



8001 Shin Oak Drive  
Live Oak, Texas 78233

**2012 International Property Maintenance Code  
(IPMC)  
Ordinance 1483  
Adopted 13 Aug 2013**

**DEFINITIONS  
SECTION 201  
GENERAL**

**201.1 Scope.** Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings shown in this chapter.

**201.2 Interchangeability.** Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural, the singular.

**201.3 Terms defined in other codes.** Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined in the *International Building Code*, *International Existing Building Code*, *International Fire Code*, *International Fuel Gas Code*, *International Mechanical Code*, *International Plumbing Code*, *International Residential Code*, *International Zoning Code* or NFPA 70, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as stated in those codes.

**201.4 Terms not defined.** Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

**201.5 Parts.** Whenever the words “*dwelling unit*,” “*dwelling*,” “*premises*,” “*building*,” “*rooming house*,” “*rooming unit*,” “*housekeeping unit*” or “*story*” are stated in this code, they shall be construed as though they were followed by the words “or any part thereof.”

## SECTION 202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

**ANCHORED.** Secured in a manner that provides positive connection.

**APPROVED.** *Approved by the code official.*

**BASEMENT.** That portion of a building which is partly or completely below grade.

**BATHROOM.** A room containing plumbing fixtures including a bathtub or shower.

**BEDROOM.** Any room or space used or intended to be used for sleeping purposes in either a dwelling or *sleeping unit*.

**CODE OFFICIAL.** The official who is charged with the administration and enforcement of this code, or any duly authorized representative.

**CONDEMN.** To adjudge unfit for *occupancy*.

**DRIVEWAY** means a private drive for vehicular traffic leading from a street or other thoroughfare to a building, house, garage, or similar structure designed for human occupancy or residence this is constructed using concrete or asphalt

**DETACHED.** When a structural element is physically disconnected from another and that connection is necessary to provide a positive connection.

**DETERIORATION.** To weaken, disintegrate, corrode, rust or decay and lose effectiveness.

**[B] DWELLING UNIT.** A single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

**EASEMENT.** That portion of land or property reserved for present or future use by a person or agency other than the legal fee *owner(s)* of the property. The *easement* shall be permitted to be for use under, on or above a said lot or lots.

**EQUIPMENT SUPPORT.** Those structural members including braces, frames, lugs, snuggers, hangers or saddles, that transmit gravity load, lateral load and operating load between the equipment and the structure.

**EXTERIOR PROPERTY.** The open space on the *premises* and on adjoining property under the control of *owners* or *operators* of such *premises*.

**GARBAGE.** The animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

**GUARD.** A building component or a system of building components located at or near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall from the walking surface to a lower level.

**HABITABLE SPACE.** Space in a structure for living, sleeping, eating or cooking. *Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces, and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces.*

**HOUSEKEEPING UNIT.** A room or group of rooms forming a single *habitable space* equipped and intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking and eating which does not contain, within such a unit, a toilet, lavatory and bathtub or shower.

**IMMINENT DANGER.** Condition which could cause serious or life-threatening injury/death at any time.

**INFESTATION.** The presence, within or contiguous to, a structure or *premises* of insects, rats, vermin or other pests.

**INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLE.** A vehicle which cannot be driven upon the public streets for reason including but not limited to being unlicensed, wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power.

**LABELED.** Equipment, materials or products to which have been affixed a label, seal, symbol or other identifying mark of a nationally recognized testing laboratory, inspection agency or other organization concerned with product evaluation that maintains periodic inspection of the production of the above-*labeled* items and whose labeling indicates either that the equipment, material or product meets identified standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

**LET FOR OCCUPANCY or LET.** To permit, provide or offer possession or *occupancy* of a dwelling, *dwelling unit, rooming unit*, building, premise or structure by a person who is or is not the legal *owner* of record thereof, pursuant to a written or unwritten lease, agreement or license, or pursuant to a recorded or unrecorded agreement of contract for the sale of land.

**MOTOR VEHICLE** means a self-propelled vehicle designed for use on a public road or highway

**NEGLECT.** The lack of proper maintenance for a building or *structure*.

**OCCUPANCY.** The purpose for which a building or portion thereof is utilized or occupied.

**OCCUPANT.** Any individual living or sleeping in a building, or having possession of a space within a building.

**OPENABLE AREA.** That part of a window, skylight or door which is available for unobstructed *ventilation* and which opens directly to the outdoors.

**OPERATOR.** Any person who has charge, care or control of a structure or *premises* which is let or offered for *occupancy*.

**OWNER.** Any person, agent, *operator*, firm or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the state, county or municipality as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.

**PERSON.** An individual, corporation, partnership or any other group acting as a unit.

**PEST ELIMINATION.** The control and elimination of insects, rodents or other pests by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that serve as their food or water; by other *approved pest elimination* methods.

**PREMISES.** A lot, plot or parcel of land, *easement* or *public way*, including any structures thereon.

**PUBLIC WAY.** Any street, alley or similar parcel of land essentially unobstructed from the ground to the sky, which is deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use.

**ROOMING HOUSE.** A building arranged or occupied for lodging, with or without meals, for compensation and not occupied as a one- or two-family dwelling.

**ROOMING UNIT.** Any room or group of rooms forming a single habitable unit occupied or intended to be occupied for sleeping or living, but not for cooking purposes.

**RUBBISH.** Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except garbage; the term shall include the residue from the burning of wood, coal, coke and other combustible materials, paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood, excelsior, rubber, leather, tree branches, *yard* trimmings, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery and dust and other similar materials.

**SLEEPING UNIT.** A room or space in which people sleep, which can also include permanent provisions for living, eating and either sanitation or kitchen facilities, but not both. Such rooms and spaces that are also part of a *dwelling unit* are not *sleeping units*.

**STRICT LIABILITY OFFENSE.** An offense in which the prosecution in a legal proceeding is not required to prove criminal intent as a part of its case. It is enough to prove that the defendant either did an act which was prohibited, or failed to do an act which the defendant was legally required to do.

**STRUCTURE.** That which is built or constructed or a portion thereof.

**STRUCTURE FAILURE** means the inability of a structure or structural member to perform its intended function, perhaps caused by collapse or excessive deformation.

**TENANT.** A person, corporation, partnership or group, whether or not the legal *owner* of record, occupying a building or portion thereof as a unit.

**TOILET ROOM.** A room containing a water closet or urinal but not a bathtub or shower.

**ULTIMATE DEFORMATION.** The deformation at which failure occurs and which shall be deemed to occur if the sustainable load reduces to 80 percent or less of the maximum strength.

**VENTILATION.** The natural or mechanical process of supplying conditioned or unconditioned air to, or removing such air from, any space.

**WORKMANLIKE.** Executed in a skilled manner; e.g., generally plumb, level, square, in line, undamaged and without marring adjacent work.

**YARD.** An open space on the same lot with a structure.

## **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **SECTION 301**

#### **GENERAL**

**301.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and the responsibilities of persons for maintenance of structures, equipment and *exterior property*.

**301.2 Responsibility.** The *owner* of the *premises* shall maintain the structures and *exterior property* in compliance with these requirements, except as otherwise provided for in this code. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy *premises* which are not in a sanitary and safe condition and which do not comply with the requirements of this chapter. *Occupants* of a *dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit* are responsible for keeping in a clean, sanitary and safe condition that part of the *dwelling unit, rooming unit, housekeeping unit or premises* which they occupy and control.

**301.3 Vacant structures and land.** All vacant structures and *premises* thereof or vacant land shall be maintained in a clean, safe, secure and sanitary condition as provided herein so as not to cause a blighting problem or adversely affect the public health or safety.

## **SECTION 302**

### **EXTERIOR PROPERTY AREAS**

**302.1 Sanitation.** All *exterior property* and *premises* shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The *occupant* shall keep that part of the *exterior property* which such *occupant* occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition. There shall be no visible outside storage of any building materials (except where an "open building permit" has been issued.), garden tools, fire wood, newspapers, indoor furniture, lawn mowers, coolers and any other discarded or worn out manufactured materials and machinery which shall include but is not limited to motor vehicles and parts of motor vehicles, tires, aircraft, farm implements, appliances and scrap metal. These items shall not be visible from the front, back or side yards from any public place including carports, patios, balconies, front and side porches and driveways.

**302.1.1 Barbeque Grills.** Barbeque grills not in use shall be stored on the side or in the rear of the property. Barbeque Pits and Grills that are permanently mounted to trailers or vehicles are exempt from this section of the ordinance, as long as the trailer or vehicle meets all licensing and registration requirements of the state.

**302.2 Grading and drainage.** All *premises* shall be graded and maintained to prevent the erosion of soil and to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water thereon, or within any structure located thereon.

**Exception:** *Approved* retention areas and reservoirs.

**302.3 Sidewalks and driveways.** All sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways, parking spaces and similar areas shall be kept in a proper state of repair, and maintained free from hazardous conditions.

**302.4 Weeds, Grass and Limbs.** All *premises* and *exterior property* shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of [12 INCHES]. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens. Upon failure of the *owner* or agent having charge of a property to cut and destroy weeds after service of a notice of violation, they shall be subject to prosecution in accordance with Section 106.3 and as prescribed by Chapter 342 of the Health & Safety Code. the authority having jurisdiction. Upon failure to comply with the notice of violation any duly authorized employee of the jurisdiction or contractor hired by the jurisdiction shall be authorized to enter upon the property in violation and cut and destroy the weeds growing thereon, and the costs of such removal shall be paid by the *owner* or agent responsible for the property. Grass or weeds shall not be allowed to grow beyond the property's curb line. It shall be unlawful for any person to cast, throw, sweep, blow or deposit any grass clippings, leaves, weeds or any other substance in or upon any street, drains, or catch basin within the City. Limbs that extend over a sidewalk must be trimmed to a MINIMUM height of 8 feet above the sidewalk. All limbs that extend past the curb and over the street must be trimmed to a MINIMUM height of 13.6 feet above the curb and continuing that height out over the surface of the road.

**302.5 Rodent harborage.** All structures and *exterior property* shall be kept free from rodent harborage and *infestation*. Where rodents are found, they shall be promptly exterminated by *approved* processes which will not be injurious to human health. After pest elimination, proper precautions shall be taken to eliminate rodent harborage and prevent reinfestation.

#### **302.5.1 Definitions.**

For the purposes of this section the following definitions shall apply:

1. **Business buildings** shall mean any structure, whether public or private, that is adapted for occupancy for transaction of business, for rendering of professional service, for amusement, for the display, sale or storage of goods, wares, or merchandise, or for the rooming houses, office buildings, public buildings, stores, theaters, markets, restaurants, grain elevators, abatoirs, warehouses, workshops, factories, and all out houses, sheds, barns and other structures on premises used for business purposes.
2. **Occupant** shall mean the individual, partnership, or corporation that uses or occupies any building or part of fraction thereof, whether the actual owner or tenant. In the case of vacant buildings or vacant portions thereof, the owner, agent, or custodian shall have the responsibility as occupant.
3. **Owner** shall mean the actual owner, agent, or custodian of the building, whether individual, partnership, or corporation. The lessee shall be construed as the "owner" for the purpose of this article when buildings agreements hold the lessee responsible for maintenance and repairs.
4. **Garbage Container** shall mean any object that holds something and is leak proof, covered or sealed and includes tightly closed garbage bags, etc
5. **Rat eradication** shall mean the elimination or extermination of rats within buildings by any or all of the accepted measures, such as poisoning, fumigation, trapping, clubbing, etc.

6.. **Rat harborage** shall mean any condition which provides shelter or protection for rats thus favoring their multiplication and continued existence in, under, or outside of any structure.

7. **Rat proofing** shall mean a form of construction to prevent the ingress of rats into business buildings from the exterior or from one business building or establishment to another. It consists essentially of treatment with material, impervious to rat gnawing, all actual or potential openings in exterior walls, ground or first floors, basements, roof and foundations, that may be reached by rats from the ground by climbing or burrowing.

**302.5.2** All buildings in the city shall be rat proofed, freed of rats, and maintained in a rat proof and rat free condition to the satisfaction of the health inspector.

**302.5.3** Upon receipt of written notice and/or order from the Building Official, health inspector, or the city manager, the owner of any business building specified therein shall take immediate measures for rat proofing the building, and unless such work and improvements have been completed by the owner in the time specified in the written notice, in no event to be less than 15 days or within the time to which a written extension may have been granted by the health inspector.

**302.5.4** Whenever the building official, health inspector or city manager notifies the occupant or occupants of a building in writing that there is evidence of rat infestation of the building, such occupant or occupants shall immediately institute rat eradication measures and shall continuously maintain such measure in a satisfactory manner until the premises are declared by the health inspector to be free of rat infestation. Unless such measures are undertaken within five days after receipt of notice, it shall be construed as a violation of the provisions of this article and the occupant shall be held responsible thereof.

**302.5.5 Maintenance.** The owners of all rat proofed buildings are required to maintain the premises in a rat proofed condition and to repair all breaks or leaks that may occur in the rat proofing without a specific order of the health inspector.

**302.5.6 Closure of occupied buildings.** Whenever conditions inside or under any occupied business buildings within the city provide extensive harborage for rats in the opinion of the building official or health inspector, the building official or health inspector is empowered, after due notification in accordance with this article, to close such buildings until such time as the conditions are abated by rat proofing and harborage removal including, if necessary, the installation of suitable concrete floors in basements or replacement of wooden first or ground floors with concrete or other major repairs necessary to facilitate rat eradication.

**302.5.7 Condemnation of unoccupied buildings.** Whenever conditions inside or under any unoccupied buildings provide extensive harborage for rats, in the opinion of the building official or health inspector, the building official or health inspector is empowered to require compliance with the provisions of this article and, if such conditions are not corrected in a period of 60 days, or within the time to which a written extension may have been granted by the health inspector, the health inspector is empowered to institute condemnation and destruction proceedings.

**302.5.8 Occupancy of buildings where foodstuffs stored, kept, etc., not in compliance with article prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for any person to occupy any new or existing business buildings wherein foodstuffs are to be stored, kept, handled, sold, held or offered for sale without complying with the provisions of this article; unless the provisions of this section are complied with, no city license or permit to conduct or carry on any business mentioned above will be issued.

**302.5.9 Storage of food, feed.** All food and feed within the city for feeding animals shall be stored in rat free and rat proof containers, compartments, or rooms unless stored in a rat proof building.

**302.5.10. Inspections.** The building official or health inspector or his agent is empowered to make unannounced inspections of the interior and exterior of buildings to determine full compliance with this article, and the health inspector or his agent shall make periodic inspections at intervals of not more than 45 days of all rat proofed buildings to determine evidence of rat infestation and the existence of new breaks or leaks in their rat proofing and, when any evidence of it is found, indicating the presence of rats or openings through which rats may again enter buildings, the building official or health inspector shall serve the owners or occupants with notice and/or orders to abate the conditions found.

**302.5.11. Restoration of rat proofing following repair, reconstruction, etc.** It shall be unlawful under the provisions of this article for the occupant, owner, contractor, public utility company, plumber or any other person to remove and fail to restore in like condition the rat proofing from any building for any purpose. It shall further be unlawful for any person or agent to make any new openings that are not closed or sealed against the entrance of rats.

**302.6 Exhaust vents.** Pipes, ducts, conductors, fans or blowers shall not discharge gases, steam, vapor, hot air, grease, smoke, odors or other gaseous or particulate wastes directly upon abutting or adjacent public or private property or that of another *tenant*.

**302.7 Accessory structures.** All accessory structures, including *detached* garages, fences and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair.

**302.8 Motor vehicles.** Except as provided for in other regulations, no inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle shall be parked, kept or stored on any *premises*, and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an *approved* spray booth. No vehicles or trailers of any type may be parked on any surface other than a driveway defined by this Article. The surface area must encompass the entire size of vehicle or trailer. The surface must be of the like materials of stone, pavers, etc. as the existing driveway. Only motor vehicles authorized to be maintained on property by this section may be parked or stopped on a driveway. Boats and Trailers may be parked on a driveway if they meet all licensing and registration requirements of this Code and state law. Under no circumstances shall any motor vehicle, boat or trailer that are not operational as defined in this Code be permitted to be maintained on a driveway within the city limits.

**Exception:** A vehicle of any type is permitted to undergo major overhaul, including body work, provided that such work is performed inside a structure or similarly enclosed area designed and *approved* for such purposes.

**302.8.1 Non-conforming driveways.** All existing driveways that meet the current requirements of the Code of Ordinances in effect as of the date of passage of this ordinance shall be required to be brought into compliance with this section and section 203.1 of this Code within 180 days. Compliance shall mean applying for a building flatwork work permit with the City's Building Inspection Department and paying all applicable fees.

**302.9 to Parking of Vehicles Boats and Trailers.** Only motor vehicles authorized to be maintained on property by this section may be parked or stopped on a driveway defined by this Code. Boats and Trailers may be parked on a driveway as defined by this Code if they meet all licensing and registration requirements of this Code and state law. Under no circumstances shall any motor vehicle, boat or trailer that is not operational as defined in this Code be permitted to be maintained on a driveway within the city limits.

**302.10 Defacement of property.** No person shall willfully or wantonly damage, mutilate or deface any exterior surface of any structure or building on any private or public property by placing thereon any marking, carving or graffiti. It shall be the responsibility of the *owner* to restore said surface to an *approved* state of maintenance and repair.

**302.11 Portable Basketball** goals shall be removed from city streets when not in use and at night. When removed it shall be placed away from the curb and outside the limits of the dedicated right of way. No portable recreational equipment shall be allowed on or over the paved portion of the city's streets when not in use.

## **SECTION 303 SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS**

**303.1 Swimming pools.** Swimming pools shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and in good repair.

**303.2 Enclosures.** Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas, containing water more than 24 inches (610 mm) in depth shall be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches (1219 mm) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool. Gates and doors in such barriers shall be self-closing and self-latching. Where the self-latching device is a minimum of 54 inches (1372 mm) above the bottom of the gate, gate. Self-closing and self-latching gates shall be maintained such that the gate will positively close and latch when released from an open position of 6 inches (152 mm) from the gatepost. No existing pool enclosure shall be removed, replaced or changed in a manner that reduces its effectiveness as a safety barrier.

**Exception:** Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover that complies with ASTM F 1346 shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

**Section 303.4.** It shall be unlawful to discharge any pool/spa water into any City street or drainage ditch. All drainage of pool/spa water shall be conducted into the property's sanitary sewer.

## SECTION 304 EXTERIOR STRUCTURE

**304.1 General.** The exterior of a structure shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

**304.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** The following conditions shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the *International Building Code* or the *International Existing Building Code* as required for existing buildings:

1. The nominal strength of any structural member is exceeded by nominal loads, the load effects or the required strength;
2. The *anchorage* of the floor or roof to walls or columns, and of walls and columns to foundations is not capable of resisting all nominal loads or load effects;
3. Structures or components thereof that have reached their limit state;
4. Siding and masonry joints including joints between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors and skylights are not maintained, weather resistant or water tight;
5. Structural members that have evidence of *deterioration* or that are not capable of safely supporting all nominal loads and load effects;
6. Foundation systems that are not firmly supported by footings, are not plumb and free from open cracks and breaks, are not properly *anchored* or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
7. Exterior walls that are not *anchored* to supporting and supported elements or are not plumb and free of holes, cracks or breaks and loose or rotting materials, are not properly *anchored* or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
8. Roofing or roofing components that have defects that admit rain, roof surfaces with inadequate drainage, or any portion of the roof framing that is not in good repair with signs of *deterioration*, fatigue or without proper anchorage and incapable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
9. Flooring and flooring components with defects that affect serviceability or flooring components that show signs of *deterioration* or fatigue, are not properly *anchored* or are incapable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
10. Veneer, cornices, belt courses, corbels, trim, wall facings and similar decorative features not properly anchored or that are anchored with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
11. Overhang extensions or projections including, but not limited to, trash chutes, canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts not properly *anchored* or that are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
12. Exterior stairs, decks, porches, balconies and all similar appurtenances attached thereto, including *guards* and handrails, are not structurally sound, not properly *anchored* or that are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects; or
13. Chimneys, cooling towers, smokestacks and similar appurtenances not structurally sound or not properly *anchored*, or that are anchored with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.

**Exceptions:**

1. When substantiated otherwise by an *approved* method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted when *approved* by the *code official*, authorized by the City's Code of Ordinances and state law.

**304.2 Protective treatment.** All exterior surfaces, including but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, decks and fences, shall be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces repainted. All siding and masonry joints, as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors and skylights, shall be maintained weather resistant and water tight. All metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion shall be coated to inhibit such rust and corrosion, and all surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement.

**[F] 304.3 Premises identification.** Buildings shall have *approved* address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) in height with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm) and the address shall be illuminated with at least 60 illuminati of light.

**304.4 Structural members.** All structural members shall be maintained free from *deterioration*, and shall be capable of safely supporting the imposed dead and live loads.

**304.5 Foundation walls.** All foundation walls shall be maintained plumb and free from open cracks and breaks and shall be kept in such condition so as to prevent the entry of rodents and other pests.

**304.6 Exterior walls.** All exterior walls shall be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials; and maintained weatherproof and properly surface coated where required to prevent *deterioration*.

**304.7 Roofs and drainage.** The roof and flashing shall be sound, tight and not have defects that admit rain. Roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent dampness or *deterioration* in the walls or interior portion of the structure. Roof drains, gutters and downspouts shall be maintained in good repair and free from obstructions. Roof water shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance.

**304.8 Decorative features.** All cornices, belt courses, corbels, terra cotta trim, wall facings and similar decorative features shall be maintained in good repair with proper anchorage and in a safe condition.

**304.9 Overhang extensions.** All overhang extensions including, but not limited to canopies, marquees, signs, metal awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts shall be maintained in good repair and be properly *anchored* so as to be kept in a sound condition. When required, all exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weathercoating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

**304.10 Stairways, decks, porches and balconies.** Every exterior stairway, deck, porch and balcony, and all appurtenances attached thereto, shall be maintained structurally sound, in good repair, with proper anchorage and capable of supporting the imposed loads.

**304.11 Chimneys and towers.** All chimneys, cooling towers, smoke stacks, and similar appurtenances shall be maintained structurally safe and sound, and in good repair. All exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

**304.12 Handrails and guards.** Every handrail and *guard* shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

**304.13 Window, skylight and door frames.** Every window, skylight, door and frame shall be kept in sound condition, good repair and weather tight.

**304.13.1 Glazing.** All glazing materials shall be maintained free from cracks and holes.

**304.13.2 Openable windows.** Every window, other than a fixed window, shall be easily openable and capable of being held in position by window hardware.

**304.14 Insect screens.** Every door, window and other outside opening required for *ventilation* of habitable rooms, food preparation areas, food service areas or any areas where products to be included or utilized in food for human consumption are recessed, manufactured, packaged or stored shall be supplied with *approved* tightly fitting screens of minimum 16 mesh per inch (16 mesh per 25 mm), and every screen door used for insect control shall have a self-closing device in good working condition. **Exception:** Screens shall not be required where other *approved* means, such as air curtains or insect repellent fans, are employed.

**304.15 Doors.** All exterior doors, door assemblies, operator systems if provided, and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Locks at all entrances to dwelling units and sleeping units shall tightly secure the door. Locks on means of egress doors shall be in accordance with Section 702.3.

**304.16 Basement hatchways.** Every *basement* hatchway shall be maintained to prevent the entrance of rodents, rain and surface drainage water.

**304.17 Guards for basement windows.** Every *basement* window that is openable shall be supplied with rodent shields, storm windows or other *approved* protection against the entry of rodents.

**304.18 Building security.** Doors, windows or hatchways for *dwelling units*, room units or *housekeeping units* shall be provided with devices designed to provide security for the *occupants* and property within.

**304.18.1 Doors.** Doors providing access to a *dwelling unit*, *rooming unit* or *housekeeping unit* that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a deadbolt lock designed to be readily openable from the side from which egress is to be made without the need for keys, special knowledge or effort and shall have a minimum lock throw of 1 inch (25 mm). Such deadbolt locks shall be installed according to the manufacturer's specifications and maintained in good working order. For the purpose of this section, a sliding bolt shall not be considered an acceptable deadbolt lock.

**304.18.2 Windows.** Operable windows located in whole or in part within 6 feet (1828 mm) above ground level or a walking surface below that provide access to a *dwelling unit*, *rooming unit* or *housekeeping unit* that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a window sash locking device.

**304.18.3 Basement hatchways.** *Basement* hatchways that provide access to a *dwelling unit*, *rooming unit* or *housekeeping unit* that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with devices that secure the units from unauthorized entry.

**304.19 Gates.** All exterior gates, gate assemblies, operator systems if provided, and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Latches at all entrances shall tightly secure the gates.

## **SECTION 305 INTERIOR STRUCTURE**

**305.1 General.** The interior of a structure and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition. *Occupants* shall keep that part of the structure which they occupy or control in a clean and sanitary condition. Every *owner* of a structure containing a *rooming house*, *housekeeping units*, a hotel, a dormitory, two or more *dwelling units* or two or more nonresidential occupancies, shall maintain, in a clean and sanitary condition, the shared or public areas of the structure and *exterior property*.

**305.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** The following conditions shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the *International Building Code* or the *International Existing Building Code* as required for existing buildings:

1. The nominal strength of any structural member is exceeded by nominal loads, the load effects or the required strength;
2. The anchorage of the floor or roof to walls or columns, and of walls and columns to foundations is not capable of resisting all nominal loads or load effects;
3. Structures or components thereof that have reached their limit state;
4. Structural members are incapable of supporting nominal loads and load effects;
5. Stairs, landings, balconies and all similar walking surfaces, including *guards* and handrails, are not structurally sound, not properly *anchored* or are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects;
6. Foundation systems that are not firmly supported by footings are not plumb and free from open cracks and breaks, are not properly *anchored* or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.

**Exceptions:**

1. When substantiated otherwise by an *approved* method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted when *approved* by the *code official*.

**305.2 Structural members.** All structural members shall be maintained structurally sound, and be capable of supporting the imposed loads.

**305.3 Interior surfaces.** All interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood and other defective surface conditions shall be corrected.

**305.4 Stairs and walking surfaces.** Every stair, ramp, landing, balcony, porch, deck or other walking surface shall be maintained in sound condition and good repair.

**305.5 Handrails and guards.** Every handrail and *guard* shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

**305.6 Interior doors.** Every interior door shall fit reasonably well within its frame and shall be capable of being opened and closed by being properly and securely attached to jambs, headers or tracks as intended by the manufacturer of the attachment hardware.

## **SECTION 306 COMPONENT SERVICEABILITY**

**306.1 General.** The components of a structure and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition.

**306.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** Where any of the following conditions cause the component or system to be beyond its limit state, the component or system shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the *International Building Code* as required for existing buildings:

1. Soils that have been subjected to any of the following conditions:

1.1. Collapse of footing or foundation system;

1.2. Damage to footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to soil expansion;

1.3. Adverse effects to the design strength of footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to a chemical reaction from the soil;

1.4. Inadequate soil as determined by a geotechnical investigation;

1.5. Where the allowable bearing capacity of the soil is in doubt; or

1.6. Adverse effects to the footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to the ground water table.

2. Concrete that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:

2.1. *Deterioration*;

2.2. *Ultimate deformation*;

2.3. Fractures;

2.4. Fissures;

2.5. Spalling;

2.6. Exposed reinforcement; or

2.7. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.

3. Aluminum that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:

3.1. *Deterioration*;

3.2. Corrosion;

3.3. Elastic deformation;

3.4. *Ultimate deformation*;

3.5. Stress or strain cracks;

- 3.6. Joint fatigue; or
- 3.7. *Detached*, d4. Masonry that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
  - 4.1. *Deterioration*;
  - 4.2. *Ultimate deformation*;
  - 4.3. Fractures in masonry or mortar joints;
  - 4.4. Fissures in masonry or mortar joints;
  - 4.5. Spalling;
  - 4.6. Exposed reinforcement; or
  - 4.7. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.
- 5. Steel that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
  - 5.1. *Deterioration*;
  - 5.2. Elastic deformation;
  - 5.3. *Ultimate deformation*;
  - 5.4. Metal fatigue; or
  - 5.5. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.
- 6. Wood that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
  - 6.1. *Ultimate deformation*;
  - 6.2. *Deterioration*;
  - 6.3. Damage from insects, rodents and other vermin;
  - 6.4. Fire damage beyond charring;
  - 6.5. Significant splits and checks;
  - 6.6. Horizontal shear cracks;
  - 6.7. Vertical shear cracks;
  - 6.8. Inadequate support;
  - 6.9. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections;or
  - 6.10. Excessive cutting and notching.

**Exceptions:**

- 1. When substantiated otherwise by an *approved* method.
- 2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted when *approved* by the *code official*.

## **SECTION 307 HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS**

**307.1 General.** Every exterior and interior flight of stairs having more than four risers shall have a handrail on one side of the stair and every open portion of a stair, landing, balcony, porch, deck, ramp or other walking surface which is more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the floor or grade below shall have *guards*. Handrails shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) in height or more than 42 inches (1067 mm) in above the finished floor of the landing or walking surfaces. *Guards* shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) in height above the floor of the landing, balcony, porch, deck, or ramp or other walking surface.

**Exception:** *Guards* shall not be required where exempted by the adopted building code.

## **SECTION 308 RUBBISH AND GARBAGE**

**308.1 Accumulation of rubbish or garbage.** All *exterior property* and *premises*, and the interior of every structure, shall be free from any accumulation of *rubbish* or garbage.

**308.2 Disposal of rubbish.** Every *occupant* of a structure shall dispose of all *rubbish* in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such *rubbish* in *approved* containers.

**308.2.1 Rubbish storage facilities.** The *owner* of every occupied *premises* shall supply *approved* covered containers for *rubbish*, and the *owner* of the *premises* shall be responsible for the removal of *rubbish*.

**308.2.2 Refrigerators.** Refrigerators and similar equipment not in operation shall not be discarded, abandoned or stored on *premises* without first removing the doors. that has an airtight snap lock or other locking device

**308.3 Disposal of garbage.** Every *occupant* of a structure shall dispose of garbage in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such garbage in an *approved* garbage disposal facility or *approved* garbage containers.

**308.3.1 Garbage Container(s)** The owner or operator of every dwelling shall provide and at all times cause to be utilized leak proof, covered, outside garbage container(s).

**308.3.2 Recycling Container(s):** The owner or operator that uses recycling container(s) shall use the ones provided by the approved waste removal company that the City of Live Oak has contracted with.

## SECTION 309 PEST ELIMINATION

**309.1 Infestation.** All structures shall be kept free from insect and rodent *infestation*. All structures in which insects or rodents are found shall be promptly exterminated by *approved* processes that will not be injurious to human health. After pest elimination, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.

**309.2 Owner.** The *owner* of any structure shall be responsible for pest elimination within the structure prior to renting or leasing the structure.

**309.3 Single occupant.** The *occupant* of a one-family dwelling or of a single-*tenant* nonresidential structure shall be responsible for pest elimination on the *premises*.

**309.4 Multiple occupancy.** The *owner* of a structure containing two or more *dwelling units*, a multiple *occupancy*, a *rooming house* or a nonresidential structure shall be responsible for pest elimination in the public or shared areas of the structure and *exterior property*. If *infestation* is caused by failure of an *occupant* to prevent such *infestation* in the area occupied, the *occupant* and *owner* shall be responsible for pest elimination.

**309.5 Occupant.** The *occupant* of any structure shall be responsible for the continued rodent and pest-free condition of the structure.

**Exception:** Where the *infestations* are caused by defects in the structure, the *owner* shall be responsible for pest elimination.