Take note: Immediate enforcement of emergency building standards approved January 27, 2017. The emergency standards amend the 2016 California Building Code (CBC) and the 2016 California Existing Building Code (Cal. Code of Regs, Title 24, Parts 2 and 10). This does not apply to 2016 CRC.

The Building Standards Commission (BSC) approved emergency building standards affecting construction of exterior elevated elements (such as balconies and decks) for residential occupancies, including factory built housing, hotels, motels, and apartment buildings, as well as state buildings and public schools.

This was in response to the balcony collapse in Berkeley, June 16, 2015 that killed six people.

What you need to do: First read the NEW standards now in effect. Identify who needs to be retrained, what methods need to change, and begin implementing ASAP. Click here for the new Emergency Standards.

Get the whole story on the California Building Standards website page for Emergency Rulemaking.

Summary of Changes:
- Construction details & inspections are required for the moisture barrier system. It shall have positive slope.
- Live loads are increased 50%, not to exceed 100 p.s.f.
- Ventilation is required.
- Maintenance is required.