



TOWN of PORTOLA VALLEY

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June 12, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

The Town of Portola Valley Town Council recently adopted an ordinance for the Town-wide adoption of Chapter 7A, including a definition of "new building" as it relates to the requirements of Chapter 7A of the Building Code. The ordinance amends the Town's Building Regulations requiring the use of ignition resistant materials and construction methods. All new structures shall comply with the Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure as specified in Chapter 7A of the 2007 California Building Code.

We are forwarding this information to you as a Roofing Contractor that performs work within the Town of Portola Valley. Please be advised of the following:

Roofing: Non-combustible or Class A roofing is already the standard of care for the Town. Additionally, the space between a roof covering and roof decking must be designed to prevent the intrusion of flames and embers. There are specifications for flashing, and requirements that roof gutters are "provided with a means to prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris in the gutter."

Enclosed please find a handout on Roofing requirements. If you have any questions or need any further clarification, please feel free to contact us at (650) 851-1700, extension 216 or visit the Town's website at www.portolavalley.net

Sincerely,

Leslie A. Lambert
Planning Manager

Gary Fitzer
Senior Building Official

enclosure

Roofing.

General.

Roofs shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 7A and Chapter 15. Roofs shall have a roofing assembly installed in accordance with its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Roof coverings.

Where the roof profile allows a space between the roof covering and roof decking, the spaces shall be constructed to prevent the intrusion of flames and embers, be firestopped with approved materials or have one layer of 72 pound (32.4 kg) mineral-surfaced nonperforated cap sheet complying with ASTM D3909 installed over the combustible decking.

Roof valleys.

When provided, valley flashings shall be not less than 0.019-inch (0.48 mm) (No. 26 galvanized sheet gage) corrosion-resistant metal installed over a minimum 36-inch-wide (914 mm) underlayment consisting of one layer of 72 pound (32.4 kg) mineral-surfaced nonperforated cap sheet complying with ASTM D3909 running the full length of the valley.

Roof gutters.

Roof gutters shall be provided with the means to prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris in the gutter.

Attic ventilation.

General.

When required by Chapter 15, roof and attic vents shall resist the intrusion of flame and embers into the attic area of the structure, or shall be protected by corrosion-resistant, noncombustible wire mesh with openings a minimum of 1/8-inch (3.2 mm) and shall not exceed 1/4-inch (6 mm) or its equivalent.

Eave or cornice vents.

Vents shall not be installed in eaves and cornices.

Exception: Eave and cornice vents may be used provided they resist the intrusion of flame and burning embers into the attic area of the structure.