

Item No.	2006 IRC Sect.	2007 RCNYS Sect.	Title	Summary	Subcommittee Action	Narrative
Chapter 3						
3.7	R301.2.1.2	R301.2.1.2	Protection of openings	The allowance to design buildings as "partially enclosed," in lieu of protecting glazed openings, was removed from the 2006 IRC	11/1 - NYS modification approved ¹	Section R301.2.1.2 of the 2006 IRC requires that glazed openings in wind-borne debris regions be protected by impact-resistant glass and removed the allowance to design buildings as "partially enclosed" in lieu of protected glazing. The Building Code of New York State Technical Subcommittee approved the modification of exception 2 of Section 1609.1.2, which restored the allowance for unprotected openings in wind borne debris regions where the building is category I or II and is designed as open and partially enclosed in accordance with ASCE 7. The impact on IRC construction was determined to be significant. Additionally, it was decided that the Residential Code should not deviate from the design and construction practices allowed by the Building Code Technical Subcommittee's modification.
3.12	R305.1	R305.1	Ceiling height	Ceiling height is modified in the RCNYS to require a minimum of 7 feet 6 inches in habitable space.	10/11 - 2006 IRC language approved ²	Maintaining the historical NYS requirement for a minimum habitable space ceiling height of 7 feet 6 inches, rather than the 2006 IRC minimum of 7 feet, could not be justified. No data or anecdotal information supports any benefit derived from a NYS minimum ceiling height 6 inches higher than a national standard.
3.14	R310.1	R310.1	Emergency escape and rescue openings	All basements are required to have emergency escape and rescue openings in the 2006 IRC.	10/11 - NYS modification approved ³	Section R310.1 of the 2006 IRC requires that all basements be provided with at least one emergency escape and rescue openings, regardless of whether or not they contain habitable space. The impact on construction practices and costs in NYS was determined to be significant in relation to any benefit gained by assuming all basements eventually contain habitable space. Imposing a costly and detail-intensive requirement "just in case" could not be justified.
Chapter 4						

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4.65	R404.1	R404.1	Foundation and Retaining Walls	The entire section was extensively rewritten in the 2006 IRC, including three new tables - R404.1(1) - (3)	11/8 - NYS modification approved ⁴	This section has since been significantly modified in the 2007 IRC Supplement. As an example of the problems created by the new requirements and tables, a typical foundation wall in the best soil class would require a maximum anchor bolt spacing of 29 inches per Table R404.1(2) Maximum Plate Anchor-bolt Spacing for Supported Foundation Wall. Sections R403.1.6, R403.1.6.1, R404.3 already adequately address anchor bolt spacing. Where unusual conditions exist (bad soil class, excessive unbalanced fill or aspect ratio) the involvement of a registered design professional is routine. The new prescriptive requirements/tables were found to be confusing, complex, and unnecessary, and would adversely impact both standard construction practices and construction costs.
Chapter 6						
6.10	R613.2	NA	Window sills	This new section requires a minimum 24-inch sill height above the finished floor where the distance to grade is 72 inches or greater, with some allowances and exceptions	11/1 - NYS modification to delete section in its entirety approved ⁵	While the intent of the section is understood - to reduce accidental falls by children out windows, it is not believed that the requirement would solve the problem. It is common to arrange furnishings, such as beds and chairs, so that they are directly in front of a window, more so when a window's sill height off the finished floor is 2 feet or more. This requirement would provide no protection against falls out windows and would negatively affect the design and construction of IRC dwellings.
Part VIII Chapters 33 - 42						
33.1	Part VIII	Part VIII	Electrical	Part VIII (Chapters 33 through 42) is produced and copyrighted by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and is based on the 2005 National Electrical Code® (NEC®) (NFPA 70-2005),	10/25 - NYS modification to reserve Part VIII and reference NFPA 70 - 2008 approved ⁶	This action ensures the uniformity of electrical requirements on all structures in NYS - all other Codes of NYS referencing NFPA 70 will cite the 2008 edition; simplifies Code compliance for electricians and verifying compliance for third-party electrical inspectors; and guarantees increased life safety through the application of the most current electrical requirements.

- R301.2.1.2 Protection of openings.** Windows in buildings located in windborne debris regions shall have glazed openings protected from windborne debris or the building shall be designed as a partially enclosed building in accordance with ASCE 7. Glazed opening protection for windborne debris shall meet the requirements of the Large Missile Test of an approved impact resisting standard or ASTM E 1996 and ASTM E 1886 referenced therein.
- R305.1 Minimum height.** Habitable rooms, hallways, corridors, bathrooms, toilet rooms, laundry rooms and basements shall have a ceiling height of not less than 7 feet (2134 mm). The required height shall be measured from the finish floor to the lowest projection from the ceiling.
- R310.1 Emergency escape and rescue required.** Basements with habitable space and every sleeping room shall have at least one operable emergency and rescue opening. . .
- Delete Table R404.1(1) Top Reactions and Prescriptive Support for Foundation Walls; Table R404.1(2) Maximum Plate Anchor-bolt Spacing for Supported Foundation Wall; and Table R404.1(3) Maximum Aspect Ratio, L/w for Unbalanced Foundations. Delete text as follows:

R404.1 Concrete and masonry foundation walls. Concrete and masonry foundation walls shall be selected and constructed in accordance with the provisions of Section R404 or in accordance with ACI 318, ACI 332, NCMATR68–A or ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 or other approved structural standards. When ACI 318, ACI 332 or ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 or the provisions of Section R404 are used to design concrete or masonry foundation walls, project drawings, typical details and specifications are not required to bear the seal of the architect or engineer responsible for design, unless otherwise required by the state law of the jurisdiction having authority.

Foundation walls that meet all of the following shall be considered laterally supported:

1. Full basement floor shall be 3.5 inches (89 mm) thick concrete slab poured tight against the bottom of the foundation wall.
2. Floor joists and blocking shall be connected to the sill plate at the top of wall by the prescriptive method called out in Table R404.1(1), or, shall be connected with an approved connector with listed capacity meeting Table R404.1(1).
3. Bolt spacing for the sill plate shall be no greater than per Table R404.1(2).
4. Floor shall be blocked perpendicular to the floor joists. Blocking shall be full depth within two joist spaces of the foundation wall, and be flat blocked with minimum 2-inch by 4-inch (51 mm by 102 mm) blocking elsewhere.
5. Where foundation walls support unbalanced load on opposite sides of the building, such as a daylight basement, the building aspect ratio, L/W , shall not exceed the value specified in Table R404.1(3). For such foundation walls, the rim board shall be attached to the sill with a 20-gage metal angle clip at 24 inches (610 mm) on center, with five 8d nails per leg, or an approved connector supplying 230 pounds per linear foot (3.36 kN/m) capacity.

5. **R613.2 Window sills.** In dwelling units, where the opening of an operable window is located more than 72 inches (1829 mm) above the finished grade or surface below, the lowest part of the clear opening of the window shall be a minimum of 24 inches (610 mm) above the finished floor of the room in which the window is located. Glazing between the floor and 24 inches (610 mm) shall be fixed or have openings through which a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere cannot pass.

Exceptions:

1. Windows whose openings will not allow a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere to pass through the opening when the opening is in its largest opened position.
2. Openings that are provided with window guards that comply with ASTM F 2006 or F 2090.

6. Delete Part VIII , except for Sections E3302 and E3303 and replace with the following statement:

The 2008 National Electrical Code® (NEC®) (NFPA 70-2008), shall apply to the installation of electrical systems, equipment and components indoors and outdoors that are within the scope of this code, including services, power distribution systems, fixtures, appliances, devices and appurtenances, and any addition or alteration to an existing electrical system.