

2025 California Green Building Standards Code
Significant Changes

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Summary

Significant Changes Include:

- EV Charging: Increase percentages of EVCS, specifications for connectors and receptacles, raceway requirements for future charging
- Bicycle parking requirements are changed. Previous voluntary measures are now mandatory.
- Mandatory requirements for alterations to existing buildings located in nonresidential voluntary measures chapter. This needs to be clarified.



2025 California Green Building Standards Code Significant Changes

New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
Chapter 1 - Administration				
No significant Changes				
Chapter 2 - Definitions				
X			ENERGY BUDGET	New definition includes "The energy budget for newly constructed buildings is expressed in terms of the Long Term System (LTS) cost and Source Energy. The Energy budget for additions and alterations is expressed in terms of LSC.
	.X		ENERGY DESIGN RATING	Definition removed
X			LONG-TERM SYSTEM COST	New definition: The CEC projected value of costs to California's energy systems over a period of 30 years. LSC does not represent a prediction of individual utility bills.
X			PROCESS	An activity or treatment that is not related to space conditioning, lighting, service water heating or ventilation of a building as it relates to human occupancy.
X			RECOVERED ENERGY	The energy used in a building that is (1) recovered from space conditioning, lighting, or process equipment after the energy has performed its original function; (2) provides space conditioning, service water heating, or lighting; and (3) would otherwise be wasted.
X			RESIDENTIAL LONG-TERM BICYCLE PARKING	A secure locker, weather protected enclosure, or storage room that provides bicycle parking for more than twelve hours that allows individual locking of bicycles to the parking device or rack.
X			RESIDENTIAL SHORT-TERM BICYCLE PARKING defined	A permanently anchored bicycle parking device, rack, or lockers, in an unsheltered, open area, that provides bicycle parking for twelve hours or less that allows individual locking of bicycles to the parking device or rack.

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X			SOLAR ACCESS	The ratio of solar insolation including shade to the solar insolation without shade. Shading from obstructions located on the roof or any other part of the building shall not be included in determination of annual solar access.
x			SOLAR POOL HEATING SYSTEM	An assembly of components designed to heat water for swimming pools, spas, or swimming pool and spa combinations by solar thermal means, excluding pool recirculation components.
	x		TIME DEPENDANT VALUATION (TDV) ENERGY	Definition removed

Chapter 3 – Green Building

No Changes

Chapter 4 – Residential Mandatory Measures

	X	4.106.4.2.2	Multifamily dwellings	Clarifies requirements by separating requirements for multifamily buildings from hotel and motel buildings.
	X	4.106.4.2.2.1a	Multifamily parking facilities with assigned parking.	Previous code based the minimum number of required Level 2 EV chargers to 40% of the provided parking spaces irrespective of the ratio of parking spaces per dwelling units and whether or not the spaces were assigned or unassigned. New code bases the requirement on number of dwelling units with assigned parking.
	X	4.104.4.2.2.1b	Multifamily parking facilities with unassigned parking.	Previous code based the minimum number of required Level 2 EV chargers to 40% of the provided parking spaces irrespective of the ratio of parking spaces per dwelling units and whether or not the spaces were assigned or unassigned. New code bases the requirement on number of dwelling units with unassigned parking.

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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
	X	4.106.4.2.2.1c	Multifamily parking facilities with both assigned and unassigned parking	Previous code based the minimum number of required Level 2 EV chargers to 40% of the provided parking spaces irrespective of the ratio of parking spaces per dwelling units and whether or not the spaces were assigned or unassigned. New code bases the requirement on number of dwelling units with assigned or unassigned parking.
	X	4.106.4.2.2.2	EV ready parking facilities with EV chargers.	Hotels and motels removed from this section. Previous code based the minimum number of required low power Level 2 EV charging receptacles to 25% (previously 10 %) of the provided parking spaces irrespective of the ratio of parking spaces per dwelling units and whether or not the spaces were assigned or unassigned. Restricts EV charger connectors to J1772 or J3400 connectors. New code bases the requirement on number of dwelling units with unassigned or common use parking.
X		4.106.4.2.6	Hotels and motels.	New section, relocated from 4.106.4.2.2.2. Restricts EV charger connectors to J1772 or J3400 connectors. Increased the required EV spaces equipped with Level 2 chargers from 10% to 25%.
	X	4.106.4.3	Electric vehicle charging for additions and alterations of parking facilities serving existing multifamily buildings, hotels and motels.	Previously alterations triggered requirement for EV capable spaces. New requirement is for low power Level 2 charging receptacle or Level 2 chargers to be provided.

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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
X		4.106.4.4	Bicycle parking	New requirements for bicycle parking added
x		4.106.4.4.1	Short-term bicycle parking for multifamily buildings, hotels and motels.	
x		4.106.4.4.2	Long-term bicycle parking for multifamily buildings.	
x		4.106.4.4.3	Long-term bicycle parking for hotel and motel buildings.	
	X	4.303.1.4.5	Pre-rinse spray valves	Clarifies that the requirements apply to commercial pre-rinse spray valves and directs the user to the CPC.
Chapter 5 – Non-Residential Mandatory Measures				
	X	5.106.4.1.1	Short-term bicycle parking	Revised to require bike racks for 20% of the peak daily visitors (was 5% of new visitor motorized parking).
	X	5.106.4.1.2	Long-term bicycle parking	Requirements for long-term bicycle parking are revised to require bicycle parking for 10% (was 5%) of the tenants.
	X	5.106.5.3 Exceptions	Electric Vehicle (EV) charging	Exception 2 added for parking facilities served by parking lifts.
	X	Table 5.106.5.3.1	EV Capable Space and EVCS	Revised added to separate Office and Retail from other occupancies and to increase the required number of required EVCS (Number of EV capable EV spaces is unchanged).
	X	5.106.5.3.2.1	Receptacle configurations	Specifies 208/240 EV receptacle standards
	X	5.106.5.3.2.2	EV Charger connectors	Specifies SAE J1772 or J3400 EV connectors
X		5.106.5.3.2.4.1	Raceway capacity requirements	Specifies raceways for future upgrades to be sized for 208/240-volt 40-ampere conductors
	X	Table 5.106.5.3.6	EVCS-Power Allocation Method	Revised to separate office and retail from other occupancies.

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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
				Footnote 5 added.
X		5.106.5.3.6.1	Receptacle configurations	Specifies 208/240 EV receptacle standards
X		5.106.5.3.6.2	EV Charger connectors.	Specifies SAE J1772 or J3400 EV connectors
		5.106.5.3.6.3	Raceway capacity requirements	Specifies raceways for future upgrades to be sized for 208/240-volt 40-ampere conductors
	X	5.106.5.4.2	Existing buildings or parking areas with previously-installed EV capable infrastructure	Requires utilizing existing EV capable spaces prior to utilizing new or altered spaces.
	X	5.303.3.4.6	Pre-rinse spray valve	Clarifies that the requirements apply to commercial pre-rinse spray valves and directs the user to the CPC.
	X	5.504.1	Temporary ventilation	Minimum requirement upgraded for MERV 8 to MERV 13 at the return air filters
	X	5.506.3	CO2 monitoring in classrooms	Expands requirement for carbon dioxide monitors and sensors from public K-12 classrooms to all classrooms and instructional spaces public and private.
Chapter 6 Referenced Organizations and Standards				
	X	Chapter 6	Reference organizations and standards updated.	
Chapter 7 Installer and Special Inspector Qualifications				
	X	702.2	Special Inspections	Reference to HERS raters has been removed.
Chapter 8 Compliance Forms, Worksheets and Reference Materials				
No changes, additions or deletions noted				

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New	Change	Code Section	Code Topic	Revision and Remarks
Appendix A4 Residential Voluntary Measures				
	X	A4.106.8.2.1	Multifamily dwellings, hotels and motels	Hotels and Motels: - Required number of low power Level 2 parking spaces with receptacles raised for 50 percent to 60 percent. - Raceway requirement to size for future upgrades. - Required number of Level 2 chargers 40 percent. Multifamily facilities with unassigned or common use parking: In addition to the low power Level 2 EV charging receptacle requirements of Section A4/106.8 (tier 1 subsection 1), forty percent of the total number of parking spaces shall be equipped with Level 2 EV chargers and shall be made available for use by all residents and guests. Note: The multifamily requirements may not be correctly defined and may be subject to change.
	X	A4.203	Performance approach for newly constructed buildings.	Extensive revisions within this section.
Appendix A5 Nonresidential Voluntary Measures				
	X	A5.106.5.3	EV Charging	Tier 1 and Tier 2 tables for EV charging have been revised.
	X	A5.203.1.1.1	Outdoor lighting	Extensive changes for outdoor lighting
X		A5.204	Mandatory requirements for alterations to existing buildings	New section. Not clear why mandatory requirements are located in the voluntary measures section?
Appendix A6 Voluntary Standards for Health Facilities [OSHPD 1, 2 & 4]				