



CITY OF SAN JOSÉ, CALIFORNIA

Building Division Informational Handout

Design Criteria and Codes Currently In Effect

Handout No. 2-1
Updated: 2/3/11

General Design Criteria are as follows

1. San Jose is in Seismic Design Category D or E (or F for occupancy category IV where $S1 \geq 0.75$)
2. Basic wind speed is 85 mph.
3. Soil bearing pressure is based on 1,500 pounds per square foot, unless justified by a soils report.
4. The climate zone is Zone 4.
5. Rainfall design is based on two inches per hour.

The following codes are currently in effect in the City of San Jose as of January 1, 2011:

On or after January 1, 2011, all buildings or structure shall be erected, constructed, enlarged, altered or repaired in accordance with the new codes.

The new codes as adopted and amended by Chapter 24 of the San Jose Municipal Code (SJMC) are:

2010 California Building Code based on the 2009 edition of the IBC
2010 California Residential Code based on the 2009 edition of the IRC
2010 California Plumbing Code, based on 2009 UPC
2010 California Mechanical Code, based on 2009 UMC
2010 California Electrical Code based on 2008 NEC
2010 California Existing Building Code
2009 International Existing Building Code
2008 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards
2010 California Green Buildings Standards Code

Note: The City of San Jose has adopted only those portions of the codes referenced in San Jose Municipal Code Title 24 including any amendments by the State of California.

A copy of SJMC Title 24 can be found on the City website at

[http://sanjose.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/California/sanjose_ca/sanjosemunicipalcode?f=templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$3.0\\$vid=amlegal:sanjose_ca](http://sanjose.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/California/sanjose_ca/sanjosemunicipalcode?f=templates$fn=default.htm$3.0$vid=amlegal:sanjose_ca) or obtained from the City Clerk's Office at City Hall 200 East Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113-1905; (408) 535-1260

Additional information can be obtained by visiting our website at www.sanjoseca.gov/building/ or by calling our Information Inspector's voice mail at (408) 535-3555 and leaving a detailed message. In addition you may visit the Building Division in City Hall at 200 East Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113-1905