

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PRESENTATION: Construction Safety – Code Review & Case Studies

- Q1. All DOB filing require an asbestos report. For an unsafe building that needs immediate shoring, do we need to get an asbestos report or can we wait until the building is safe to send in the asbestos inspector?**
- A1. The Department shall be notified of a hazardous condition AC28-301.1.
- Q2. In general speaking, to remove load bearing wall, what Controlled Inspection is applicable, other than structural stability?**
- A2. You are referring to the Structural Stability - Existing Buildings special inspection.
- Q3. Now that NYC experiences hurricane winds has the wind load requirements changed for sheds?**
- A3. Wind load design was mandated in the 1968, 2008, and 2014 Building Codes.
- Q4. What is the wind load factor to be considered in design?**
- A4. Chapter 16 defines wind load requirements.
- Q5. Are there standards for overhead protection for falling objects?**
- A5. Overhead protection is defined in Chapter 33, refer to BC3307.6.4 Design and Construction of Sidewalk Sheds. The design engineer is to design for site conditions specific to the site above the minimums specified in the Code.
- Q6. Does DOB think that Shed design of 300PSF should be increased for Demo jobs?**
- A6. The Code specifies reasonable minimums, if the design engineer requires a higher load capacity it shall be designed for the higher value. The DM engineer shall coordinate with the shed applicant if parties are different.
- Q7. Are side walk shed designs submitted to DOB for review?**
- A7. Sidewalk shed applications are typically professionally certified and are mandated to be filed and permitted.

Q8. Is there any concern about using C-hooks on parapets that have thermal breaks per the new ECC requirements?

A8. The thermal break requirements of the Energy Code do not relieve the designer from meeting the support requirements of Chapters 16 and 33 of the Building Code. An acceptable approach must meet both. The use of C-hooks should not be a problem, as long as, there is proper protection for the parapet wall on which they are used and the wall has been found to be adequate for the use.

Q9. When do you require CD-5 Permit for hoist materials only for roof repairs?

A9. Please see the following guidance on CD-5 applications at <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/safety/hanging-scaffold-application-procedures.page>. Additional questions can be submitted to the NYC DOB Cranes and Derricks Department.

Q10. If a wall probe is being completed on a facade, is a sidewalk shed required to be installed, or can the contractor provide public protection by use of flag men? If a shed is required, what are the extents for the shed placement?

A10. Yes, this is an overhead hazard. When scaffolds are used along public facing exposures, sidewalk sheds are required. Please refer to BC3307.6.2 for additional information on this requirement including the extent of the sidewalk shed.

Q11. When a C-hook system is used, who is responsible for verifying that a parapet has sufficient capacity for the loads imposed?

A11. Please refer to BC3314.4.3.1.

Q8. Is wood blocking between top of parapet and underneath C-hooks allowed?

A8. Wood blocking is allowed if the designer (rigger or RDP) allows it. The designer would need to secure C-hook to prevent falling and it would have to be within the manufacturer's specifications.