

BUILDING CODE MANUAL COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION Based on the 2011 LACBC

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HORIZONTAL PROJECTION AS BUILDING AREA

The term "Projection" is a general term used in the code to describe all projections extending beyond the exterior wall of a building. Some projections may be classified as "architectural projections" or "horizontal projections" and/or still others are defined in Chapter 10 as part of the means of egress, such as, "egress balcony," "exterior exit ramp," or "exterior exit stairway."

Architectural projections are generally structures that provide an artistic feature to a building without any particular function, such as, awnings, balconets, bay windows, cornices, gargoyles and oriel windows, etc. Egress balcony or exterior exit ramp and stairway have particular function and purpose as part of the means of egress and are required to comply with the requirements of Chapter 10. Although the term "horizontal projection" is considered part of the building area, this term is not defined. Building area is defined as follows:

AREA, **BUILDING** The area included within surrounding *exterior walls* (or *exterior walls* and *fire walls*) exclusive of vent shafts and courts. Areas of the building not provided with surrounding walls shall be included in the *building area* if such areas are included within the <u>horizontal projection</u> of the roof or floor above.

For the purpose of providing a consistent interpretation and enforcement of the code requirements, a definition of the term "horizontal projection" shall be defined as follows:

HORIZONTAL PROJECTION shall mean any roofed projection intended for shelter or occupancy and constructed as a *roof assembly* or floor/ceiling assembly above. Horizontal projection may include awnings, canopies, marquees, patio covers, covered porches, balconies, eaves, eave overhangs, roofed overhangs, breezeways, covered decks...etc

Horizontal projection shall comply with the following requirements:

- Horizontal projection greater than 5 feet in width shall be included as part of the building area limitation of Chapter 5.
- The area under the perimeter of the horizontal projection shall be used to determine the building area.
- The perimeter of the horizontal projection shall comply with the opening and exterior wall protection requirements of Section 705.
- The construction of the horizontal projection shall comply with the type of construction requirements of Chapter 6 or Section 1406, whichever provides the greatest fire protection.
- The construction of the horizontal projection shall comply with applicable provisions of Chapter 7A.

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