



Voluntary Upgrade of Existing Structures

CODE REFERENCE

2019 California Building Code (CBC), California Existing Building (CEBC)

FINDINGS:

The scope of work (i.e. items being upgraded, and the standard or level they are being upgraded to) shall be clearly and thoroughly defined on the cover sheet of the plans and the calculations. This information is critical in determining the scope of plan review and would also clarify the extent of upgrade for future reference. When a building is not fully upgraded to a certain code or criteria, the plans shall also identify the scope of work as “Partial Upgrade”.

For the purpose of meeting the current code requirements, the seismic upgrade for the following types of structures shall be considered fully upgraded when the respective criteria per California Existing Building Code (CEBC), adopted by ordinance, is used for analysis and design:

- Unreinforced Masonry buildings (URM): Appendix Chapter A1 of CEBC
- Reinforced Concrete and Reinforced Masonry Wall Buildings with Flexible Diaphragms: Appendix Chapter A2 of CEBC
- Cripple Walls and Sill Plate Anchorage of Light, Wood-frames, Residential Buildings: Appendix Chapter A3 of CEBC
- Earthquake Risk Reduction in Wood-Framed Residential Buildings of Soft, Weak or Open-Front walls: Appendix Chapter A4 of CEBC