



CITY OF MEDFORD BUILDING SAFETY DEPARTMENT INFORMATION HANDOUT

RESIDENTIAL

Design Criteria and Current Codes Effective as of 1/01/2018

General Design Criteria:

- **Earthquake Loads** (seismic) – Table R301.2 (1) lists Medford (Jackson County) as being in seismic zone D1.
- **Wind Loads** - Design wind speed is 120 miles per hour; see section R301.2.1 for additional design information.
 - Most areas of Medford can be classified as wind exposure category B. However, some areas may meet the criteria for exposure C. The design professional is responsible for justifying the exposure selected for the specific area of construction per R301.2.1.3
- **Soils and Foundations**
 - Geotechnical investigation is required for all development within the city limits East of Foothills Road and N. Phoenix Road. For additional information, see the *Building Safety Department Policy Requiring Geotechnical Investigation* (see additional information below) per R403.1.10.
 - Soil bearing pressure - 1,500 pounds per square foot (psf), unless justified by a soils report. A lesser bearing pressure may be required in specific locations.
 - The frost depth below 2,500 feet is 12”.
- **Live Loads** - Roof snow load in Medford City Limits is 25 PSF; no drifting requirements.
- **Rainfall** - design is based on 1.3 inches per hour.

Current Codes:

2017 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC)

Wall Bracing may be per 2008 ORSC Chapter 6

2014 Oregon Fire Code (OFC) See Appendix “N” OSSC and Appendix “D” OMSC

2017 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC)

2017 Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC)

2017 National Electrical Code (NEC)

Property Maintenance Code of Medford (PMCM)

2010 Oregon Manufactured Dwelling Installation Specialty Code (OMDISC)

2002 Oregon Manufactured Dwelling and Park Specialty Code (MD&P)

2010 Oregon Solar Installation Specialty Code (OSISC)

Oregon codes are available to *view for Free* online! <http://www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/>

Policy Requiring Geotechnical Investigation: go to www.cityofmedford.org; select “Building” from “City Departments”; select “Building Department Policies” on the left side of the page.