



**TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION**

**HOUSING DESIGN STANDARDS**  
**(SINGLE FAMILY)**

Revised July 13, 2023



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION DIVISION  
GLO-CDR HOUSING DESIGN STANDARDS  
(SINGLE FAMILY)

The purpose of the Texas General Land Office Community Development and Revitalization division's (GLO-CDR) Housing Design Standards (the Standards) is to ensure that all applicants (single family housing applicants) who receive new or rehabilitated construction housing through programs funded through GLO-CDR live in housing which is safe, sanitary, and affordable. Furthermore, these Standards shall ensure that the investment of public and homeowner funds results in lengthening the term of affordability and the preservation of habitability.

All work carried out with the assistance of funds provided through GLO-CDR shall be done in accordance with these Standards and the GLO-CDR Housing Construction Specifications as they apply to single family housing applicants and, unless otherwise defined, shall meet or exceed industry and trade standards.

Codes, laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, or orders of any public authority in conflict with installation, inspection, and testing take precedence over these Standards.

A subrecipient can request a variance for any part of these Standards for a specific project by submitting a written request to GLO-CDR detailing the project location, the need for the variance, and, if required, the proposed alternative. Variance requests can be submitted to:

1700 North Congress Avenue,  
Austin, Texas 78701-1495  
P.O. Box 12873, Austin, Texas  
78711-2873  
512-463-5001 [recovery.texas.gov](http://recovery.texas.gov)

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(SINGLE FAMILY)

## 1. *Overview*

The purpose of the CDR Housing Design Standards is to ensure that all single family home applicants who receive new or rehabilitation construction housing through programs funded by the state of Texas Community Development and Revitalization division live in housing which is safe, sanitary, and affordable. Furthermore, the CDR Housing Construction Specifications, in the context of single family housing, shall facilitate that the investment of public and homeowner funds is a component that could lengthen the term of affordability and preserve habitability.

All single family rehabilitation and reconstruction carried out with the assistance of funds provided through CDR disaster recovery funding shall be carried out in accordance with these Standards and CDR Construction Specifications as they relate to single family housing, and unless otherwise defined shall meet or exceed industry and trade standards.

### 1.1 *Definitions and Acronyms.*

**Contractor** means the builder awarded the contract.

**Contract Administrator** means the grant administrator. This can be the subrecipient.

**Green Standard(s)** means one of these Green Standards: ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes), Enterprise Green Communities, LEED (New Construction, Homes), or the ICC-700 National Green Building Standard (the builder must choose one of these standards as the standard they intend to meet).

**Green Standard Certification** means official certification by an entity empowered to issue such certification for the Green Standard selected by the builder.

**Homeowner** means the person to receive funds for structure.

**Subrecipient** means a unit of local government.

**Work Covered** means all new and remodel construction work called for in the “work write-up.”

**ACCA** refers to the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (quality standard).

**ADA** refers to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**AFUE** refers to the annual fuel utilization efficiency (thermal efficiency measure).

**GFCI** refers to a ground fault circuit interrupter (safety device).

**HQS** refers to HUD's Housing Quality Standards.

**HVAC** refers to heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

**ICAT** refers to the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency.

**ICC** refers to the International Code Council.

**IRC** refers to the International Residential Code (for one- and two-family dwellings).

**LEED** refers to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (green building rating system).

**NEC** refers to the National Electrical Code (safety standard).

**SBCCI** refers to the Southern Standard Building Code.

- 1.2 **Inspections.** Inspections shall be carried out using the applicable CDR Housing Design Standards and Housing Construction Specifications for single family housing rehabilitation and reconstruction in addition to federal, state, and local code requirements. All rooms, porches, exterior areas, crawl spaces, and attic spaces shall be included in all inspections. Inspections will include all issues included in the Housing Design Standards and the Housing Construction Specifications; in addition, when not otherwise indicated, any evident deficiency or hazard will be noted.
- 1.3 **Work Write-Ups.** Work write-ups shall be written with enough detail to specify, each item to be repaired or constructed, quantity of materials to be used and exact location of work. Each item shall relate to a specifically required HQS standard and shall have a specific line item cost estimate.
- 1.4 **Contractors.** Contractors will be selected through a builder assignment method for new construction and:
  - a. Adhere to the terms of the construction contract, including these Standards and the Housing Construction Specifications for single family housing.
  - b. No work will be approved except that which is established in the contract and in written approved change orders by the contract administrator. Whenever the need for clarification results in a change, such issues will result in a written change order prior to any work being completed. Any unforeseen or hidden condition shall be reported to the contract administrator immediately or no later than 3 work days. Any item that conflicts with these standards shall be reported immediately by the contractor.
  - c. Whenever possible the contractor shall make every effort to minimize the impact of the construction on the homeowner. Work shall be carried out swiftly and directly. The work area shall be secured at all times.
  - d. The work area shall be left clean and free from clutter at the end of each day, and the contractor (not the homeowner) will be responsible for storage of materials and tools.
  - e. Prior to the commencement of construction, the homeowner shall arrange to move and store any valuable personal property that might be damaged during

the course of construction. Contractor will maintain protection of existing adjacent surfaces and finishes prior to commencing construction. If property is damaged through the negligence of the contractor, arrangements shall be made by the contractor to reimburse the homeowner.

- f. The contractor shall use the site and its facilities only for specified construction. The electrical, water, sewer, and gas systems shall be used only for construction purposes and during the construction phase only.
- g. Any discrepancy in the contract documents shall be brought to the attention of the contract administrator immediately.
- h. Failure of contractors to meet state of Texas criteria can result in:
  - (1) Contractors not being eligible for payment; and
  - (2) Contractor shall not become party to any future disaster recovery-funded projects.
- i. Within ten (10) days of receiving the issuance of the Notice to Proceed, the contractor shall begin the permitting process.
- j. The number of work days shall be set out in the contract. Upon completion of the work acceptance by the contract administrator and homeowner, the Certificate of Final Inspection is issued and the warranty period begins.
- k. Thirty (30) days after the Certificate of Final Inspection date, the statutory amount retained may be released to the contractor. In the case that punch list/warranty items are still pending from the final walkthrough, the subrecipient reserves the right to hold retainage until all items have been addressed. In the event that punch list items are not completed before the 30-day deadline, the subrecipient reserves the right to have the punch list items completed by others and have the cost deducted from the retained amount.
- l. For reconstruction, payments are to be requested when the project reaches 50 percent (pre-drywall), 100 percent completion, and at 30 days after Certificate of Final Inspection is issued. For rehabilitation, payments are to be made at 50 percent, 100 percent, and at 30 days after Certificate of Final Inspection is issued.
- m. All requests for payments will be made in writing by the contractor to the contract administrator, and will include a list of items, their costs, and a sum of the item costs.
- n. The work to be paid shall be based solely on completed items (less retainage) from the schedule of values submitted by the contractor prior to construction or the Itemization of Bid Form if no schedule submitted.

- o. The contract administrator will inspect work in a timely fashion from the date of request.
- p. All materials used shall be new (unless otherwise specified in the Project Manual) and of a good quality. All work shall be done with skilled craftsmen and accomplished with care. Contractor shall provide samples to the homeowner for selection for all materials as cited in the individual specifications and provide reasonable time to the homeowner to make selections. Contractor shall submit a letter to the contract administrator, signed by the homeowner, stating that the homeowner approves of colors and quality of items such as, but not limited to: (1) paint, (2) flooring materials, (3) brick, (4) shingles, (5) siding, (6) door/window/drawer hardware, and (7) countertops.
- q. Upon completion of construction, but prior to final inspection, the contractor will:
  - (1) Remove all construction debris from the site;
  - (2) Clean and mop all floors;
  - (3) Clean all new and existing paint from other finished surfaces including window glass and mirrors;
  - (4) Leave all newly installed items in operating condition;
  - (5) Light gas water heater pilots, stove/oven pilots, and gas heater pilots;
  - (6) Start all other electrical and mechanical systems;
  - (7) Put all hardware in operating condition; and
  - (8) Schedule a meeting with the homeowner to furnish equipment manuals, warranty documents, and provide home operational and maintenance instructions as needed.
- r. Discovery of defective elements made known to the contractor before or during the construction process shall be brought to the immediate attention of the contract administrator in writing. When repairs are made, the repairs shall reasonably match the surrounding materials in original design and dimension as approved by the contract administrator.
- s. Where additional work is necessary to make repairs or to correct unforeseen dangerous conditions, the contractor shall submit to the contract administrator a proposal consisting of what type of work is needed, the cost of such work, and the time necessary for such work to be completed. Unless it is determined there exists an immediate health and safety danger, **NO WORK SHALL BE AUTHORIZED** until agreed upon in writing by the homeowner, contractor, and contract administrator.
- t. Compensation for additional work will be negotiated in the following manner:
  - (1) The deletion of work proposed, but not started; or, if that is not possible,
  - (2) An increase to the dollar amount of the contract (if funds are available).

- u. Contractor shall be responsible for determining utility needs, to provide adequate sanitary facility(s) and to safely operate equipment on site.

## **2.0 Site**

2.1 **Minimum Site Standards.** The lot or defined site shall be free of debris, garbage, or other accumulations of site stored items that create possibilities of infestations. The site shall be generally level, well drained, and accessible.

2.2 **Sidewalks, Driveways, and Parking Pads.** Sidewalks, driveways and parking pads shall be provided as required by federal, state or local jurisdiction and as follows:

- a. A handicap accessible route shall be provided from the street to one entrance door of the house in accordance with the GLO Visitability Standards.
- b. Sidewalks shall consist of 3- to 4-foot-wide concrete with specified finish from front entrance of the home (front porch) connecting to the driveway or concrete ADA parking pad.
- c. Driveways and Parking Pads: If a driveway or parking pad is required, 9-foot-wide concrete driveway with specified finish from street to garage, (if house has a garage) or to the parking pad (if house has a parking pad). The length of the driveway is 20 FT minimum (unless less is required from the house to street access). Any increase of length over 20 feet is determined on a case-by-case basis by GLO review. The decision as to whether the extended driveway is concrete or gravel rests with the GLO.  
When not in a municipality (or determined by commonality in the existing neighborhood), an all-weather surface, i.e., decomposed granite, shells, crushed limestone, etc., that forms a hard-packed surface for an automobile to drive on may be used as feeder access for a vehicle to travel from the main road to a concrete driveway, parking pad or a suitably sized concrete exit pad that will allow a disabled person to exit and enter his/her vehicle and have access to a 36-inch-wide route that meets ADA standards for slope and leads to a 36-inch-wide entry door on the home.

2.3 **Outdoor Lighting.**

2.4 **Front Porch Light.**

2.5 **Secondary Egress Door Light.**

2.6 **Grading.** The following shall apply:

- a. Finish Grade at house foundation shall provide positive drainage away from structure and shall start a minimum of 6 inches below finish floor at slab on grade or a minimum of 6 inches below pier footings for elevated floor.
- b. Grading below elevated floor slab shall provide positive drainage away from house footprint and prevent pooling under the house.

2.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous and substandard conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Accumulated debris, waste, or garbage either in enclosed areas such as storage buildings or in yard areas.
- b. Deteriorated and/or irreparable outbuildings, sheds, wells, privies, or other structures that are no longer in use or are made unusable by their condition.
- c. Holes, ditches, exposed meter boxes or other conditions that create a tripping hazard excluding drainage ditches that are part of a designed drainage system.
- d. Rodents, insects, or other infestations; pre-emptive measurements should be taken as necessary such as soil treatment (termite control), removal of nearby overgrown vegetation (vermin) to address such issues.
- e. Standing water or depressions that hold water during wet weather, leaking water supply, percolating or leaking sewage.
- f. Exposed pipes, railings or other installations creating tripping hazards.
- g. Damaged, missing or deteriorated walkways, steps, and decks that create tripping hazards or are otherwise unsafe.
- h. Stairways or steps with two steps or more and without a functional rail.
- i. Removing tree limbs that are within 2 feet of the roof or sides of the house.

### 3.0 ***Ancillary Improvements***

#### 3.1 ***Minimum Ancillary Improvements Standards.***

- a. All walkways and decks shall be continuous and usable, free from tripping hazards or other defects.
- b. Walkways that include two or more steps or decks more than 30 inches high shall include railing installed per building code.

#### 3.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.***

- a. Shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home.

- b. Tripping hazards in primary walkways or decks caused by upheaval, broken or damaged wood or concrete or other condition creating a hazard.
- c. Any condition not mentioned that meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

#### **4.0 NOT USED**

### **5.0 Space and Use**

#### **5.1 Design Standards for Ceilings.**

- a. **FLAT CEILINGS:** All habitable rooms and front porches in a dwelling or dwelling unit shall have a minimum ceiling height of 8 ft. 0 in. and a maximum ceiling height of 9 ft. 0 in. At least one half of the floor area of every habitable room located above the first floor shall have a ceiling height of 8 ft. 0 in. The floor area of that part of any room with a ceiling height of less than 8 ft. 0 in. shall not be considered as part of the floor area in computing the total floor area of the room for the purpose of determining floor area requirements.
- b. **Ceiling Treatments:** Single-ceiling step-ups allowed for maximum ceiling height of 10 ft. 0 in. in the following rooms:
  - (1) Living; and
  - (2) Dining.
- c. Vaulted Ceilings may be provided when following roof framing. These should be properly insulated and ventilated.

**5.2 Minimum Space Standards for rooms.** All rooms, except kitchens, baths, hallways, storage rooms, and porches shall have a minimum width of 8 feet. Porches may not exceed 100 SF maximum (regardless of plan) without GLO approval.

#### **5.3 Minimum Space Standards and Appliances for Kitchens.**

- a. All kitchens shall have adequate food storage facilities including at least three linear feet of counter area for food preparation and adequate cabinet space.
- b. All kitchens shall have a working refrigerator/freezer, cook-top, dishwasher and oven.

#### **5.4 Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.**

- a. Shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens,

defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) Lack of adequate food storage, food preparation area, refrigeration or cooking facilities; or
- (2) Spaces that are so small as to be unusable or inadequate for their intended purpose.

b. Any other condition not mentioned that meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

5.5 **Floor Plan.** The floor plan shall include Living/Dining/Kitchen with open floor plans expressed in square footages (sq. ft.) (gross square footage including all framed walls, excluding exterior masonry lug. Attached garages not included).

- a. 2 Bedroom/1 Bath home 1,000 min. – 1,330 max. sq. ft.
- b. 2 Bedroom/2 Bath home 1,000 min. – 1,330 max. sq. ft.
- c. 3 Bedroom/1 Bath home 1,331 min. – 1,425 max. sq. ft.
- d. 3 Bedroom/1 1/2 Bath home 1,331 min. – 1,425 max. sq. ft.
- e. 3 Bedroom/2 Bath home 1,331 min. – 1,425 max. sq. ft.
- f. 4 Bedroom/2 Bath home 1,426 min. – 1,500 max. sq. ft.

5.6 **Required Rooms/Spaces.**

- a. Kitchen.
- b. Living.
- c. Dining.
- d. Bedrooms:
  - (1) 12 ft. 0 in. minimum furniture wall in master bedroom;
  - (2) 11 ft. 0 in. diagonal minimum measurement bedroom size;
  - (3) Minimum 5 ft. 0 in. wide x 2 ft. 0 in. deep closet required in each bedroom and maximum 18 sq. ft.; and
  - (4) Walk-in closet in master bedroom—minimum 25 sq. ft.
- e. Bathroom(s):
  - (1) When a plan includes two or more bathrooms, provide master bathroom and master closet in master bedroom; and

- (2) Bathroom hardware shall include the following:
  - i) One chrome towel bar minimum of 14 inches long
  - ii) Chrome toilet tissue holder
  - iii) Recessed wall-mounted mirrored medicine cabinet
  - iv) Lavatory with mirror centered over lavatory
  - v) Shower/tub if panel kit, shall be ABS plastic unit sealed with matching color silicone sealant
  - vi) Chrome shower curtain rod
- f. Coat Closet is optional.
- g. Full Utility Room with Storage/Hanging Space.
- h. Washer/Dryer hookups.
- i. Covered Front Porch.
  - (1) Minimum depth 5 ft. 0 in; and
  - (2) Minimum 25 sq. ft. and maximum 100 sq. ft.
- j. Back or side door shall have a 5 ft. 0 in. x 5 ft. 0 in. stoop (minimum).

## **6.0 Foundations**

- 6.1 **Minimum Foundation Standards.** All building slabs, piers and other supporting structures shall be designed and sealed by a licensed professional engineer (PE).
- a. Pier placements will have allowable spans between piers or posts for a 4 in. x 4 in. sill 5 feet on center or for a 4 in. x 6 in. sill 7 feet on center.
  - b. All piers shall be designed in accordance with 2012 IRC Building Code or later in accordance with authorities having jurisdiction.
  - c. Leveling shall be done in such a manner as to be permanent and shall be completed before other work begins.
  - d. New posts shall be concrete piers or treated wood posts of a species that has a natural resistance to decay. No concrete cinder block (CMU) pilings permitted.
  - e. Only pressure-treated lumber may be used for pier and beam foundations.
  - f. All newly installed foundations shall be designed in accordance with the 2012 IRC Building Code or later in accordance with authorities having jurisdiction.
  - g. All concrete slabs shall be designed in accordance with these standards, building codes and CDR Minimum Construction Specifications.

- h. Skirting shall have ventilation openings a minimum of 4 feet from each corner, and no less than every 8 feet vent openings shall be covered by louvered screened vents, and shall be a minimum of 50 square inches.
  - i. Creep-hole door shall be hinged and constructed of such insect and decay resistant material to conform with foundation skirt, and shall be of adequate size for entrance into crawl space (minimum of 24 in. x 24 in; recommended 30 in x 30 in.).
- 6.2 ***Hazards and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:
- a. Unsupported beams, or sills or joints in same that have no support or inadequate support.
  - b. Water draining and/or pooling under foundation area.
    - (1) Ground contact of untreated wooden structure; or
    - (2) Severe slab cracks that create or threaten structural or other systems such as plumbing.
  - c. Any other condition not mentioned that meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## **7.0 Floors**

### **7.1 Minimum Floor System Standards.**

- a. All subfloors shall be solid and continuous, without liberal movement or bounce, free from rot and deterioration.
- b. All flooring shall be free from tripping hazards with a minimum of seams spaced at logical locations such as doorways and matched to the existing floor.
- c. All flooring shall be sealed and/or tight at the edges.
- d. Flooring materials for different living areas:
  - (1) Living room – carpet or vinyl plank flooring;
  - (2) Dining room– carpet or vinyl plank flooring;
  - (3) Kitchen – vinyl plank flooring;

- (4) Bedrooms – carpet or vinyl plank flooring;
- (5) Closets – carpet or vinyl plank flooring;
- (6) Bathrooms – ceramic or porcelain tile; and
- (7) Utility – vinyl plank flooring.

7.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Damaged, rotted, or deteriorated subfloor surfaces.
- b. Torn, missing, worn, burned, or otherwise damaged floor coverings that create a tripping hazard or unsanitary condition.
- c. Missing baseboard, shoe mold, or sealant that creates an unsanitary condition.
- d. Any other condition not mentioned which meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## **8.0 Walls**

### **8.1 *Minimum Wall System Standards.***

- a. Exterior wall surfaces shall be free from chipped, cracking or peeling paint. All such loose paint shall be completely removed and bare wood surfaces primed. All primed surfaces shall be properly painted.
- b. Exterior siding shall be smooth and free from gaps, cracks, rot, termite damage, holes and other areas of damage. All gaps, seams, and laps shall be sealed.
- c. Interior wall surfaces shall be free from chipped, cracking or peeling paint. All such loose paint shall be completely removed and bare wood surfaces primed. All primed surfaces shall be properly painted.
- d. Interior walls shall be smooth and comply with HQS standards.
- e. Provide minimum 4-inch exterior walls, 4-inch interior walls (3-inch piping); if plumbing is 4-inch pipe provide 6-inch interior walls.
- f. Exterior wall materials:
  - (1) Masonry:

- i) Minimum masonry (rock, brick, or stucco) 0 percent
  - ii) Maximum masonry (rock, brick, or stucco) 30 percent
- (2) Siding:
- i) Refer to CDR Minimum Construction Specifications for fiber cement siding

## **9.0 Roofs**

### **9.1 *Minimum Roof Systems Standards.***

- a. Roof surfaces shall be smooth and free from defects. No indication of potential failure will be acceptable.
- b. Roofing materials shall be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, Texas Department of Insurance requirements, as well as the IRC 2012 or later in accordance with authorities having jurisdiction and any other local codes.
- c. Refer to CDR Minimum Construction Specifications for roofing materials and installation.
- d. All replaced decking shall be of a type that is compatible with the existing decking, thus making the roof subsurface smooth and free from defects.
- e. Pitch:
  - (1) Minimum 4:12.
  - (2) Maximum 6:12.
- f. Roof Overhang (Soffits): as specified in CDR Minimum Construction Specifications.
- g. Attic access required and shall be located as per plans.
- h. Provide ridge vent as required for proper air circulation. Dimensions shall be listed on plans.
- i. Scuttle hole cover shall be 5/8 inch plywood with smooth finish.
- j. Trim shall be H trim with mitered joints. Paint to match other trim in the dwelling.
- k. Cover shall have insulation batts cut to fit on top of it.

- l. Pull-down attic stairs required when HVAC unit or hot water heater is located in the attic.
- m. A rain diverter strip is required over AC units and entrances (to prevent rain runoff from flowing on the condenser or people entering the dwelling).

## **10.0 *Windows and Doors***

### **10.1. *Minimum Window and Door Standards.***

NOTE: All construction is required to be certified by one of these Green Standards: ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes), Enterprise Green Communities, LEED (New Construction, Homes), or the ICC-700 National Green Building Standard. The builder shall choose the standard and ensure certification by that standard's organization. Where the following standards differ from the Green Certification program, the Green Program standards shall take precedence.

- a. Doors shall be minimum 2 ft. 4 in. for small closets and pantries where accessibility is not required.
- b. Every window, exterior door, and basement or cellar hatchway should be substantially tight and rodent-proof and be kept in a state of maintenance and repair.
- c. All exterior doors to the outside or to a garage shall be 3 ft. 0 in. x 6 ft. 8 in. and shall be insulated and be equipped with adequate security locks including at least one deadbolt per door. Doors should be fire rated as required by code. Peepholes are required on main house exterior doors (not required on garages or out-buildings).  
All windows accessible from ground level without the aid of mechanical devices shall have a security device/lock.
- d. Every window sash shall be:
  - (1) Fully equipped with glass window panes which are without cracks or holes, and all panes shall be secured with an adequate amount of putty. Putty shall not be cracked, broken or missing;
  - (2) In good condition and shall fit tightly, within its frame;
  - (3) Other than a fixed window, capable of being easily opened, shut and locked and shall be held in position by window hardware; and
  - (4) ENERGY STAR qualified or as specified in the builder's chosen Green Standard Certification program.
- e. Every exterior and interior door, when closed, shall fit well within its frame. Exterior doors shall be:
  - (1) Opaque: 0.21 U-value, NO SHGC Rating;
  - (2)  $\leq 1/2$  lite: 0.27 U-value, 0.30 SHGC Rating; or
  - (3)  $\geq 1/2$  lite: 0.32 U-value, 0.30 SHGC Rating.

- f. Every exterior and interior door, door hinge, and door latch and/or lock shall be maintained in good working condition.
- g. Every window, door, and frame shall be constructed and maintained in such relation to the adjacent wall construction, so as to exclude rain as completely as possible and to subsequently exclude wind from entering the dwelling or structure, i.e., it shall have adequate weather stripping.
- h. Window sizes/quantities:
  - (1) Living/Master Bedroom:
    - i) Minimum 30 square feet of glazing
    - ii) Maximum 45 square feet of glazing
  - (2) Dining/Bedrooms:
    - i) Maximum 30 square feet of glazing
  - (3) Kitchen:
    - i) Maximum 15 square feet of glazing
  - (4) Bathroom:
    - i) Maximum 9 square feet of glazing
- i. The total window area that can be opened in every habitable room shall be equal to at least 50 percent of the minimum window area size. The window shall be a viable means of egress and therefore accessible and adequately sized to provide this function.
- j. Every habitable room shall have at least one window which can easily be opened or other such device as to adequately ventilate the room.
- k. Windows are not required in adequately ventilated bathrooms, toilet rooms, kitchens, and other similar rooms when they are equipped with a ventilation system which will completely change the air every 7 minutes and which can be kept in continuous operation when occupied.
- l. Every window or other opening to outdoor space which is used or intended to be used for ventilation shall likewise be supplied with screens covering all of the window areas required for ventilation. The material used for all such screens (doors and windows) shall be not less than 16 mesh per inch and shall be properly installed, maintained and repaired to prevent the entrance of flies, mosquitoes or other insects. Half screens on windows may be allowed provided they are properly installed and are bug and insect tight.

m. Bay Windows (optional in Living and/or Dining Rooms).

(1) Bay windows shall not be deeper than 1 ft. 6 in.

10.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Sealed or blocked windows including windows which have been painted shut, windows which are not operational, or windows which will not function as a viable fire exit such as windows with burglar bars which cannot be opened readily from the inside.
- b. Windows that do not lock or locks that do not function with ease.
- c. Any exterior door which is not insulated, sealed or painted, and which does not have a functioning lockable dead-bolt.
- d. For new construction including reconstruction, windows and/or doors that fail to meet the minimum requirements for federal, state, and local energy codes and the chosen Green Standard Certification program.
- e. For new construction including reconstruction, doors, and thresholds that fail to meet the requirements of no-step entry established by the GLO Visitability Standards.
- f. Any other condition not mentioned which meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## 11.0 ***Weatherization***

### 11.1 ***Minimum Weatherization Standards.***

NOTE: All construction is required to be certified by one of these Green Standards: ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes), Enterprise Green Communities, LEED (New Construction, Homes), or the ICC-700 National Green Building Standard. The builder shall choose their preferred standard and ensure certification by the standard. Where the following standards differ from the Green Certification program, the Green Program standards shall take precedence.

- a. All holes, open seams, or other incursions that result in air leaks will be properly sealed.
- b. All windows shall be properly sealed with elastic putty or gasket material provided to create a tight seal.

- c. All exterior doors shall be adequately weatherproofed.
- d. All exposed plumbing shall be freeze protected or insulated to a minimum R-value of 3.5.
- e. Refer to CDR Minimum Construction Specifications for minimum insulation R-values.
- f. For new construction including reconstruction, homes shall meet the Green Standard Certification requirements.

11.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Air incursion from open holes or seams in exterior walls, windows, or doors.
- b. Open seams in window casements, doors casements or other installations that create air leaks resulting in heat loss or gain.
- c. Missing caulk or putty in windows.
- d. Missing weather stripping or other seal at exterior doors.
- e. Exposed plumbing systems that present freeze hazards or heat loss to hot water pipes.
- f. Inadequate insulation in ceiling.
- g. For new construction including reconstruction, homes that fail to meet the chosen Green Certification Standard.
- h. Any other condition not mentioned which meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## 12.0 ***Electrical***

12.1 ***Minimum Electrical Standards.*** Minimum electrical standards shall comply with local code and/or meet standards as written below.

- a. The minimum electrical service for each dwelling and/or dwelling unit shall be 100 amps, or as adjusted and approved, in writing, by the electrical inspector of the city. In the absence of a city electrical inspector, the

rehabilitation technician for the city/state may make a determination that a lower service is adequate, provided that such determination is in writing with the basis for such determination included. Furthermore, lesser service shall be approved by the service provider or subrecipient.

- b. Service shall be of a three-wire type, with service entry on an approved weatherhead.
- c. All exposed wiring, service lines, and feeders shall be protected and properly shielded in approved conduit.
- d. Unless otherwise required by building and local codes, breaker box is to be located on the first floor in the utility room or garage. In the event that the home does not have a utility room or garage, the breaker box should be located at a place that it is unblocked and easily accessible outside of the home's common areas (living and dining room, hallways, etc.).
- e. Every habitable room within such dwelling shall contain receptacles required by code but not less than the following:
  - (1) At a minimum, two separate and remote wall-type electric convenience outlets;
  - (2) Habitable rooms over 120 square feet shall contain, at a minimum, three separate and remote wall-type electric convenience outlets;
  - (3) All newly installed outlets shall be of the grounded type and tamperproof;
  - (4) Circuit breakers shall be arc-fault type where required by code; and
  - (5) Temporary wiring, extension, or zip cords shall not be used as permanent wiring.
- f. Every habitable room shall have at least one ceiling or wall-type electric light fixture, controlled by a wall switch, or a wall-type grounded electric convenience outlet controlled by a remote switch.
- g. Every toilet room, bathroom, laundry, furnace room, and hallway (hallway where applicable) shall contain at least one supplied ceiling or wall-type electric light fixture, controlled by a wall switch.
- h. Wherever a service outlet is installed within 6 feet of a standing or running water source measurable to the shortest possible distance, (i.e., the top of tubs or lavatories) a functioning GFCI-type outlet will be installed.
- i. Every kitchen shall be wired to meet the requirements of the NEC, based on the size and layout of each individual kitchen.
- j. All heavy-duty appliances, i.e., window air conditioners, freezers, electric stoves, washers, electric dryers, microwaves, etc., shall be supplied with their own outlets on separate circuits, as applicable.

- k. Receptacle convenience outlets installed in or on open porches, breezeways, garages, utility rooms, laundry rooms, etc., shall be of the GFI type.
- l. All wall and/or ceiling type lighting fixtures shall be controlled by a wall switch.
- m. All electric lighting fixtures installed on the exterior shall be of the type approved for exterior use.
- n. All broken and/or missing switch plates and/or receptacle plates shall be replaced.
- o. All outlets and fixtures shall be properly installed, shall be maintained in working condition, and shall be connected to the source of electric power in a proper manner and shall be in accordance with the electrical code of the city and/or the NEC, as applicable.
- p. All work done shall be inspected and approved by the electrical inspector of the city, or by a person who is knowledgeable in electrical requirements and installations, and is approved by the city/county/state.
- q. Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed according to all applicable codes, including but not limited to, IRC 2012 R314 and R315.
- r. Install TV J-box with conduit to attic in one location.
- s. A minimum of one phone jack to be provided. Location to be determined by owner.
- t. Provide exterior W.P. (weatherproof) electrical convenience outlets installed in accordance with local building codes and NEC requirements.
  - (1) Two exterior outlets required, one in front and one in back.

12.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Equipment or wiring which is missing, broken, disconnected, loosely connected, burnt, unsupported, corroded, cracked, split, has evidence of overheating, physical damage, or misuse.
- b. Device or equipment is dirty, full of debris, infested, etc.
- c. Frayed wiring is present.

- d. Circuit breaker, switch, receptacle, fixed equipment, wiring or cable is not compatible with the phase, voltage, amperage, or other characteristics of the electricity in use.
- e. Intermittent operation of fixed equipment, switches, outlets or other devices.
- f. Flexible cord is used as a permanent wiring method.
- g. Interior wiring is surface mounted and not conduit. This excludes crawl spaces and other allowable installations where access to wiring is limited.
- h. Exterior wiring which is exposed to damp conditions, sunlight, or potential damage that is not in conduit.
- i. Bathroom receptacle, kitchen receptacle located within 6 feet of a water source, garage receptacle, or other outdoor receptacle that is not protected by a ground fault interrupting device.
- j. Polarity is reversed in connections or receptacles.
- k. Branch circuits, feeder lines, cable size, device rating, circuit breakers, sub-panels, or service panels are inadequate for the load as calculated by the current NEC standard Section 110-14.
- l. Unlabeled circuit breakers.
- m. Circuits that have been expanded past their original design limits.
- n. Any other condition not mentioned which meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## **13.0 *Lighting***

### **13.1 *Minimum Lighting Systems Standards.***

- a. At least one overhead or other switch operated light shall be installed in each interior room.
- b. At least one light shall be installed at each exterior door operated by an interior switch that is within reach of the door.
- c. Each bathroom will be equipped with one vanity light centered over vanity sink (regardless of plan) and regardless of other light/fan fixtures.
- d. Ceiling fans:
  - (1) Required in bedrooms and living rooms; and

- (2) Ceiling fans in bedrooms and living rooms shall have a light kit and provide a separate wall switch for fan and light.
- e. Provide one porcelain receptacle light fixture in attic switched at attic entrance.
- f. Lighting:
  - (1) All lighting fixtures shall be ENERGY STAR or as specified in the builder's chosen Green Standard Certification program;
  - (2) All light bulbs shall be either high-efficiency compact fluorescent or LED Lighting;
  - (3) Recessed lights shall be insulated can and air-tight (ICAT); and
  - (4) Maximum of four can fixtures per residence.

13.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Missing or dysfunctional overhead or other switch operated lighting in each interior room.
- b. Missing or dysfunctional lighting at each exterior door operated by an interior switch that is within reach of the door.
- c. Any other condition not mentioned which meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## 14.0 ***Water Supply and Wastewater Systems***

### 14.1 ***Minimum Water Supply and Wastewater Systems Standards.***

NOTE: All construction is required to be certified by one of these Green Standards: ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes), Enterprise Green Communities, LEED (New Construction, Homes), or the ICC-700 National Green Building Standard. The builder shall choose the standard and ensure certification by the standard. Where the following standards differ from the Green Certification program, the Green Program standards shall take precedence.

- a. Every dwelling unit shall be connected to a sanitary water supply or functioning sanitary waste/water disposal system.
- b. While CDR-GLO housing program does not typically install or replace wells or septic systems, the following is important information should a project require new installations. Contractor shall secure and pay for all well and septic permits and file all necessary documentation with the City, County,

and/or State agency having jurisdiction. All work shall be performed by a licensed contractor and conform to requirements of all applicable codes and ordinances. Proper permitting, as required, must be in place before any well or septic activity takes place. All state and local regulations MUST be adhered to when installing wells or septic systems. Such regulations include, but are not limited to, proper distancing between wells and septic systems or lines, proper distancing from setback and property lines, [proper disinfection of new wells](#), and proper plugging of abandoned wells. If water quality issues are identified after the installation of a new well, the GLO may review the project on a case-by-case basis to determine whether additional measures are required to ensure a sanitary water supply is provided. *(This guidance applies to NEW wells or septic systems. If no work is performed on the well or septic - they are functioning properly at the time of the program construction work - then this guidance does not apply.)*

- c. Every dwelling unit shall contain a room which is equipped with a functioning toilet and a properly installed lavatory. Said lavatory shall be properly connected to both hot and cold running water, under pressure, and shall be properly maintained in working order. Faucets shall be free from leaks or drips and shall shut off completely.
- d. Every dwelling unit shall contain a bathtub. If more than one bathroom, the second bathroom can contain bathtub or shower. Bathtub and/or shower may be in the same room as the flush water closet and lavatory, or said bathtub and/or shower may be in a separate room. These facilities shall be properly connected to both hot and cold running water lines, under pressure, and shall be maintained in working order. Faucets shall be free from leaks or drips and shall shut off completely.
- e. Toilets and bathrooms shall have doors with a privacy type lock, and such doors, lock, and hardware shall be operable and maintained in working order.
- f. Every dwelling shall have supplied water-heating facilities (traditional or tankless) which are properly installed; are maintained in working condition and free of leaks; are properly connected to any required hot water lines; and are capable of heating water to be drawn for every bath as well as general usage.
- g. Hot water storage associated with traditional water heating facilities shall be no less than 30 gallons for a single family dwelling. All water heaters shall be properly vented and sealed and shall be equipped with a working pressure relief valve and drip log.
- h. Every kitchen sink, toilet, lavatory basin and bathtub/shower, shall be maintained in working condition and be properly connected to an approved water and sewer or septic system.

- i. Potable water supply piping, water discharge outlets, back-flow prevention devices or similar equipment shall be in serviceable condition free from deterioration, corrosion, and blockage, and shall not be so located as to make possible their submergence in any contaminated or polluted liquid or substance.
- j. The following shut off valves will be installed:
  - (1) One owner's shut off at the meter or supply source;
  - (2) One shut off at each toilet;
  - (3) One shut off each for hot and cold water at each sink/lavatory;
  - (4) One supply side shut off at each water heater; and
  - (5) At least two exterior faucets shall be installed, and all faucets shall be freeze protected.
- k. Install water conserving fixtures as specified in the chosen Green Standard:
  - (1) Toilets – 1.6 gallons per flush;
  - (2) Showerheads – 2.0 gallons per minute;
  - (3) Kitchen faucets – 2.0 gallons per minute; and
  - (4) Bathroom faucets – 2.0 gallons per minute.

14.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Lack of a continuous sanitary water supply. Where ground wells are used, this source shall be approved for drinking or a secondary source of drinking water shall be available.
- b. Lack of a continuously functioning sanitary wastewater disposal system.
- c. Missing, dysfunctional, or nonexistent sanitary facilities including a functioning toilet in a separate room designed for such purposes.
- d. The lack of at least one sink and or lavatory for hygiene and at least one sink for kitchen purposes each providing a continuous flow of both hot and cold water.
- e. The lack of at least one functional bathing facility.
- f. Deteriorated, rotted, broken, or otherwise worn water supply or wastewater pipes.
- g. Evident leaks (either continuous or intermittent) of either wastewater or water supply lines.

- (1) This includes evidence of pooling underground of water mains, sewer feeds, or septic drain fields.
- h. Missing or blocked vent pipes.
- i. Missing or dysfunctional shut-off valves one of which shall be located at the following locations:
  - (1) One shut-off at the meter or supply source;
  - (2) One shut-off at each toilet;
  - (3) One shut-off each for hot and cold water at each sink/lavatory; and
  - (4) One supply side shut-off at each water heater.
- j. The lack of fully functioning faucets at each sink/lavatory, bathtub/shower, at and at least two exterior hose bibs.
- k. Any other condition not mentioned which meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## 15.0 *Mechanical Systems*

### 15.1 *Minimum Mechanical Systems Standards*

NOTE: All construction is required to be certified by one of these Green Standards: ENERGY STAR (Certified Homes), Enterprise Green Communities, LEED (New Construction, Homes), or the ICC-700 National Green Building Standard. The builder shall choose the standard and ensure certification by the standard. Where the following standards differ from the Green Certification program, the Green Program standards shall take precedence.

- a. Each dwelling and/or dwelling unit shall be supplied with its own heating system.
- b. All heating facilities shall be properly installed, be maintained in working condition, and be capable of adequately heating all habitable rooms, bathrooms, and toilet rooms contained therein, or intended for use by the occupants thereof, to a temperature of at least 70 degrees F. (21 degrees C.) at a distance of 3 feet above the floor when the outside temperature is at or below minus 10 degrees F.
- c. Ambient heat shall be supplied from an adequate heat source in an adjoining room or hallway.
- d. Every supplied central heating system shall comply with all of the following requirements:
  - (1) The central heating unit shall be safe and in good working condition;
  - (2) Every heat duct, steam pipe, and hot water pipe shall be free of leaks and shall function so that an adequate amount of heat is delivered where intended;
  - (3) Every seal between any of the sections of a hot air furnace shall be air-tight so that noxious gases and fumes will not escape into the heat ducts; liner shall be installed. The liner shall meet or exceed the requirements of the local building/heating code and shall be installed according to same. Where there are no local building/heating codes, equipment and installation shall be inspected and approved by a person qualified in this area as designated by the city/county/state.
  - (4) AC Return filters are to be located at ground-level, accessible to homeowners.
- e. Every supplied space heater shall comply with the following requirements:
  - (1) No space heater burning solid, liquid, or gaseous fuels shall be of a portable type; and

- (2) All mechanical work shall be inspected and approved by the city’s local mechanical/heating inspector and/or the building inspection department, or by a person knowledgeable in mechanical/heating systems and installations that is approved by the city/county/state.
- f. All ranges shall have ENERGY STAR-rated or equivalent power-vented fans and shall exhaust to the exterior.
- g. Bathrooms shall have ENERGY STAR-rated or equivalent power-vented fans that exhaust to the exterior or an operable window. It is considered best practice for utility rooms to also have power-vented fans.
- h. Air-conditioning units shall be minimum 14.5 SEER with gas, heat or electric heat pump HSPF 8.2, or  $\geq 80$  AFUE furnace, sized in accordance with ACCA Manual J and the entire system sized in accord with the Green Standard certification which shall take precedence over suggested minimum recommendations.
- i. Condensing units, at elevated structures, shall be on a platform at finish floor level. For elevated pier and beam home the unit may be suspended off the side of the house.

**16.0 Water Heaters**

**16.1 Minimum Water Heater Standards.**

- a. Both tankless water heaters and conventional hot water heaters can be installed under these standards. Water heaters shall be able to supply a continuous flow of hot water of at least 102 degrees F, and shall be properly installed with gas and/or electric shutoff valves as well as cold water supply shutoff valves. Domestic hot water (DHW) equipment shall meet the following ENERGY STAR efficiency requirements:

	30 Gal	40 Gal	50 Gal	60 Gal	70 Gal	80 Gal
Gas	0.63 EF	0.61 EF	0.59 EF	0.57 EF	0.55 EF	0.53 EF
Electric	0.94 EF	0.93 EF	0.92 EF	0.91 EF	0.90 EF	0.89 EF
Oil	0.55 EF	0.53 EF	0.51 EF	0.49 EF	0.47 EF	0.45 EF

- b. Each unit shall be equipped with a functioning pressure release valve (TPL) which shall release pressure at 150 psi and/or 210 degrees F. Water released shall be exhausted to the exterior of the building.
- c. Hot water heaters shall be installed in an enclosed sealed closet designed for this purpose with combustion air drawn from outside the living area. Any gas water heater installed in garage areas shall be located at least 18 inches above the floor to prevent combustion of fuel vapors. Sealed closets shall

have recessed concrete slab and drain or catch pans piped to the exterior. Closet flooring shall be water-resistant material. Water heaters installed in attics shall comply with access requirements in IRC 2012 or later in accordance with authorities having jurisdiction, and shall have a drain pan with overflow routed to exterior location readily observable when overflow occurs. Exterior-rated tankless water heaters may be installed on the exterior side or back of the house.

16.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead to the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Gas water heaters are prohibited in bathrooms, sleeping rooms, and closets.
- b. Missing gas shut off valve.
- c. Missing water supply shut off valve.
- d. Combustion air taken from living area except when adequate air exchange meets SBCCI standards.
- e. Missing or dysfunctional TPL valve. TPL drain shall flow at an angle not exceeding horizontal and exhaust flow to exterior of building.
- f. Inadequate exhaust pipe, combustion exhaust shall be double walled and skirted at all penetrations.
- g. Storage tanks less than thirty gallons.
- h. Pipes, nipples or tanks elements that are rusted or corroded.
- i. Any other condition not mentioned that meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

## **17.0 *Accessibility***

17.1 ***Minimum Standards for Accessibility.***

- a. All newly constructed housing shall include the following accessible features:
  - (1) At least one 36-inch entrance door (preferably the main entrance) is on an accessible route served by a ramp or no step entrance with a maximum threshold height of 1/2-inch above finished floor;

- (2) Each interior door provides a clear opening of at least 32 inches (34 inches minimum door width) when door is open 90 degrees, unless the door provides access only to a closet of less than 15 sq. ft.;
  - (3) Bathroom walls shall be reinforced with blocking for potential installation of grab bars;
  - (4) Each hallway shall be at least 36 inches wide, and shall be level with ramped or beveled changes at each doorway; and
  - (5) All electric switches, receptacles, and t-stats shall be installed no higher than 48 inches and no lower than 15 inches (measured to the operable parts).
- b. Bathrooms. When homeowner requests an accessible bathroom:
- (1) 36-inch grab bar located behind the toilet with a maximum dimension of 12 inches from adjacent side wall; written GLO permission required to reduce the length to 24 inches to accommodate homeowner request;
  - (2) 42-inch grab bar located to side of toilet located 12 inches from back wall and extending a minimum of 54 inches from back wall; written GLO permission required to reduce the length to 42 inches to accommodate homeowner request;
  - (3) Toilet seats are to be 1 ft. 4 in. to 1 ft. 7 in. above the floor and located within the bathroom to allow a grab bar to be installed on one side of the fixture (toilet shall be installed in the corner of the bathroom to accomplish grab bar installation);
  - (4) Locate the toilet 1 ft. 6 in. from the wall that the grab bar will be installed on (measured from center of toilet to wall);
  - (5) The non-grab bar side of the toilet shall be minimum 1 ft. 3 in. from the finished surface of the adjoining wall, vanity, or from the edge of the lavatory for front lavatory approach and 2 ft. 0 in. for side approach;
  - (6) Toilet flush valve controls shall be on the wide (open) side of the toilet;
  - (7) Vanities and lavatories shall be installed with the centerline of the fixture a minimum of 1 ft. 3 in. horizontally from an adjoining wall or fixture for front approach and 2 ft. 0 in. for side approach.
    - i) Top of fixture maximum height at rim is 2 ft. 10 in. and bottom of vanity apron is minimum 2 ft. 3 in. clear above floor with 1 ft. 5 in.-deep knee space for front approach
  - (8) All exposed hot water supply lines and P-traps are to be insulated.
  - (9) Sufficient maneuvering space shall be provided within the bathroom for a person in a wheelchair or other mobility aid to enter, close the door, use the fixtures, and then re-open the door and exit:
    - i) When door swings into the bathroom, shall have a minimum of 2 ft. 6 in. x 4 ft. 0 in. clear space within the room to allow the door to close

- (10) Bathtubs and tub/showers located in the bathroom shall include a clear access aisle adjacent to the lavatory that is at least 2 ft. 6 in. wide and extends for a length of 4 ft. 0 in. measured from the foot of the tub.
- (11) Stall showers in a bathroom may be of any size or configuration as long as it is at least 36 in. x 36 in. A minimum clear floor space of 2 ft. 6 in. wide by 4 ft. 0 in. shall be available outside the stall.
  - i) If the minimum of 36 in. x 36 in. is used, the shower shall have reinforcing in the wall for installation of a shower seat opposite of the shower controls
  - ii) Threshold at edge of stall shower shall not exceed 1/2 inch in height
- c. Kitchens. When homeowner requests an accessible kitchen:
  - (1) A clear floor space at least 30 in. x 48 in. that allows a parallel approach by wheelchair is provided at the range or cooktop and the sink and either a parallel or forward approach is provided at oven and refrigerator/freezer;
  - (2) Clearance between counters and all opposing base cabinets, countertops, appliances or walls is at least 40 inches; and
  - (3) In U-shaped kitchens, a minimum of 60 inches turning radius will be provided.
- d. Each electrical panel, light switch, thermostat, or other control device is a maximum of 48 inches above the floor to the highest operable part.
- e. Unless otherwise required by building and local codes, breaker box is to be located on the first floor, installed a maximum 48 inches above the floor to the highest operable part, unblocked and easily accessible outside of the home's common areas (living and dining room, hallways, etc.).
- f. Each electrical plug or other receptacle is minimum of 15 inches above the floor.

## **18.0 Architectural Barriers**

18.1 **Minimum Standards for Architectural Barriers.** For existing housing, architectural barrier removal or accessible features will be approved, as required, but when installed shall meet the following requirements:

- a. All newly constructed ramps shall be constructed as follows:
  - (1) Ramp length required is 1 foot of run for each inch of rise;

- (2) Maximum rise for any run is 30 inches, therefore a landing is required every 30 feet of ramp;
  - (3) Handrails are required on both sides of the ramp if it rises at a greater than 5 degree slope. Clear width between handrails is 36 inches;
  - (4) Landings are required at the beginning and end of each ramp. Landings shall be same width as the ramp and shall be 5 ft. 0 in. long;
  - (5) If ramps change direction, landing shall be minimum 5 ft. 0 in. x 5 ft. 0 in.;
  - (6) Handrails shall be continuous or extend 12 inches beyond top and bottom of ramp segment;
  - (7) Ramps shall be constructed of a non-skid material. Wooden ramps shall be constructed of treated material.
- b. Guardrails. Guardrails shall meet the requirements of the International Residential Code as follows:
- (1) Porches, balconies, or raised floor surfaces located more than 30 inches above the floor or grade below shall have guardrails not less than 36 inches in height;
  - (2) Open sides of stairs with a total rise of more than 30 inches above the floor or grade below shall have guardrails not less than 34 inches in height measured vertically from the nosing of the treads;
  - (3) Porches and decks which are enclosed with insect screening shall be provided with guards where the walking surface is located more than 30 inches above the floor or grade below;
  - (4) Required guards on open sides of stairways, raised floor areas, balconies, and porches shall have intermediate rails or ornamental closures which do not allow passage of a sphere 4 inches or more in diameter; and
  - (5) Exceptions:
    - i) The triangular openings formed by the riser, tread, and bottom rail of a guard at the open side of a stairway are permitted to be of such a size that a sphere 6 inches cannot pass through
    - ii) Openings for required guards on the sides of stair treads shall not allow a sphere 4 3/8 inches to pass through

## **19.0 *Lead-Based Paint***

The use of lead-based paint is specifically prohibited.

## **20.0 *Manufactured Housing***

20.1 ***Minimum Manufactured Housing Standards.*** Construction standards for new manufactured housing units are set by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards act of 1974, the Texas Manufactured Housing Standards Act (Article 5221F), and HUD Code Standards 3280 and 3282.

- a. All manufactured housing shall be installed on a permanent foundation.
- b. All manufactured homes will be tied down through the installation of approved tiedowns adequate to meet state and are to meet TDI requirements.
- c. All road transport accessories such as wheels, trucks, and hitching devices shall be removed to make installation permanent.

20.2 ***Hazardous and Substandard Conditions.*** Hazardous conditions shall include any condition that threatens the health and or safety of the occupants. Substandard conditions include any condition that threatens, defeats or will lead the lack of functional viability of a single feature of a home. These conditions shall include but not be limited to:

- a. A manufactured home that is not permanently situated on a permanent foundation.
- b. A manufactured home that is not adequately tied down or affixed by an approved tie down system.
- c. A manufactured home that has not had its wheels, truck, and hitch removed.
- d. Any other condition not mentioned that meets the definition of a hazardous or substandard condition shall be repaired and/or rehabilitated to meet industry standards.

*Revised February 2018*