



**BUILDING CODE MANUAL
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION
Based on the 2014 LACBC**

**#000
104.2.1.1
Article 1
09-15-14
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5-POINT CRITERIA USED TO CREATE GUIDELINES OR POLICIES

Section 104.2.1.1 authorizes the Building Official to create and enforce guidelines and policies which would safeguard life, limb, health, or property. All such guidelines and policies shall comply with the following criteria:

- 1. Clarify the Application of the Code.** Based on Section 104.2.1, which states, "The Building Official shall have the power to render interpretations of this Code ... in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations ... shall be in conformance with the intent and purpose of this Code." The Building Official will provide interpretations of the Code in writing.
- 2. Clarify the Application of State Amendments.** To provide written interpretations of application of the State agency code amendments and/or State laws and to communicate Code clarifications provided to the Building Official by the State agency. **Example:** When the State passes legislation that affects building safety, there is a need to make staff and the public aware of the requirements. BCM #145 regarding Senate Bill 407 - Replacement of plumbing fixtures, requires clarification of how it relates to Code and describes a procedure for implementing and enforcing these requirements.
- 3. Define Supplemental Provisions.** To create supplemental provisions that define the general requirements of the Code. **Example:** The Code allows a method of creating two separate and distinct buildings, one on top of another as a "Podium Building." BCM #19 describes a method of allowing a horizontal separation with a vertical "jog" in the separation and still maintaining its intent.
- 4. Identify Provisions by Subject Matter.** To summarize all the requirements of a particular subject matter that can be found in several different sections of the Code or found in other codes. **Example:** What are the construction requirements for cutting, notching, and boring of wood framing members? BCM #16 summarizes all the requirements for cutting, notching, and boring of wood framing members all in one policy. All of these requirements are scattered throughout Chapter 23 and, therefore, creates the need to establish a guideline or policy (BCM) that is helpful to the public and staff.
- 5. Emphasize Provisions.** To emphasize new or important (seldom seen) code provisions or interpretations of the Code to fit new methods of construction or use of buildings, a new or revised guideline or policy shall be established to aid staff and the public. **Example:** Temporary Amusement Devices or Structures (BCM #77) are seldom seen structures that are addressed in the Code, but require additional information for inspectors.

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