

UNIFORMITY OF INSPECTIONS COMMITTEE
Association of Minnesota Building Officials

September 13, 2018
St. Francis

MINUTES

1. Does the Code allow for a second story bedroom window to provide egress onto the roof of an attached garage?

The Committee agrees that this is an acceptable egress window as long as the window meets the requirements for opening dimensions. R310.1 states that, “every sleeping room shall have at least one operable emergency escape and rescue opening. . . . Emergency escape and rescue openings shall open directly into a public way, or to a yard or court that opens to a public way.”

In this situation, egress onto the adjacent roof would allow for rescue.

2. Does the code allow for the following installation of a dryer vent penetrating the roof?



There are a number of factors that could violate the code or the manufacturer’s installation instructions:

1. There are at least five 90 degree elbows that need to be included as reductions in total allowable vent length.
2. The manufacturer of the **specific** dryer appliance **must** approve this installation.

3. If approved by manufacturer, then the homeowner installs a different dryer and the installation is no longer approved.
4. Is sealant used approved for exterior use?
5. "Fabricated" rain diverter installed at transition to roof flashing. IMG 1827 is inverted at top of roof flashing, creating a trap and will not drain rain water and melting snow.

3. What is the required retention level for pressure preservative treated wood in the following locations:

- A. Above ground decking and guard posts**
- B. Deck posts embedded in the ground supporting a floor only**
- C. Porch posts embedded in the ground supporting a floor and roof system**
- D. Solid sawn wood member below the basement floor supporting a bearing wall which supports interior floor system**

Are new treatment ratings equivalent to previous treatment ratings?

This topic was raised and discussed at the meeting, but not fully answered. We will continue this discussion at a future meeting.

4. Is waterproofing required on detached, slab on grade garages with one course of block that does not retain earth?

Section R406.2 makes it clear that waterproofing is only required when foundation walls retain earth.

5. Can a municipality accept braced wall plans that are performance based without Engineering?

A good discussion followed regarding the expansion of the prescriptive braced wall requirements in the IRC. Braced wall designs that do not follow the prescriptive requirements of the braced wall sections can be accepted if they meet performance requirements. Accepting these designs without engineering depends on the BO's comfort level, knowledge, and experience. Engineering should be asked for whenever the BO is not confident that the design would be structurally sound.