FENCE CONSTRUCTED ATOP RETAINING WALL

Item 2 of Section 106 3 of the Los Angeles County Building Code (LACBC) states, a building permit is not required for fences of 6 feet or less in height

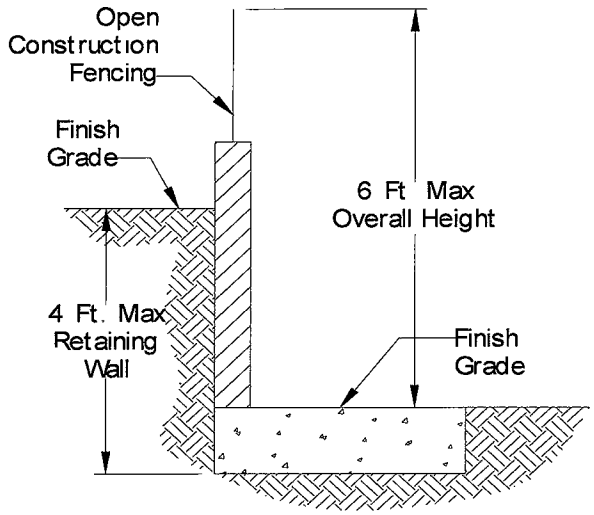
Further, Item 5 of Section 106.3 of LACBC states, a building permit is not required for retaining walls that are not over 4 feet in height measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge or impounding Class I, II, or III-A liquids

To provide some structural safety from wind forces, a building permit shall be required for a hybrid fence/retaining wall structure that is a fence constructed atop a masonry or concrete retaining wall, except when the hybrid structure meets all of the following conditions.

- The fence shall be constructed as an open structure using material, such as chain link, wrought iron or spaced wooden pickets, however, if the fence is constructed of solid wood, concrete or masonry atop of the retaining wall, then a building permit is required
- The overall height at any point shall be limited to a maximum 6 feet measured from the lower finished grade to the top of the fence
- The height of the retained earth is not over 4 feet measured from the bottom of the footing to the finished (higher) grade (See illustration below)

This hybrid fence/retaining wall structure shall comply with all Zoning Code requirements, including maximum height requirements.

If this structure is adjacent to exit discharge, path of travel, then appropriate guard requirements shall be provided without exceeding any of the dimensions required in this BCM



Supersedes BCM 106 3 Article 2, dated 05-12-09

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