Inspections Division
Date: 09/29/15

STAIRS & DECKS

Stairways

	06 IRC	09 IRC
☐ Floor or landing req'd top & bottom of interior stairways, including enclosed garages, EXC	[311.5.4]	{311.7.5}
• Where door does not swing over stairs	[311.5.4X]	{311.7.5X}
☐ Headroom min 6ft 8in EXC	[311.5.2]	{311.7.2}
• Edge of floor passing over stair OK to project 4 3/4in	[n/a]	{311.7.2}[33]
☐ Min stairway width above handrail 36in	[311.5.1]	{311.7.1}
☐ Handrail may project into req'd width 4 1/2in **F18**	[311.5.1]	{311.7.1}
☐ Max riser height 7 3/4in **F17**	[311.5.3.1]	{311.7.4.1}
☐ Min tread depth 10in **F17**	[311.5.3.2]	{311.7.4.2}
☐ Max difference between tallest & shortest riser or largest & shortest tread run 3/8in **F15**	[311.5.3.1&2]	{311.7.4.1&2}
☐ Nosing min req'd on stairs w/solid risers EXC **F17**	[311.5.3.3]	{311.7.4.3}
• No nosing OK if tread depth min 11in	[311.5.3.3X1]	{311.7.4.3X1}
☐ Nosing min 3/4in max 1 1/4in & uniform **F17**	[311.5.3.3]	{311.7.4.3}

Winding Stairs

☐ Walkline concentric to narrow side 12in from edge **F15**	[n/a]	{311.7.3}[34]
☐ Tread depth min 6in @ narrow side **F15**	[311.5.3.2]	{311.7.4.2}
☐ Tread depth min 10in @ walkline **F15**	[311.5.3.2]	{311.7.4.2}
☐ Deepest tread depth ≤3/8in than shortest @ walkline **F15**	[n/a]	{311.7.4.2}[35]
☐ Tread depth @ walkline does not have to match tread depth at rectangular stairs in same run as winding portion	[n/a]	{311.7.4.2}[36]

FIG. 15

Decks & Balconies

	06 IRC	09 IRC
☐ Exterior balconies & decks live load 40 psf	[T301.5]	{T301.5}
☐ Exterior landings, decks, balconies, stairs positive anchor. (no toenails) to structure to resist vertical & lateral force	[311.2.1]	{311.5.1}
☐ Deck self-supporting if connection not verifiable	[502.2.2]	{502.2.2}
☐ Ledger connections min 1/2in lag screws or bolts	[n/a]	{502.2.2.1}[37]
☐ Lag screws/bolts min hot-dipped galvanized or stainless	[n/a]	{502.2.2.1}[37]
☐ Deck ledgers not to be supported on masonry veneer	[n/a]	{502.2.2.2}[38]
☐ Min 36in clear space above escape & rescue openings	[310.5]	{310.5}
☐ Composite decking labeled for compliance w/ ASTM D 7032	[n/a]	{317.4}[39]

FIG. 16

Handrails

	06 IRC	09 IRC
☐ Grippable handrail req'd if 4 or more risers **F16,18**	[311.5.6]	{311.7.7}
☐ Height to top min 34in, max 38in **F16**	[311.5.6.1]	{311.7.7.1}
☐ Type I min 1 1/4in, max 2in circular cross section **F18**	[311.5.6.3]	{311.7.7.3}
☐ Type II req graspable finger recess both sides	[311.5.6.3]	{311.7.7.3}
☐ Min 1 1/2in between wall & handrail, ends must return	[311.5.6.2]	{311.7.7.2}

Guards

☐ Req'd for open-sided walking surface >30in above floor or grade within 3ft horizontally of open side **F16**	[312.1]	{312.1}[40]
☐ Min height 36in (34in if guard is stair handrail) **F16**	[312.1]	{312.2}
☐ Measure height vertically from fixed seating	[n/a]	{312.2}[41]
☐ Opening must not allow passage of 4in sphere EXC **F16**	[312.2]	{312.3}
• 6in sphere at space between riser, tread & rail **F16**	[312.2X1]	{312.3X1}
• 4 3/8in sphere at open side of stairs **F16**	[312.2X2]	{312.3X2}

Lighting

☐ Illumination req'd for all stairways	[303.6]	{303.6}
☐ Switch req'd top & bottom of interior stairs ≥6 risers	[303.6.1]	{303.6.1}
☐ Switch for exterior light inside dwelling or automatic	[303.6.1]	{303.6.1}

FIG. 17

FIG. 18