



**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION**  
 CURRENT BUILDING CODES, ORDINANCES &  
 TECHNICAL GUIDELINES FOR BUILDING DESIGN

**Current Building Codes & Ordinances**

- 2019 California Building Standards Administrative Code Part 1
- 2019 California Building Code Part 2, Volume 1 (based on the 2018 International Building Code)
- 2019 California Building Code Part 2, Volume 2 (based on the 2018 International Building Code)
- 2019 California Residential Code Part 2.5 (based on the 2018 International Residential Code)
- 2019 California Electrical Code Part 3 (based on the 2017 National Electrical Code)
- 2019 California Mechanical Code Part 4 (based on the 2018 Uniform Mechanical Code)
- 2019 California Plumbing Code Part 5 (based on the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code)
- 2019 California Energy Code Part 6 (Part 7 not used)
- 2019 California Historical Building Code Part 8
- 2019 California Fire Code Part 9 (based on the 2018 International Fire Code)
- 2019 California Existing Building Code Part 10
- 2019 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code) Part 11
- 2019 California Reference Standards Code Part 12
- [Contra Costa County Code, Title VII](#)
- City Ordinances (depending on city where property is located)

**Technical Guidelines**

Seismic Design Category	Section 1613, 2019 California Building Code (CBC)																		
Design Wind Speed	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">CBC:</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Vult, mph</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black; border-left: 1px solid black;">Risk Category</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">90</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-left: 1px solid black;">I</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">95</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-left: 1px solid black;">II</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-left: 1px solid black;">III</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">105</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-left: 1px solid black;">IV</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="padding-top: 10px;">CRC: Vult = 110 mph</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CBC:	Vult, mph	Risk Category		90	I		95	II		100	III		105	IV	CRC: Vult = 110 mph		
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Wind Exposure	Section 26.7.3, ASCE Standard 7-16																		
Soil Report	Residential Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For new single family dwelling, a soil investigation report is required. Exceptions may be allowed by the Building Official.</li> <li>• Additions and alterations, a soil investigation report is required. Exceptions may be allowed by the Building Official. Please fill out and submit form SRQ0108BID (Soils Report Questionnaire) for</li> </ul>																		

	<p>Building Inspection staff to determine if soil report is required.</p> <p>Commercial Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A soil investigation report is required for all commercial projects.</li> </ul> <p>Exceptions may be allowed by the Building Official.</p>
Foundation	<p>Residential Project: Light frame construction</p> <p>Minimum footing dimension per Table 1809.7, CBC, 2019 Edition</p> <p>Commercial Project:</p> <p>Per soil investigation report with minimum dimension per Table 1809.7</p>
Conventional Light Frame Construction (Section 2308, 2019 CBC or 2019 CRC)	<p>Buildings (R-3) that are not designed by California architects or structural/civil engineers must meet the conventional light frame construction or California Residential Code (CRC), 2019 Edition.</p>
Flood Zones	<p>Many parts of the County are in a flood zone. To obtain information, call (925) 646-1623. Public Works Flood Plain Management Program information: <a href="http://www.cccounty.us/documentcenter/view/35453">http://www.cccounty.us/documentcenter/view/35453</a></p>
Climate Zones	<p>There are two climate zones:</p> <p>Zone 3:</p> <p>Is primarily in the western part of the County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• El Cerrito</li> <li>• Kensington</li> <li>• Rodeo</li> <li>• Hercules</li> <li>• San Pablo</li> <li>• Richmond</li> <li>• El Sobrante</li> <li>• Pinole</li> <li>• Vine Hill</li> </ul> <p>Zone 12:</p> <p>Is primarily in the central, eastern, southern and northern part of the County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alamo</li> </ul>

- Antioch
- Bay Point
- Bethel Island
- Blackhawk
- Brentwood
- Byron
- Canyon
- Clayton
- Concord
- Crockett
- Danville
- Diablo
- Discovery Bay
- Knightsen
- Lafayette
- Livermore
- Martinez
- Moraga
- Mt. Diablo
- Oakley
- Old River
- Orinda
- Pacheco
- Port Costa
- Pittsburg
- Pleasant Hill
- Port Chicago
- San Ramon
- St. Mary's College
- Suisun Bay
- USN Weapons Station
- West Pittsburg
- Walnut Creek

**Updated 02/10/2020**