



INFORMATION BULLETIN / PUBLIC - PLUMBING CODE

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Sprinkler Protection for Exterior Projections

This bulletin clarifies the City of Los Angeles code interpretation of minimum sprinkler design and installation requirements for protection of exterior projections per Los Angeles Plumbing Code, Chapter 20, Section 2010.0, 2013.0, and 2014.0 NFPA code adoption and amendments.

Depending on the type of sprinkler system and type of construction, sprinklers may be omitted from canopies, roofs, porte-cocheres, balconies, decks or similar projections.

NFPA 13 Systems:

- A) Sprinklers are required below canopies, roofs, balconies, decks, or similar projections greater than 4 feet in width except if the projection meets all of the following conditions: The projection is constructed with non-combustible, limited combustible or fire retardant-treated wood as defined in NFPA 703, contains no fuel fired equipment or storage below, and has no habitable space or occupancy above. (NFPA 13 (2016 Edition) sections: 8.15.7.1, 8.15.7.2, A.8.15.7.2, 8.15.7.3)
- B) Sprinklers are required under areas of buildings where above-grade floors extend more than 4 feet wide beyond the exterior wall below, and in all recessed areas including, but not limited to entries, alcoves, roofs or exits more than 4 feet deep. (NFPA 13 (2016 Edition) sections: 8.15.7.2, A.8.15.7.2)
- C) Sprinklers are required for dwelling unit balconies and/or similar projections that extend or recess more than 2 feet, combustibles shall be considered stored and handled under all dwelling unit balconies, decks, roofs and similar projections. (NFPA 13 (2016 Edition) section: 8.15.7.5)

NFPA 13R Systems:

- A) Where a roof or deck is provided above, sprinklers shall be installed to protect attached exterior balconies, attached exterior decks, and ground floor patios serving dwelling units in buildings of Construction Type V when greater than 2 feet. (NFPA 13R (2016 Edition) section 6.6.5.1, 6.6.8, NFPA 13 (2016 Edition) section: 8.15.7)
- B) Sprinklers are required under areas of buildings where above-grade floors extend more than 4 feet wide beyond the exterior wall below, and in all recessed areas including, but not limited to entries, alcoves, or exits more than 4 feet deep. (NFPA 13R (2016 Edition) sections: 6.6.1, 6.6.5.1, 6.6.8, NFPA 13 (2016 Edition) section: 8.15.7)

NFPA 13D Systems:

- A) Sprinklers are required for enclosed porches, carports, or similar spaces with habitable spaces located above or fuel fired equipment installed underneath. (LABC 2020, Chapter 35, NFPA 13D (2016 Edition) section 8.3.4, NFPA 13D (2016 Edition) Section 8.3.5.1.2)
- B) Sprinklers are required under exterior projections above any single entrance/exit of a dwelling greater than 2 feet. (NFPA 13D (2016 Edition) section 8.3.6)