

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES AND INSPECTIONS CODE BULLETIN OF INFORMATION No. 0701		CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA TITLE 4 — Building Construction and Occupancy Code
SUBJECT OF BULLETIN: UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE RESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION WALLS		REFERENCE CODE SECTION(S): R404
ISSUED BY		ISSUE DATE
NAME: Robert F. Murray P.E.	SIGNATURE:	July 11, 2007
TITLE: Chief Code Official		PAGE 1 OF 2

BACKGROUND

Effective June 27, 2007, the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code (UCC) was amended by Act 9 of 2007 (S.B. 437). The Philadelphia Residential Code (PRC) must be modified in accordance with this UCC amendment.

DISCUSSION

The amendment deletes Section R404.1, Concrete and masonry foundation walls, and related Tables R404.1(1), R404.1(2) and R404.1(3) of the 2006 International Residential Code and its successor codes from the PRC. Subsections R404.1.1 through R404.1.8 and their related tables are not affected and remain in the PRC.

In lieu of the deleted section and tables, the following provisions shall apply and are part of the PRC.

Concrete and masonry foundation walls shall be selected and constructed in accordance with:

- (A) all provisions of section R404 of the 2006 International Residential Code and its successor codes except Section R404.1 and Tables R404.1(1), R404.1(2) and R404.1(3); or
- (B) ACI 318, ACI 332, NCMA TR68-A or ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402; or
- (C) other approved structural standards.

Prior to the 2006 Edition of the IRC and its rewriting of Section R404.1, prescriptive requirements for foundation anchorage were set by Section R403.1.6. With this deletion of R404.1 from the UCC, those requirements, including anchor bolt spacing, are once again set by Section R403.1.6 (2006 Edition).

POLICY

All foundation construction shall be in accordance with plans approved by the Department.

As per Act 9, the amendment takes effect IMMEDIATELY.

Permits issued prior to this amendment shall not be affected unless the applicant applies for a modification pertaining to a concrete or masonry foundation wall. Such modification shall comply with the above PRC amendment. Standard practices and fees for an amended permit shall apply.

Plans approved prior to this amendment shall not be affected unless resubmitted for a modification of the plans pertaining to a concrete or masonry foundation wall. Such modification shall comply with the above PRC amendment. Standard practices and fees for amending approved plans shall apply.

Plans currently under review, if submitted prior June 28th, shall be reviewed for compliance with the PRC as written prior to this amendment, unless the applicant elects to withdraw and resubmit the plans to be reviewed for compliance to the PRC as now amended. There shall be no fee for this resubmission.

If plans are currently under review but submitted after June 27th, they shall be reviewed for compliance with the PRC as amended above. If it is necessary to redesign such plans to comply with the PRC as amended, there shall be no fee for this resubmission.

Plans accompanying new permit applications shall comply with the above amendment of the PRC.