Dwellings in High Wind Velocity Areas (HWA)

The “High Wind Velocity” areas are designated to be all of the territory in the City of Los Angeles lying:

1. Northeast of San Fernando Road and north of Roscoe Boulevard extended easterly from San Fernando Road to City limits.
2. Northerly of Chatsworth Drive from the San Diego Freeway easterly to the Los Angeles-San Fernando City limit.
3. Northerly of Devonshire Street from the San Diego Freeway westerly to the City limit.
4. Northerly of Plummer Street from Topanga Canyon Boulevard westerly to the City limit.
5. Westerly of Valley Circle Boulevard from Plummer Street to Roscoe Boulevard and extended southerly to Stagg Street; Brackenridge Street southwesterly to Valley Circle Boulevard; Valley Circle Boulevard to the Ventura Freeway.

All dwellings and accessory buildings (including attached patio covers and sun shelters) that are constructed in a “High Wind Velocity” area shall comply with the provisions of this Information Bulletin in addition to the applicable requirements of the code.

A. Post and Beam Anchorage:

All roof beams and supporting posts shall be anchored to provide resistance against uplift. Posts shall be anchored to the footings or under-floor construction. All anchorage shall not be less than one 3/4" diameter thru bolt with 1/4" thick steel side plate on each side, or 7/8" diameter lag screw, minimum 3 ½" spacing between center line of front and back lag screw, with 1/4" thick steel side plate on each side.

EXCEPTION: Other types of anchorage may be used, provided design computations are furnished for a wind pressure in an upward direction per ASCE 7, Section 27.4 or Section 28.4 at basic wind speed, V = 110 mph.

B. Cantilever Overhangs:

Cantilever overhangs exceeding six feet shall be designed for a wind pressure of 54 pounds per square foot acting in an upward direction. (ASCE 7 Figure 30.5-1)

C. Roofing:

1. Besides required fasteners per Section 1507.2.6 and Section 1507.7.3.1, asphalt and slate shingles shall be bonded to the underlay with a one-inch diameter spot of asphalt cement under each tab or by using a 1/8-inch diameter minimum bead of asphalt cement. The
asphalt cement shall be of a type approved by the Superintendent of Building.

EXCEPTION: Bonding by asphalt cement will not be required for self-sealing shingles which bear the Underwriter’s Laboratories, Inc. label for wind-resistant shingles.

2. Tile roofs shall have all boundary tile attached with either 11-gage nails or approved ties. Boundaries include all eaves, hips, ridges, and gable rakes. In addition to the nails or ties, such boundary tile shall be attached at the exposed end to the next tile below or to the wood support with a continuous bead of roofer’s mastic. Every field tile shall be attached with tile attachment per Table 1507.3.7 or other approved devices.

For a mission type tile, cement mortar may be substituted in lieu of roofer’s mastic for tile-to-tile connection, provided the tiles are saturated prior to installation. Barge and rake tile shall be attached with a minimum of two nails. Open ends of eave tile shall be filled with either a birdstop or mortar. If mortar is used, it shall be applied to saturated tile.