



Rancho Palos Verdes

Community Development Department

SMOKE DETECTOR REQUIREMENTS

Smoke Detector Installation in New Construction and Additions

In new construction and additions, required smoke detectors shall receive their primary power from the permanent building electrical power system (and shall be on the lighting circuit connected within the same room as the smoke detector). In dwellings where two or more smoke detectors are required they shall be interconnected in such a manner that actuation of one shall cause actuation of all detectors in the dwelling unit. (CBC 907.2.10)

Smoke Detector Installation in Remodeled Dwelling Units

When a permit is required for any repair, alterations, or addition smoke detectors shall be installed in accordance with the following provisions.

In existing dwelling units smoke detectors may be required to be powered by the permanent electrical system, battery or a combination of electricity and battery. (CBC 907.2.10)

Smoke Detector Installation and Location Requirements

Smoke detectors shall be installed in the following locations (CBC 907.2.10):

- On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms (i.e. hallway);
- In each sleeping room;
- In each story within a dwelling unit, including basements. In dwellings or dwelling units with split levels and without an intervention door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level;
- In enclosed common stairwells of apartment complexes and other multiple-dwelling complexes; and
- In a group R-3.1 (i.e. adult residential facilities), in addition to the above, smoke alarms shall be provided throughout the habitable areas of the dwelling unit except kitchens.

Smoke Detector Maintenance

The owner of the dwelling unit shall maintain smoke detectors in an operable condition. The owner shall ensure that all required smoke detectors are installed and in proper working order each time an occupant takes possession. After the occupant has taken possession of the premises it shall be the duty of the occupant to regularly test each smoke detector and notify the owner immediately, in writing, of any problem, defect, malfunction or failure of any smoke detector. Upon being notified by an occupant that a smoke detector is not in proper working order, the owner shall have such smoke detector repaired or replaced within seven days.