28 REQUIRED TO BE *ACCESSIBLE UNITS*, *TYPE A UNITS* OR *TYPE B UNITS*, THE  
29 DEACTIVATION SWITCH SHALL BE LOCATED NO HIGHER THAN 54 INCHES  
30 (1372 MM) AND NOT LESS THAN 48 INCHES (1219 MM) ABOVE THE  
31 THRESHOLD OF THE DOOR.



1 2. THE POOL SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH A POWERED SAFETY COVER IN  
2 COMPLIANCE WITH ASTM F 1346; OR  
3 3. OTHER MEANS OF PROTECTION, SUCH AS SELF-CLOSING DOORS WITH  
4 SELF-LATCHING DEVICES, WHICH ARE APPROVED, SHALL BE ACCEPTABLE SO  
5 LONG AS THE DEGREE OF PROTECTION AFFORDED IS NOT LESS THAN THE  
6 PROTECTION AFFORDED BY ITEM 1 OR 2 DESCRIBED ABOVE.

7 **3109.2.1.9 POOL STRUCTURES AS BARRIERS.** WHERE AN ABOVE-GROUND  
8 POOL STRUCTURE IS USED AS A BARRIER OR WHERE THE BARRIER IS  
9 MOUNTED ON TOP OF THE POOL STRUCTURE, AND THE MEANS OF ACCESS IS A  
10 LADDER OR STEPS, THEN THE LADDER OR STEPS SHALL BE CAPABLE OF  
11 BEING SECURED, LOCKED OR REMOVED TO PREVENT ACCESS, OR THE  
12 LADDER OR STEPS SHALL BE SURROUNDED BY A BARRIER WHICH MEETS THE  
13 REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3109.2.1 THROUGH 3109.2.1.8. WHERE THE  
14 LADDER OR STEPS ARE SECURED, LOCKED OR REMOVED, ANY OPENING  
15 CREATED SHALL NOT ALLOW THE PASSAGE OF A 4 – INCH DIAMETER (102  
16 MM) SPHERE.

17 **3109.2.2 INDOOR SWIMMING POOL.** WALLS SURROUNDING AN INDOOR  
18 SWIMMING POOL SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION  
19 3109.2.1.8.

20 **3109.2.3 PROHIBITED LOCATIONS.** BARRIERS SHALL BE LOCATED TO  
21 PROHIBIT PERMANENT STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT OR SIMILAR OBJECTS FROM  
22 BEING USED TO CLIMB THE BARRIERS.

23 **3109.3 ENTRAPMENT AVOIDANCE.** SUCTION OUTLETS SHALL BE DESIGNED  
24 AND INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANSI/APSP-7.

25 **3109.4. ALTERNATIVE DEVICES.** NATURAL BARRIERS, POOL COVERS, OR  
26 OTHER PROTECTIVE DEVICES APPROVED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL  
27 BE AN ACCEPTABLE ENCLOSURE IF THE DEGREE OF PROTECTION AFFORDED  
28 BY THE SUBSTITUTED DEVICE OR STRUCTURE IS GREATER THAN THE  
29 PROTECTION AFFORDED BY THE ENCLOSURES, GATES, AND LATCHES  
30 DESCRIBED HEREIN.

31 (77) *SECTION 3114 FLOODPLAIN.*

1 DELETE SECTION 3114, PUBLIC USE RESTROOM BUILDINGS IN FLOOD  
2 HAZARD AREAS, AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

3 **SECTION 3114 FLOODPLAIN.**

4 **3114.1 GENERAL.** FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, THE FLOODPLAIN IS  
5 DELINEATED IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

6 **3114.2 WITHIN DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN.**

7 THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, MODIFICATION, ALTERATION,  
8 REPAIR, OR IMPROVEMENT OF BUILDINGS, MANUFACTURED HOMES, OR  
9 OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE  
10 DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS  
11 SECTION.

12 **3114.2.1 NEW CONSTRUCTION.** NEW RESIDENTIAL OR NONRESIDENTIAL  
13 CONSTRUCTION SHALL NOT OCCUR WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN.

14 **EXCEPTION 1:** AN EXISTING NONCONFORMING STRUCTURE LOCATED  
15 WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN WHICH IS DESTROYED BY FIRE OR  
16 FLOOD, OR THAT SUSTAINS SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE MAY BE RESTORED TO  
17 THE SAME SIZE AND DIMENSION AND IN THE SAME LOCATION ON THE SAME  
18 LOT AS THE DESTROYED STRUCTURE, PROVIDED CONSTRUCTION BEGINS  
19 WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF DESTRUCTION. CONSTRUCTION SHALL  
20 COMPLY WITH THE ELEVATING AND FLOODPROOFING REQUIREMENTS OF  
21 SUBSECTION 3114.4 FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION ADJACENT TO A FLOODPLAIN.  
22 A PERSON SHALL NOT INTENTIONALLY DEMOLISH OR RECONSTRUCT ANY  
23 NONCONFORMING STRUCTURE. THIS EXCEPTION DOES NOT APPLY TO  
24 MANUFACTURED HOMES. A MANUFACTURED HOME CANNOT BE RESTORED  
25 UNDER ANY CONDITION WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN.

26 **EXCEPTION 2:** TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS, UTILITY INSTALLATIONS,  
27 PIERS, OPEN PIER STRUCTURES, AND OPEN DECKS APPROVED BY THE  
28 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS. STREETS, SIDEWALKS, PATHWAYS, AND  
29 UTILITY SYSTEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY DESIGN  
30 MANUAL AND ALL OTHER APPLICABLE CODES, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS,  
31 AND REGULATIONS.

1                   **3114.2.2 ADDITIONS AND ENLARGEMENTS.** EXISTING NONCONFORMING  
2 STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL NOT BE  
3 EXPANDED OR ENLARGED.

4                   **3114.2.3 MODIFICATIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND REPAIRS.** MODIFICATIONS,  
5 ALTERATIONS, REPAIRS, OR IMPROVEMENTS THAT COST LESS THAN 50% OF  
6 THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE STRUCTURE MAY BE MADE TO EXISTING  
7 NONCONFORMING STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN A DESIGNATED  
8 FLOODPLAIN WITHOUT FLOODPROOFING OR ELEVATING IF THE OWNER  
9 DEMONSTRATES THROUGH A MARYLAND STATE REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL  
10 ENGINEER THAT FLOODPROOFING OR ELEVATING IS IMPRACTICAL.

11                   **3114.3 SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN A DESIGNATED**  
12 **FLOODPLAIN.** SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN A DESIGNATED  
13 FLOODPLAIN SHALL MEET THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION  
14 AND TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

15                   **3114.3.1. RESIDENTIAL.** THE LOWEST FLOOR, INCLUDING A BASEMENT, OF  
16 SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING NONCONFORMING RESIDENTIAL  
17 STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE  
18 ELEVATED TO AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION.

19                   **3114.3.2. NONRESIDENTIAL.** THE LOWEST FLOOR, INCLUDING A  
20 BASEMENT, OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING  
21 NONCONFORMING NONRESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES SHALL BE ELEVATED TO  
22 AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION OR SHALL BE  
23 DESIGNED SO THAT ANY AREA OF THE BUILDING WHICH IS LOWER THAN 2  
24 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION, AS DETERMINED OR  
25 APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IS WATERTIGHT WITH  
26 WALLS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPERMEABLE TO THE PASSAGE OF WATER AND  
27 WITH STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF  
28 WITHSTANDING APPLICABLE HYDROSTATIC, HYDRODYNAMIC, IMPACT,  
29 SOIL, AND, WHEN APPLICABLE, HURRICANE AND TIDAL WAVE LOADING  
30 CONDITIONS. THE WATER TIGHTNESS AND STRUCTURAL CAPABILITIES  
31 SHALL BE THOSE DESCRIBED IN FLOODPROOFING REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

1 BY THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, U.S. ARMY, WASHINGTON,  
2 D.C., DECEMBER 1995, OR SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS, AND SECTION  
3 16.705(c) OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

4 **3114.4 CONSTRUCTION ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN.**

5 WHERE BUILDINGS ARE LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN  
6 THE FOLLOWING SUBSECTIONS AND TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD  
7 COUNTY CODE SHALL APPLY:

8 **3114.4.1 RESIDENTIAL.** IN NEW CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL  
9 BUILDINGS OR ADDITIONS OR SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO  
10 RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, ALL FLOORS, INCLUDING THOSE OF BASEMENT  
11 AND STORAGE AREAS, SHALL BE ELEVATED AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE  
12 100-YEAR FLOOD LEVEL.

13 **3114.4.2 NONRESIDENTIAL.** IN NEW CONSTRUCTION OF NONRESIDENTIAL  
14 BUILDINGS OR ADDITIONS OR SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO  
15 NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, EITHER:

- 16 (I) ALL FLOORS (INCLUDING THOSE OF BASEMENT AND STORAGE  
17 AREAS) SHALL BE ELEVATED AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR  
18 FLOOD LEVEL, AS DETERMINED OR APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT  
19 OF PUBLIC WORKS; OR
- 20 (II) THE CONSTRUCTION OR IMPROVEMENT (INCLUDING ATTENDANT  
21 UTILITY OR SANITARY FACILITIES) SHALL BE DESIGNED SO THAT ANY  
22 AREAS OF THE BUILDING THAT ARE LOWER THAN 2 FEET ABOVE THE  
23 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION, AS DETERMINED OR APPROVED BY  
24 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ARE WATERTIGHT WITH  
25 WALLS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPERMEABLE TO THE PASSAGE OF WATER  
26 AND WITH STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF  
27 WITHSTANDING APPLICABLE HYDROSTATIC, HYDRODYNAMIC,  
28 IMPACT, SOIL, AND, WHEN APPLICABLE, HURRICANE AND TIDAL  
29 WAVE LOADING CONDITIONS. ELECTRICAL, HEATING, VENTILATION,  
30 PLUMBING, AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER SERVICE  
31 FACILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE BUILDINGS SHALL BE DESIGNED

1 OR LOCATED TO PREVENT WATER FROM ENTERING OR  
2 ACCUMULATING WITHIN THE COMPONENTS DURING FLOOD  
3 CONDITIONS. THE WATER TIGHTNESS AND STRUCTURAL  
4 CAPABILITIES SHALL BE THOSE DESCRIBED IN FLOODPROOFING  
5 REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF  
6 ENGINEERS, U.S. ARMY, WASHINGTON, D.C., DECEMBER 1995, OR  
7 SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS, AND SECTION 16.705(C) OF THE HOWARD  
8 COUNTY CODE.

9 **3114.4.3. MODIFICATIONS, ALTERATIONS OR REPAIRS.** MODIFICATIONS,  
10 ALTERATIONS, REPAIRS, OR IMPROVEMENTS THAT COSTS LESS THAN 50% OF  
11 THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE STRUCTURE MAY BE MADE TO EXISTING  
12 NONCONFORMING STRUCTURES LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED  
13 FLOODPLAIN WITHOUT FLOODPROOFING OR ELEVATING.

14 **3114.4.4. VARIANCES.** VARIANCES TO THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN  
15 THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE GRANTED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL IN  
16 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 16.711 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

17 **3114.5 SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED**  
18 **FLOODPLAIN.** SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED  
19 FLOODPLAIN SHALL MEET THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION  
20 AND TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

21 **3114.5.1 RESIDENTIAL.** THE LOWEST FLOOR, INCLUDING A BASEMENT, OF  
22 SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING NONCONFORMING RESIDENTIAL  
23 STRUCTURES LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE  
24 ELEVATED TO AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION.

25 **3114.5.2 NONRESIDENTIAL.** THE LOWEST FLOOR, INCLUDING A BASEMENT,  
26 OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING NONCONFORMING  
27 NONRESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED  
28 FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE ELEVATED TO AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE  
29 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION OR SHALL BE DESIGNED SO THAT ANY AREA OF  
30 THE BUILDING WHICH IS LOWER THAN 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD  
31 ELEVATION, AS DETERMINED OR APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF

1 PUBLIC WORKS, IS WATERTIGHT WITH WALLS SUBSTANTIALLY  
2 IMPERMEABLE TO THE PASSAGE OF WATER AND WITH STRUCTURAL  
3 COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF WITHSTANDING APPLICABLE  
4 HYDROSTATIC, HYDRODYNAMIC IMPACT, SOIL, AND, WHEN APPLICABLE,  
5 HURRICANE AND TIDAL WAVE LOADING CONDITIONS. ELECTRICAL,  
6 HEATING, VENTILATION, PLUMBING, AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT, AND  
7 OTHER SERVICE FACILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE BUILDINGS SHALL BE  
8 DESIGNED OR LOCATED SO AS TO PREVENT WATER FROM ENTERING OR  
9 ACCUMULATING WITHIN THE COMPONENTS DURING CONDITIONS OF  
10 FLOODING. THE WATER TIGHTNESS AND STRUCTURAL CAPABILITIES SHALL  
11 BE THOSE DESCRIBED IN FLOODPROOFING REGULATIONS PUBLISHED BY THE  
12 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, U.S. ARMY, WASHINGTON, D.C.,  
13 DECEMBER 1995, OR SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS, AND SECTION 16.705(C) OF  
14 THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

15 **3114.6 VERIFICATION.** FOR THE PURPOSE OF VERIFYING COMPLIANCE  
16 WITH SECTION 3114.4 FOR CONSTRUCTION ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED  
17 FLOODPLAIN, THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

- 18 (I) WHEN FLOODPROOFING BY MEANS OTHER THAN ELEVATING, A  
19 DOCUMENT STATING THAT THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN  
20 ADEQUATELY DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND THE LOADING CONDITIONS  
21 STATED IN SUBSECTION 3114.4.2(II) SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY A  
22 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER OR ARCHITECT CURRENTLY REGISTERED IN  
23 MARYLAND. THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO  
24 ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT.
- 25 (II) WHEN FLOODPROOFING BY ELEVATING IS USED, THE OWNER SHALL  
26 AGREE, IN WRITING, TO PROVIDE A FEMA ELEVATION CERTIFICATE  
27 FORM 086-0-33, COMPLETED BY A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER OR  
28 PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR CURRENTLY REGISTERED IN  
29 MARYLAND, CERTIFYING THAT THE AS-BUILT LOWEST FLOOR OF THE  
30 STRUCTURE IS ELEVATED AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR  
31 FLOODPLAIN ELEVATION. THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE MADE PRIOR

1 TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE BUILDING PERMIT AND THE COMPLETED  
2 CERTIFICATION SHALL BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO FOUNDATION  
3 APPROVAL BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

4 (III) FAIR MARKET VALUE OF A STRUCTURE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY A  
5 RECENT (WITHIN 6 MONTHS) FORMAL APPRAISAL FROM A QUALIFIED  
6 APPRAISER. FAIR MARKET VALUE SHALL NOT INCLUDE LAND  
7 VALUE.

8 (IV) COST TO REPAIR OR IMPROVE A STRUCTURE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED  
9 BY A RECENT (WITHIN 6 MONTHS) WRITTEN ESTIMATE FROM A  
10 LICENSED CONTRACTOR AND SHALL INCLUDE THE COMPLETE COST  
11 OF REPAIRS OR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POINT OF USE OR  
12 OCCUPANCY.

13 **3114.7 DEFINITIONS.** NOTWITHSTANDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE  
14 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS SHALL  
15 APPLY TO SECTION 3114.0, FLOODPLAIN, OF THIS CODE:

16 **ACCESSORY STRUCTURE.** A DETACHED STRUCTURE ON THE SAME PARCEL  
17 OR PROPERTY AS THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE THAT HAS A USE THAT IS  
18 INCIDENTAL TO THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED  
19 TO, A SHED OR DETACHED GARAGE.

20 **ADJACENT TO A FLOODPLAIN.** SHARING A COMMON BORDER WITH A  
21 FLOODPLAIN.

22 **BASEMENT.** AN ENCLOSED AREA THAT IS BELOW GRADE ON ALL SIDES.

23 **FLOODPLAIN.** SHALL BE AS DELINEATED IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE  
24 HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

25 **FLOODPROOFING.** ANY COMBINATION OF ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR  
26 ADJUSTMENTS TO A STRUCTURE WHICH REDUCE OR ELIMINATE FLOOD  
27 DAMAGE TO REAL ESTATE OR IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY, WATER OR  
28 SANITARY FACILITIES, OR STRUCTURES AND THEIR CONTENTS , SUCH THAT  
29 THE BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES ARE WATERTIGHT WITH WALLS  
30 SUBSTANTIALLY IMPERMEABLE TO THE PASSAGE OF WATER AND WITH

1 STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF RESISTING  
2 HYDROSTATIC AND HYDRODYNAMIC LOADS AND EFFECTS OF BUOYANCY.

3 **HISTORIC STRUCTURE.** A BUILDING LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
4 OF HISTORIC PLACES, A STATE INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PLACES, OR AN  
5 INVENTORY OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION OF THE  
6 COUNTY COUNCIL. A HISTORIC STRUCTURE ALSO INCLUDES A STRUCTURE  
7 THAT IS CERTIFIED OR PRELIMINARILY DETERMINED BY THE UNITED STATES  
8 SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AS CONTRIBUTING TO THE HISTORICAL  
9 SIGNIFICANCE OF A REGISTERED HISTORIC DISTRICT OR A DISTRICT  
10 PRELIMINARILY DETERMINED BY THE SECRETARY TO QUALIFY AS A  
11 REGISTERED HISTORIC DISTRICT.

12 **LOWEST FLOOR.** THE LOWEST FLOOR OR THE LOWEST ENCLOSED AREA,  
13 INCLUDING A BASEMENT. LOWEST FLOOR DOES NOT INCLUDE AN  
14 UNFINISHED OR FLOOD RESISTANT ENCLOSURE USED SOLELY FOR PARKING  
15 VEHICLES, BUILDING ACCESS, OR STORAGE IN AN AREA OTHER THAN A  
16 BASEMENT AREA. THE ENCLOSURE SHALL NOT BE BUILT SO AS TO RENDER  
17 THE STRUCTURE IN VIOLATION OF THE APPLICABLE NON-ELEVATION DESIGN  
18 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS 3114.4 AND 3114.6 OF THIS CODE.

19 **MANUFACTURED HOME.** A MANUFACTURED HOME SHALL HAVE THE  
20 MEANING SET FORTH IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY  
21 CODE.

22 **NEW CONSTRUCTION.** STRUCTURES, INCLUDING ADDITIONS AND  
23 IMPROVEMENTS, AND THE PLACEMENT OF MANUFACTURED HOMES, FOR  
24 WHICH THE START OF CONSTRUCTION COMMENCED ON OR AFTER 3/15/1977,  
25 THE INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE HOWARD COUNTY FLOOD INSURANCE  
26 RATE MAP, INCLUDING ANY SUBSEQUENT IMPROVEMENTS, ALTERATIONS,  
27 MODIFICATIONS, AND ADDITIONS TO SUCH STRUCTURES.

28 THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF A MANUFACTURED HOME BECAUSE OF  
29 SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE IS CONSIDERED TO BE NEW CONSTRUCTION AND IS  
30 PROHIBITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3114.2.1 OF THIS CODE.



1           **STRUCTURE.** FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION 3114 TO THIS CODE,  
2           SHALL HAVE THE MEANING SET FORTH IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE  
3           HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

4           **SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE.** DAMAGE OF ANY ORIGIN SUSTAINED BY A  
5           STRUCTURE WHERE THE COST OF RETURNING THE STRUCTURE TO ITS  
6           CONDITION PRIOR TO DAMAGE WOULD EQUAL OR EXCEED 50% OF THE  
7           STRUCTURE'S FAIR MARKET VALUE BEFORE THE DAMAGE OCCURRED.

8           **SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT.** THE REPAIR, RECONSTRUCTION, OR  
9           IMPROVEMENT OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, THE COST OF WHICH IS  
10          EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 50% OF THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE  
11          BUILDING OR STRUCTURE PRIOR TO DAMAGE, IMPROVEMENT, OR REPAIR.  
12          FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS DEFINITION, "SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT"  
13          OCCURS WHEN THE FIRST ALTERATION OF A WALL, CEILING, FLOOR, OR  
14          OTHER STRUCTURAL PART OF THE BUILDING BEGINS, WHETHER OR NOT  
15          THAT ALTERATION AFFECTS THE EXTERNAL DIMENSIONS OF THE BUILDING  
16          OR STRUCTURE. THE TERM DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY PROJECT FOR  
17          IMPROVING A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE TO COMPLY WITH EXISTING STATE  
18          OR LOCAL HEALTH, SANITARY, OR HOUSING CODE REQUIREMENTS WHICH  
19          ARE NECESSARY TO ASSURE SAFE LIVING CONDITIONS. THIS TERM DOES NOT  
20          INCLUDE AN ALTERATION OF A HISTORIC STRUCTURE PROVIDED THAT THE  
21          ALTERATION WILL NOT PRECLUDE THE STRUCTURE'S CONTINUED  
22          DESIGNATION AS A HISTORIC STRUCTURE.

23          **VARIANCE.** THE GRANT OF RELIEF FROM A TERM OF THIS SUBTITLE.

24          **3114.8 VARIANCES AND WAIVERS.** EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION  
25          3114.4 OF THIS CODE, A VARIANCE OR WAIVER OF THIS SECTION IS NOT  
26          ALLOWED. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL CONSIDER A VARIANCE IN  
27          ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 16.711 OF THE HOWARD  
28          COUNTY CODE.

29          **3114.9 OTHER AGENCIES.** A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
30          UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS NOT VALID UNTIL ALL NECESSARY PERMITS FOR  
31          THE DEVELOPMENT ARE OBTAINED. RECEIPT OF FEDERAL OR STATE

1 PERMITS DO NOT EXEMPT A DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
2 SUBTITLE.

3 (78) *SUBSECTION 3306.10 ACCESSIBILITY DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS.*

4 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 3306.10 AFTER SUBSECTION 3306.9 AS FOLLOWS:

5 **3306.10 ACCESSIBILITY DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS.** PRIOR TO  
6 AND DURING CONSTRUCTION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE AND  
7 MAINTAIN AT ALL TIMES A MINIMUM 12-FOOT WIDE VEHICULAR ACCESS  
8 ROADWAY THAT WILL ALLOW THE UNIMPEDED MOVEMENT OF FIRE OR  
9 EMERGENCY RESCUE VEHICLES FROM AN IMPROVED STREET TO WITHIN 200  
10 FEET OF THE MOST REMOTE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON THE SITE.  
11 THE VEHICULAR ACCESS ROADWAY SURFACE SHALL BE CRUSHER RUN,  
12 STONE BASE, BLACKTOP, OR OTHER SUITABLE COMPACTED SURFACE  
13 MATERIAL APPROVED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

14 (79) *SECTION 3315 CONSTRUCTION SITE GRADING.*

15 ADD NEW SECTION 3315 AFTER SECTION 3314 AS FOLLOWS:

16 **SECTION 3315 CONSTRUCTION SITE GRADING.**

17 **3315.1 LOT IMPROVEMENTS.** LOT IMPROVEMENTS SHALL PROVIDE:

- 18 (I) SUITABLE ACCESS FROM AN ABUTTING STREET TO DWELLINGS AND  
19 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS SUBJECT TO A PERMIT;
- 20 (II) GRADING WHICH WILL DIVERT WATER AWAY FROM BUILDINGS AND  
21 PREVENT STANDING WATER AND SOIL SATURATION DETRIMENTAL  
22 TO STRUCTURES OR LOT USE;
- 23 (III) DISPOSAL OF WATER FROM LOTS, EXCEPT AS NECESSARY FOR  
24 CONTROLLED IRRIGATION;
- 25 (IV) GRADES FOR SAFE AND CONVENIENT ACCESS TO AND AROUND  
26 BUILDINGS OR LOTS FOR USE AND MAINTENANCE; AND
- 27 (V) GRADES THAT DO NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT ADJOINING LOTS.

28 **3315.2 MINIMUM GRADIENT.** THE MINIMUM GRADIENT FOR CONCRETE OR  
29 OTHER IMPERVIOUS SURFACES SHALL BE 1/16 INCH PER FOOT (1/2%). THE  
30 MINIMUM GRADIENT FOR PERVIOUS SURFACES SHALL BE 1/4 INCH PER FOOT  
31 (2%).

1           **3315.3 MAXIMUM GRADIENT.** EXCEPT WHERE RESTRICTED BY PROPERTY  
2           LINES, THE MAXIMUM GRADIENT SHALL BE 2-1/2 INCHES (21%) FOR A  
3           MINIMUM OF 4 FEET AWAY FROM BUILDING WALLS. SLOPES NOT EXCEEDING  
4           30 INCHES SHALL BE 1-1/2 TO 1. SLOPES EXCEEDING 30 INCHES SHALL BE 2  
5           TO 1. THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF BANKS AT THE SWALES SHALL BE ROUNDED  
6           FOR CONVENIENT MAINTENANCE.

7           **3315.4 FINISH GRADING.** FOR AREAS WHERE THE INSTALLATION OF LAWN  
8           OR PLANTING IS REQUIRED, THE SURFACE LAYER OF THE SOIL SHALL BE  
9           WORKABLE, FREE OF DEBRIS, AND LOT FINISHED GRADED TO COMPLY WITH  
10          GRADING DESIGN. FINISH GRADING SHALL BE DONE WHEN THE GROUND IS  
11          FROST-FREE AND THE WEATHER IS FAVORABLE. LAWN COVERS SHALL BE  
12          PROVIDED TO PREVENT THE EROSION OF SWALES AND SLOPES.

13  
14   **SECTION 3.102. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, 2021**  
15   **EDITION.**

16   (A)    *IN GENERAL.*

- 17           (1)    AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE TERM “THIS CODE” MEANS THE  
18           INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY  
19           DWELLINGS, 2021 EDITION.
- 20           (2)    AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM "BUILDING OFFICIAL" MEANS THE  
21           DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS  
22           OR THE DIRECTOR’S AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE.
- 23           (3)    WHERE THE NAME OF THE JURISDICTION IS TO BE INDICATED IN ANY  
24           SECTION OF THIS CODE, INSERT "HOWARD COUNTY".
- 25           (4)    AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM “DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY”  
26           MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS.

27   (B)    *LOCAL AMENDMENTS.* THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
28   OF THE ADOPTED CODE.

29           (1)    *SUBSECTION R101.2 SCOPE.*

30           ADD THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF THE SUBSECTION:

1 **R101.2.1 SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT.** IF A SITE  
2 DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS REQUIRED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY SUBDIVISION  
3 REGULATIONS, A PERMIT SHALL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL THE SITE  
4 DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS APPROVED UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE DIRECTOR  
5 OF PLANNING AND ZONING

6 **R101.2.2 SITE WORK AND SAFEGUARDS.** THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
7 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, CHAPTER 33, SHALL APPLY FOR SITE  
8 WORK AND SAFEGUARDS DURING CONSTRUCTION.

9 (2) *SUBSECTION R102.2 OTHER LAWS.*

10 ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION:

11 **R102.2.1 RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER.** RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER SYSTEMS  
12 INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 903.3.1.3 OF THE  
13 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021 EDITION, ARE ALLOWED FOR  
14 TOWNHOUSE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS REQUIRED BY THE FIRE LAWS CONTAINED  
15 IN THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

16 **R102.2.2 INDUSTRIALIZED (MODULAR) CONSTRUCTION.** THE  
17 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDING AND  
18 MANUFACTURED HOMES ACT, CODIFIED AT TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE  
19 PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND SHALL  
20 APPLY TO INDUSTRIALIZED (MODULAR) BUILDINGS.

21 **EXCEPTION:** THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION CODE, SUBDIVISION  
22 AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, ZONING REGULATIONS, AND  
23 SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL REGULATIONS APPLY TO THE  
24 CONSTRUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL (MODULAR) BUILDINGS. THE  
25 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE SHALL APPLY TO THE FOUNDATION AND SITE  
26 WORK ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF INDUSTRIALIZED  
27 (MODULAR) BUILDINGS.

28 **R102.2.3 MANUFACTURED HOUSING.** THE CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS OF  
29 THE FEDERAL MOBILE HOME ACT AND THE INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDING AND  
30 MANUFACTURED HOMES ACT, CODIFIED AT TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE

1 PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND SHALL  
2 APPLY.

3 **EXCEPTION:** THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION CODE, SUBDIVISION  
4 AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, ZONING REGULATIONS, AND  
5 SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL REGULATIONS APPLY TO THE  
6 CONSTRUCTION OF MANUFACTURED HOMES. THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
7 APPENDIX E OF THIS CODE, FOR DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF FOOTINGS,  
8 FOUNDATIONS, SKIRTING AND PERIMETER ENCLOSURES, EXITS, PIERS, AND  
9 GROUND ANCHORS SHALL APPLY FOR THE SITING OF MANUFACTURED  
10 HOMES.

11 (3) *SUBSECTION R102.4 REFERENCED CODES AND STANDARDS.*

12 ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION:

13 **R102.4.3** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “NFPA 70 NATIONAL  
14 *ELECTRICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR  
15 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS TITLE.

16 **R102.4.4** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING*  
17 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
18 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

19 **R102.4.5** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FIRE*  
20 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION  
21 CODE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 17.104 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY  
22 CODE.

23 **R102.4.6** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS*  
24 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
25 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

26 **R102.4.7** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE*  
27 *SEWAGE DISPOSAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN HOWARD COUNTY  
28 WATER AND SEWER REGULATIONS ADOPTED IN TITLE 18, SUBTITLE 1,  
29 SUBTITLE 12, AND SUBTITLE 15 AND IN TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE  
30 HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

1 **R102.4.8** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY*  
2 *MAINTENANCE CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY  
3 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE FOR RENTAL HOUSING ADOPTED PURSUANT  
4 TO SUBTITLE 7 OF THIS TITLE.

5 **R102.4.9** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL*  
6 *MECHANICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE MECHANICAL CODE OF  
7 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.103 OF THIS  
8 SUBTITLE.

9 **R102.4.10** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL BUILDING*  
10 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE  
11 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE.

12 (4) *SUBSECTION R102.7 EXISTING STRUCTURES.*

13 IN THIS SUBSECTION DELETE “*INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE*  
14 *CODE* OR THE *INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE*” AND SUBSTITUTE “HOWARD  
15 COUNTY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE FOR RENTAL HOUSING, HOWARD  
16 COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION CODE, AND THE MARYLAND BUILDING  
17 REHABILITATION CODE”.

18 (5) *SUBSECTION R102.7.1 ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS OR REPAIRS.*

19 INSERT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST SENTENCE:

20 “UNLESS EXCEPTED BY THE MARYLAND BUILDING REHABILITATION  
21 CODE,”.

22 (6) *SECTIONS R103 THROUGH R114.*

23 DELETE SECTIONS R103 THROUGH R114, INCLUSIVE AND IN THEIR  
24 ENTIRETY, AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

25 **R103 ADMINISTRATION.** SECTIONS 103 THROUGH 118 OF THE  
26 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021 EDITION, AS ADOPTED AND  
27 AMENDED IN THIS SUBTITLE, SHALL GOVERN THE ADMINISTRATION AND  
28 ENFORCEMENT OF THIS CODE.

29 (7) *TABLE R301.2 CLIMATIC AND GEOGRAPHIC DESIGN CRITERIA.*

30 DELETE TABLE R301.2 AND SUBSTITUTE:  
31

Ground Snow Load <sup>f</sup>	Wind Design				Seismic Design Category <sup>i</sup>	Subject To Damage From			Winter Design Temp <sup>e</sup>	Ice Barrier Underlayment Required <sup>f</sup>	Flood Hazards <sup>g</sup>	Air Freezing Index <sup>j</sup>	Mean Annual Temp <sup>j</sup>
	Speed <sup>a</sup> (mph)	Topographic Effects <sup>k</sup>	Special Wind Region <sup>l</sup>	Windborne Debris Zone <sup>m</sup>		Weathering <sup>a</sup>	Frost Line Depth <sup>b</sup>	Termite <sup>c</sup>					
40 lbs	115	No	No	No	A	Severe	30"	Mod Heavy	20°F	Yes	See Flood Maps	1500	55 °F
Manual J Design Criteria													
Elevation	Latitude	Winter Heating		Summer Cooling	Altitude Correction Factor	Indoor Design Temperature	Design Temperature Cooling	Heating Temperature Difference					
148 ft	39	15 °F		91 °F	-	70 °F	75 °F	55 °F					
Cooling Temperature Difference	Wind Velocity Heating	Wind Velocity Cooling	Coincident Wet Bulb	Daily Range	Winter Humidity	Summer Humidity							
16 °F	15 °F	7.5 °F	74	M	30	50							

- 1           (8)    *SUBSECTION R301.2.4 FLOODPLAIN CONSTRUCTION.*
- 2                    IN THIS SUBSECTION, DELETE “ASCE 24” AND SUBSTITUTE “SECTION 3114,
- 3                    FLOODPLAIN, OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE”.
- 4           (9)    SUBSECTION R301.2.4.1 ALTERNATIVE PROVISIONS.
- 5                    DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.
- 6           (10)   *SUBSECTION R302.2 TOWNHOUSES.*
- 7                    IN THE FIRST SENTENCE DELETE “IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS R302.2.1
- 8                    AND R302.2.2” AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:
- 9                    “WITH A 2-HOUR FIRE RESISTANCE RATED WALL ASSEMBLY OR TWO 1-HOUR
- 10                   FIRE RESISTANCE RATED WALLS, TESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASTM
- 11                   E119, UL 263 OR SECTION 703.3 OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE”.
- 12           (11)   *SUBSECTION R302.2.6 STRUCTURAL INDEPENDENCE.*
- 13                    DELETE EXCEPTION NUMBER 5 AND 6.
- 14           (12)   *SUBSECTION R308.4.3 GLAZING IN WINDOWS.*
- 15                    IN NUMBER 4, ADD EXCEPTION NUMBER 4 AS FOLLOWS:
- 16                    “SAFETY GLAZE FILM IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANSI Z97.1”.
- 17           (13)   *SUBSECTION R310.6.*
- 18                    DELETE EXCEPTION NUMBER 3
- 19           (14)   *SUBSECTION R310.7 ALTERATIONS OR REPAIRS OF EXISTING BASEMENTS.*
- 20                    DELETE THE EXCEPTION.
- 21           (15)   *SUBSECTION R310.7.1 – EXISTING EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE*
- 22                    *OPENINGS.*
- 23                    DELETE THE SUBSECTION IN ITS ENTIRETY

- 1           (16)    *SUBSECTION R311.7.8.5 GRIP SIZE.*
- 2                    (I)        IN NUMBER 1, DELETE “2 ¼ INCHES (57 MM)” AND SUBSTITUTE “3 ¼
- 3                                    INCHES”; AND
- 4                    (II)        IN NUMBER 2, DELETE “2 ¾ INCHES (70MM)” AND SUBSTITUTE “3 ¼
- 5                                    INCHES”.
- 6           (17)    *SUBSECTION R312.1.1 WHERE REQUIRED.*
- 7                    ADD THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTION:
- 8                    “**EXCEPTION:** ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS MAY BE APPROVED BY THE BUILDING
- 9                                    OFFICIAL.”
- 10          (18)    *SUBSECTION R313.2 ONE AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AUTOMATIC FIRE*
- 11                    *SPRINKLER SYSTEMS:*
- 12                    IN THE EXCEPTION, AFTER THE FIRST “SPRINKLER SYSTEM” DELETE THE
- 13                                    REST OF THE SENTENCE AND SUBSTITUTE “ FOR ADDITIONS OR ALTERATIONS
- 14                                    LESS THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF THE EXISTING GROSS AREA OF THE BUILDING
- 15                                    OR STRUCTURE ARE EXEMPT FROM FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS.
- 16          (19)    *SUBSECTION R320.1 SCOPE.*
- 17                    DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:
- 18                    **R320.1 SCOPE.** ACCESSIBLE DWELLING UNITS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE
- 19                                    PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND ACCESSIBILITY CODE.
- 20          (20)    *SUBSECTION R322. FLOOD RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION.*
- 21                    DELETE THIS SUBSECTION IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SUBSTITUTE:
- 22                    *SUBSECTION R322. FLOOD-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION.* THE CONSTRUCTION,
- 23                                    RECONSTRUCTION, MODIFICATION, ALTERATION, REPAIR, OR IMPROVEMENT
- 24                                    OF BUILDINGS, MANUFACTURED HOMES, OR OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED
- 25                                    WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
- 26                                    THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SECTION 3114 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY
- 27                                    BUILDING CODE.
- 28          (21)    *SUBSECTION R324.6 ROOF ACCESS AND PATHWAYS.*
- 29                    ADD EXCEPTION 5 AS FOLLOWS:
- 30                    “5. PATHWAYS ARE NOT REQUIRED WHEN PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS ARE
- 31                                    INSTALLED ON ONLY ONE SIDE OF THE ROOF STRUCTURE.”



- 1 (22) *SUBSECTION R327.1 GENERAL.*  
2 DELETE “INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA CODE” AND  
3 SUBSTITUTE WITH “IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3109 OF THE  
4 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE”.
- 5 (23) *SECTION R331 SOUND TRANSMISSION.*  
6 ADD NEW SECTION R331 AFTER SECTION R330 AS FOLLOWS:  
7 **R331 SOUND TRANSMISSION.** THE REQUIREMENTS OF APPENDIX K SHALL  
8 APPLY TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF ALL NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.
- 9 (24) *SECTION R332 RADON CONTROL.*  
10 ADD NEW SECTION R332 AFTER SECTION R331 AS FOLLOWS:  
11 **SECTION R332 RADON CONTROL.** RADON CONTROL METHODS SET FORTH  
12 IN APPENDIX F, SHALL APPLY TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RESIDENTIAL  
13 BUILDINGS.
- 14 (25) *SECTION R333 MANUFACTURED HOUSING.*  
15 ADD NEW SECTION R333 AFTER SECTION R332 AS FOLLOWS:  
16 **SECTION R333 MANUFACTURED HOUSING.** MANUFACTURED HOUSING  
17 USED AS DWELLINGS SHALL COMPLY WITH APPENDIX E.
- 18 (26) *SUBSECTION R403.1.1 FOOTING MINIMUM SIZE.*  
19 IN TABLES R403.1(1), R403.1(2) AND R403.1(3), IN EACH TABLE  
20 (I) IN THE COLUMNS TITLED “GROUND SNOW LOAD OR ROOF LIVE  
21 LOAD” DELETE “25 PSF GROUND SNOW LOAD” AND “30 PSF,  
22 GROUND SNOW LOAD” AND SUBSTITUTE 40 PSF.; AND  
23 (II) UNDER THE HEADING TITLED “LOAD BEARING VALUES OF SOIL” FOR  
24 1500, 2000, 2500, STRIKE THE WIDTH AND THICKNESS IN EACH  
25 INSTANCE AND INSERT 16X8 INCHES IN EACH INSTANCE.
- 26 (27) *SUBSECTION R403.1.4.1 FROST PROTECTION.*  
27 (I) IN EXCEPTION NO. 1, DELETE “600 SQUARE FEET (52 M<sup>2</sup>)” AND  
28 SUBSTITUTE “400 SQUARE FEET”; AND  
29 (II) DELETE EXCEPTION NO. 2.
- 30 (28) *TABLE R404.1.1(3) 10-INCH MASONRY FOUNDATION WALLS WITH REINFORCING*  
31 *WHERE  $D \geq 6.75$  INCHES.*

1 IN THE COLUMN TITLED “MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT AND  
2 SPACING”, FOR THE SOIL CLASS “GM, GC, SM, SM-SC AND ML”:

3 A. FOR MAXIMUM WALL HEIGHT OF “8 FEET” AND MAXIMUM  
4 UNBALANCED BACKFILL HEIGHT OF “7 FEET”, CHANGE THE  
5 MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT SIZE AND SPACING,  
6 MINIMUM NOMINAL WALL THICKNESS FROM “5 @ 56” TO  
7 “NR”; AND

8 B. FOR MAXIMUM WALL HEIGHT OF “9 FEET 4 INCHES” AND  
9 MAXIMUM UNBALANCED BACKFILL HEIGHT OF “7 FEET”,  
10 CHANGE THE MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT SIZE AND  
11 SPACING, MINIMUM NOMINAL WALL THICKNESS FROM “5 @  
12 56” TO “NR”.

13 (29) *TABLE R404.1.1(4) 12-INCH MASONRY FOUNDATION WALLS WITH REINFORCING*  
14 *WHERE  $D \geq 8.75$  INCHES.*

15 IN THE COLUMN TITLED “MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT AND  
16 SPACING”, FOR THE SOIL CLASS “GM, GC, SM, SM-SC AND ML”: FOR A  
17 MAXIMUM WALL HEIGHT OF “9 FEET 4 INCHES” AND A MAXIMUM  
18 UNBALANCED BACKFILL HEIGHT OF “8 FEET”, CHANGE THE MINIMUM  
19 VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT AND SPACING FROM “6@72” TO “NR”.

20 (30) *TABLE R404.1.2(8) MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT FOR 6-, 8-, 10-INCH*  
21 *AND 12-INCH NOMINAL FLAT BASEMENT WALLS.*

22 IN THE COLUMN TITLED “MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT BAR SIZE  
23 AND SPACING”, FOR THE SOIL CLASS “GM, GC, SM, SM-SC AND ML”:

24 (i) IN THE SUB-COLUMN TITLED “MINIMUM NOMINAL WALL THICKNESS  
25 (INCHES)”, FOR 8 INCHES:

26 A. FOR MAXIMUM WALL HEIGHT OF 8 FEET AND MAXIMUM  
27 UNBALANCED BACKFILL HEIGHT OF 7 FEET, CHANGE THE  
28 MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT SIZE AND SPACING,  
29 MINIMUM NOMINAL WALL THICKNESS FROM “5 @ 41” TO  
30 “NR”; AND

- 1 B. FOR MAXIMUM WALL HEIGHT OF 9 FEET AND MAXIMUM  
2 UNBALANCED BACKFILL HEIGHT OF 7 FEET, CHANGE THE  
3 MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT SIZE AND SPACING,  
4 MINIMUM NOMINAL WALL THICKNESS FROM “5 @ 37” TO  
5 “NR”; AND
- 6 (II) IN THE SUB-COLUMN TITLED “MINIMAL NOMINAL WALL THICKNESS  
7 (INCHES)”; FOR 10 INCHES, FOR A MAXIMUM WALL HEIGHT OF 9 FEET  
8 AND A MAXIMUM UNBALANCED BACKFILL HEIGHT OF 8 FEET,  
9 CHANGE THE MINIMUM VERTICAL REINFORCEMENT SIZE AND  
10 SPACING MINIMUM WALL THICKNESS FROM “5 @ 37” TO “NR”.
- 11 (31) *SUBSECTION R405.1 CONCRETE OR MASONRY FOUNDATIONS.*  
12 AMEND THIS SUBSECTION AS FOLLOWS:
- 13 (I) DELETE THE EXCEPTION TO THIS SUBSECTION; AND
- 14 (II) ADD NEW SUBSECTION R405.1.2 AFTER SUBSECTION 405.1.1 AS  
15 FOLLOWS:
- 16 **R405.1.2 FOUNDATION DRAINS.** SUBSOIL DRAINS HAVING A  
17 MINIMUM 3 INCH DIAMETER OR OTHER APPROVED DRAINS OF  
18 EQUIVALENT CROSS SECTIONAL AREA SHALL BE PROVIDED AROUND  
19 FOUNDATIONS ENCLOSING USABLE SPACES LOCATED BELOW GRADE.  
20 DRAINS SHALL BE INSTALLED ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE  
21 FOUNDATION OR ON THE INTERIOR OF THE FOUNDATION WITH PIPES  
22 OF AT LEAST A 2-INCH DIAMETER LEADING TO THE EXTERIOR EVERY  
23 4 FEET AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE FOUNDATION. IN EACH  
24 CASE, THE TOP OF THE DRAIN SHALL BE BELOW THE BOTTOM OF  
25 SLAB. DRAINS FOR POURED CONCRETE FOUNDATION MAY BE  
26 PLACED ON TOP OF THE FOOTING. SUBSOIL DRAINS SHALL BE  
27 COVERED WITH A MINIMUM OF A 4-INCH DEPTH OF GRAVEL OR  
28 WASHED STONE AND BUILDING PAPER, FILTER CLOTH, OR OTHER  
29 APPROVED MATERIAL. THE END OF A SUBSOIL DRAIN SHALL  
30 DISCHARGE BY GRAVITY OR BY MECHANICAL MEANS TO AN  
31 APPROVED DRAINAGE OUTFALL.

1 (32) *TABLE R507.3.1 MINIMUM FOOTING SIZE FOR DECKS*

2 *DELETE THE TABLE IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:*

3 **TABLE R507.3.1: MINIMUM FOOTING SIZE FOR DECKS**

<b>BEAM SPAN LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO:</b>	<b>JOIST SPAN LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO:</b>	<b>SIZE OF SQUARE</b>	<b>SIZE OF ROUND</b>	<b>MINIMUM THICKNESS</b>
8'	10'	16"	18"	8"
	14'	16"	18"	8"
	18'	16"	18"	8"
12'	10'	16"	18"	8"
	14'	16"	18"	8"
	18'	16"	18"	8"
17'	10'	16"	18"	8"
	14'	16"	18"	8"

4  
5 (33) *SUBSECTION R602.10.5 MINIMUM LENGTH OF A BRACED WALL PANEL.*

6 AFTER THE FIRST SENTENCE INSERT THE FOLLOWING:

7 **WSP METHOD IS THE PREFERRED METHOD OF SHEATHING. IF A METHOD**  
8 **OTHER THAN WSP METHOD IS USED, THEN DETAILED SITE-SPECIFIC PLANS**  
9 **SHOWING THE SPECIFIC LOCATION, LENGTH, AND NAILING METHODS OF**  
10 **PANELS AND WHETHER ANY SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT/HARDWARE, ETC.**  
11 **WILL BE REQUIRED. SUCH DETAILED PLANS SHALL ALWAYS BE REQUIRED,**  
12 **EVEN IF UTILIZING THE WSP METHOD, FOR WALLS WITH LARGE-OPENINGS**  
13 **(E.G. SUNROOM/MORNING ROOMS AND GARAGE OPENINGS). IN ADDITION,**  
14 **ALL PROJECTS WITH SITE-SPECIFIC DETAILED PLANS (I.E. ALL PROJECTS NOT**  
15 **BRACED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WSP METHOD AND THE PORTION OF**  
16 **LARGE-OPENING WALL SECTIONS MENTIONED ABOVE) WILL REQUIRE**  
17 **INSPECTION PRIOR TO THE INSTALLATION OF EXTERIOR WALL**  
18 **WEATHERPROOFING (E.G. HOUSE WRAPS, SIDING, ETC).**

19 (34) *CHAPTER 11 ENERGY EFFICIENCY*

20 DELETE CHAPTER 11 IN ITS ENTIRETY.

21 (35) *SUBSECTION M1401.1.1 HVAC PERMIT REQUIRED.*

22 ADD NEW SUBSECTION M1401.1.1 AFTER SUBSECTION M1401.1 AS  
23 FOLLOWS:

1 **M1401.1.1 HVAC PERMIT REQUIRED.** A HVAC PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR  
2 EVERY SYSTEM INSTALLED IN A NEW SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING OR NEW  
3 SINGLE FAMILY ADDITION AND FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ANY DUCT WORK.

4 (36) *SUBSECTION M1401.3.1 PLANS AND INFORMATION REQUIRED.*

5 ADD NEW SUBSECTION M1401.3.1 AFTER SUBSECTION M1401.3 AS  
6 FOLLOWS:

7 **M1401.3.1 PLANS AND INFORMATION REQUIRED.** EACH PERMIT  
8 APPLICATION SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SIMPLIFIED, BUT ACCURATE,  
9 PLAN DRAWN TO SCALE WHICH SHALL INCLUDE:

- 10 (I) AN INFORMATION BLOCK WITH THE:
  - 11 A. SPECIFIC BUILDING ADDRESS (NOT LOT NUMBER);
  - 12 B. NAME OF THE COMPANY OR PERSON DOING WORK;
  - 13 C. NAME OF THE LICENSEE AND THEIR SIGNATURE;
  - 14 D. STATE LICENSE REGISTRATION NUMBER;
  - 15 E. SCALE USED; AND
  - 16 F. NORTH ARROW;
- 17 (II) ROOMS, WINDOWS, EXTERIOR DOORS, OR OTHER RELEVANT  
18 CONSTRUCTION FEATURES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,  
19 SKYLIGHTS, PORCHES, OR ATTIC ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT THAT MAY  
20 AFFECT THE INTEGRITY OF THE HVAC SYSTEM AND ITS  
21 INSTALLATION; AND
- 22 (III) A LINE DRAWING OF HVACR SYSTEM COMPONENTS SUPERIMPOSED  
23 ON THE PLAN SHOWING THE LOCATION, DIMENSION, AND RELEVANT  
24 ELEMENTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
  - 25 A. INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR HVACR EQUIPMENT;
  - 26 B. DUCT TRUNK LINES AND TRANSITIONS;
  - 27 C. BRANCH DUCTS/RUN-OUTS, DAMPERS, AND REGISTERS WITH  
28 CFM RATINGS;
  - 29 D. THERMOSTATS;
  - 30 E. RETURN DUCTS AND GRILLS; AND
  - 31 F. DUCT INSULATION; AND

- 1 (IV) A SUMMARY OF MANUAL J CALCULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED  
2 WORK.
- 3 (37) *SUBSECTION M1503.3 EXHAUST DISCHARGE.*  
4 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE EXCEPTION AFTER THE FIRST “WHERE”  
5 INSERT THE FOLLOWING:  
6 “AN OPERABLE WINDOW LOCATED WITHIN 12 FEET OF THE COOKING  
7 SURFACE IS PROVIDED AND”.
- 8 (38) *CHAPTER 24 AND CHAPTERS 34 THROUGH CHAPTER 43.*  
9 DELETE THESE CHAPTERS, INCLUSIVE AND IN THEIR ENTIRETY.
- 10 (39) *SUBSECTION P2503.8.2 TESTING*  
11 AFTER THE WORD “RELOCATION” DELETE THE REST OF THE SENTENCE.
- 12 (40) *SUBSECTION P2603.5.1 SEWER DEPTH*  
13 (I) DELETE THE FIRST SENTENCE IN ITS ENTIRETY.  
14 (II) IN THE SECOND SENTENCE INSERT “30” IN PLACE OF THE WORD NUMBER  
15 AND DELETE “(MM)”.
- 16 (41) *SUBSECTION P2708.2 SHOWER DRAIN*  
17 DELETE “1 ½ INCHES [38 MM]” AND SUBSTITUTE “2 INCHES”.
- 18 (42) *SECTION P3114 AIR ADMITTANCE VALVES*  
19 DELETE THIS SECTION IN ITS ENTIRETY.
- 20 (43) *CHAPTER 32, TABLE P3201.7 SIZE OF TRAPS FOR PLUMBING FIXTURES:*  
21 (I) IN THE ROW TITLED “SHOWER”, IN THE ROW TITLED “FLOW RATE”  
22 DELETE “5.7 GPM AND LESS AND TRAP SIZE 1 ½”.  
23 (II) IN SECOND LINE UNDER “FLOW RATE”, DELETE “MORE THAN 5.7 GPM”  
24 AND START THE SENTENCE WITH “UP TO 12.3 GPM”.
- 25 (44) *APPENDIX AK SECTION AK102.1 GENERAL.*  
26 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE, DELETE “45” AND SUBSTITUTE “50”.
- 27 (45) *APPENDIX A K SECTION AK103.1 GENERAL.*  
28 IN THE FIRST SENTENCE, DELETE “45” AND SUBSTITUTE “50”.
- 29

30 **SECTION 3.103. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, 2021**  
31 **EDITION.**

- 1 (A) *IN GENERAL.*
- 2 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE TERM "THIS CODE" MEANS THE
- 3 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, 2021 EDITION.
- 4 (2) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM "BUILDING OFFICIAL" MEANS THE
- 5 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS
- 6 OR THE DIRECTOR'S AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE.
- 7 (3) WHERE THE NAME OF THE JURISDICTION IS TO BE INDICATED IN ANY
- 8 SECTION OF THIS CODE, INSERT "HOWARD COUNTY".
- 9 (4) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM "DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL
- 10 INSPECTION" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND
- 11 PERMITS.
- 12 (B) *LOCAL AMENDMENTS.* THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS
- 13 OF THE ADOPTED CODE:
- 14 (1) *SUBSECTION 101.2 SCOPE.*
- 15 ADD A SECOND EXCEPTION TO THIS SUBSECTION AS FOLLOWS:
- 16 EXCEPTION: EXISTING BUILDINGS UNDERGOING REPAIR, ALTERATION,
- 17 ADDITION, OR CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY MAY COMPLY WITH THE MARYLAND
- 18 REHABILITATION CODE.
- 19 (2) *SUBSECTION 101.5 ADMINISTRATION.*
- 20 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.5 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.4 AS FOLLOWS:
- 21 **101.5 ADMINISTRATION.** SECTIONS 103 THROUGH 118 OF THE
- 22 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021 EDITION, ADOPTED IN THIS
- 23 SUBTITLE, SHALL GOVERN THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF
- 24 THIS CODE.
- 25 (3) *SUBSECTION 101.6 REFERENCED CODES.*
- 26 ADD NEW SUBSECTION 101.6 AFTER SUBSECTION 101.5 AS FOLLOWS:
- 27 **101.6 REFERENCED CODES.** THE CODES LISTED IN THIS SECTION AND
- 28 REFERENCED ELSEWHERE IN THIS CODE SHALL BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE
- 29 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE TO THE PRESCRIBED EXTENT OF EACH SUCH
- 30 REFERENCE.

1 **101.6.1** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL BUILDING*  
2 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE  
3 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE.

4 **101.6.2** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*NFPA 70 NATIONAL*  
5 *ELECTRICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR  
6 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS TITLE.

7 **101.6.3** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING*  
8 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
9 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

10 **101.6.4** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE*”  
11 IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION CODE  
12 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 17.104 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

13 **101.6.5** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS*  
14 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
15 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

16 **101.6.6** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL ENERGY*  
17 *CONSERVATION CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ENERGY  
18 CONSERVATION CODE OF HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
19 SECTION 3.104 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

20 **101.6.7** WHENEVER THIS CODE STATES “1612 OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
21 BUILDING CODE”, IN EACH INSTANCE DELETE “1612 OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
22 BUILDING CODE” AND SUBSTITUTE “SECTION 3114 OF THE HOWARD  
23 COUNTY BUILDING CODE.”

24 (4) *SUBSECTION 102.1 GENERAL.*

25 ADD AN EXCEPTION TO SUBSECTION 102.1 AS FOLLOWS:

26 **EXCEPTION:** ALTERNATIVE FEATURES WHICH ARE ACCEPTED BY THE  
27 BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL BE CONSIDERED IN CONFORMANCE WITH ALL  
28 CODES, PROVIDED THAT THE OVERALL LEVEL OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND  
29 WELFARE OF THE CODE REQUIREMENT IS NOT DIMINISHED BY THE  
30 ALTERNATIVE FEATURE.

31 (5) *SECTION 103 THROUGH SECTION 115.*



1 DELETE SECTION 103 THROUGH SECTION 115, INCLUSIVE AND IN THEIR  
2 ENTIRETY.

3 (6) *SUBSECTION 301.16 FLOOD HAZARD.*

4 IN THE EXCEPTION TO THIS SUBSECTION, DELETE “*INTERNATIONAL BUILDING*  
5 *CODE*” AND SUBSTITUTE “SECTION 3114 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY  
6 BUILDING CODE.”

7 (7) *SUBSECTION 307.2.2 DRAINPIPE MATERIALS AND SIZES*

8 IN THE THIRD SENTENCE, DELETE “THE APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER  
9 7 OF”.

10 (8) *SUBSECTION 402.1 NATURAL VENTILATION.*

11 AFTER THE LAST SENTENCE, INSERT THE FOLLOWING:

12 “IF CROSS VENTILATION CANNOT BE PROVIDED, AN OPERABLE WINDOW  
13 WITHIN 12 FEET OF THE COOKING SURFACE IS ACCEPTABLE.”

14  
15 **SECTION. 3.104. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION**  
16 **CODE, 2021 EDITION.**

17 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

18 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE TERM “THIS CODE” MEANS THE  
19 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, 2021 EDITION.

20 (2) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM "CODE OFFICIAL" MEANS THE DIRECTOR  
21 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS OR THE  
22 DIRECTOR’S AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE.

23 (3) WHERE THE NAME OF THE JURISDICTION IS TO BE INDICATED IN ANY  
24 SECTION OF THIS CODE, INSERT "HOWARD COUNTY ".

25 (B) *LOCAL AMENDMENTS.* THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
26 OF THE ADOPTED CODE:

27 (1) *SUBSECTION C101.1 TITLE.*

28 DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND INSERT THE FOLLOWING:

29 **C101.1 TITLE.** THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE ENERGY  
30 CONSERVATION CODE OF HOWARD COUNTY.

31 (2) *SUBSECTION C101.6 REFERENCED CODES.*

1 ADD NEW SUBSECTION C101.6 AFTER SUBSECTION C101.5 AS FOLLOWS:  
2 **C101.6 REFERENCED CODES.** THE CODES LISTED IN THIS SECTION AND  
3 REFERENCED ELSEWHERE IN THIS CODE SHALL BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE  
4 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE TO THE PRESCRIBED EXTENT OF EACH SUCH  
5 REFERENCE.

6 **C101.6.1** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL BUILDING*  
7 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE  
8 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE.

9 **C101.6.2** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*NFPA 70 NATIONAL*  
10 *ELECTRICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR  
11 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS TITLE.

12 **C101.6.3** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING*  
13 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
14 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

15 **C101.6.4** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FIRE*  
16 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION  
17 CODE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 17.104 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY  
18 CODE.

19 **C101.6.5** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS*  
20 *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
21 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

22 **C101.6.6** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL*  
23 *MECHANICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE MECHANICAL CODE OF  
24 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.103 OF THIS  
25 SUBTITLE.

26 (3) *SECTION C101.7 ADMINISTRATION.*

27 ADD NEW SUBSECTION C101.7 AFTER SUBSECTION C101.6 AS FOLLOWS:  
28 **C101.7 ADMINISTRATION:** SECTIONS 103 THROUGH 118 OF THE  
29 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2021 EDITION, ADOPTED IN THIS  
30 SUBTITLE, SHALL GOVERN THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF  
31 THIS CODE.

- 1           (4)    *SECTION C103 THROUGH SECTION C110.*  
2                    DELETE SECTIONS C103 THROUGH C110, INCLUSIVE AND IN THEIR  
3                    ENTIRETY.
- 4           (5)    *SECTION C 202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS.*  
5                    DELETE THE DEFINITION OF “CODE OFFICIAL”.
- 6           (6)    *SUBSECTION R 101.1 TITLE.*  
7                    DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND INSERT THE FOLLOWING:  
8                    **R101.1 TITLE.** THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE ENERGY  
9                    CONSERVATION CODE OF HOWARD COUNTY.
- 10          (7)    *SUBSECTION R101.6 REFERENCED CODES.*  
11                    ADD NEW SUBSECTION R101.6 AFTER SUBSECTION R101.5 AS FOLLOWS:  
12                    **R101.6 REFERENCED CODES.** THE CODES LISTED IN THIS SECTION AND  
13                    REFERENCED ELSEWHERE IN THIS CODE SHALL BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE  
14                    REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE TO THE PRESCRIBED EXTENT OF EACH SUCH  
15                    REFERENCE.
- 16                    **R101.6.1** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL BUILDING*  
17                    *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE  
18                    ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE.
- 19                    **R101.6.2** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*NFPA 70 NATIONAL*  
20                    *ELECTRICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR  
21                    HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS TITLE.
- 22                    **R101.6.3** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING*  
23                    *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
24                    HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.
- 25                    **R101.6.4** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FIRE*  
26                    *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION  
27                    CODE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 17.104 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY  
28                    CODE.
- 29                    **R101.6.5** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS*  
30                    *CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR  
31                    HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS TITLE.

1 **R101.6.6** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “*INTERNATIONAL*  
2 *MECHANICAL CODE*” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE MECHANICAL CODE OF  
3 HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.103 OF THIS  
4 SUBTITLE.

5 (8) *SECTION R101.7 ADMINISTRATION.*

6 ADD NEW SUBSECTION R101.7 AFTER SUBSECTION R101.6 AS FOLLOWS:

7 **R101.7 ADMINISTRATION:** SECTIONS 103 THROUGH 118 OF THE  
8 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2015 EDITION, ADOPTED IN THIS  
9 SUBTITLE, SHALL GOVERN THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF  
10 THIS CODE.

11 (9) *SECTION R103 THROUGH SECTION R110.*

12 DELETE SECTIONS R103 THROUGH R 110, INCLUSIVE AND IN THEIR  
13 ENTIRETY.

14 (10) *SECTION R202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS.*

15 DELETE “CODE OFFICIAL” AND ITS DEFINITION.

16 (11) TABLE R402.1.3 INSULATION MINIMUM R-VALUES AND FENESTRATION  
17 REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT.

18 (i) IN THE ROW FOR CLIMATE ZONES 4 EXCEPT MARINE AND 5 AND  
19 MARINE 4, IN THE COLUMN FOR CEILING R-VALUE, DELETE “R60”  
20 AND SUBSTITUTE “R49”.

21 (ii) IN FOOTNOTE G, ADD A NEW SENTENCE “IF CONTINUOUS INSULATION  
22 IS USED ON THE EXTERIOR SIDE OF THE WALL, CONTINUOUS  
23 INSULATION SHALL BE APPLIED OVER A NAILABLE SUBSTRATE AS  
24 DEFINED BY THE IBC”.

25  
26 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,  
27 *Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*