

# Engineering the First 6-over-2 Podium Building in the US

## Sacramento, CA

Presented by Ryan Miller, S.E., LEED AP  
Associate Principal, BUEHLER



*Disclaimer: This presentation was developed by a third party and is not funded by WoodWorks or the Softwood Lumber Board.*

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



# Course Description

While five-story wood buildings are increasingly common, 1430 Q in Sacramento is the first building in the U.S. to include six stories of wood-frame construction over a two-level concrete podium. Intended primarily for engineers, this presentation will explore the structural design challenges associated with this unique mixed-use project—including connection of the wood structure to the concrete podium, and lateral system design. It will also provide insight into the alternate means process that was necessary for project approval, including questions and concerns raised by the City of Sacramento and how they were resolved.

# Learning Objectives

1. Discuss the successful navigation of the Alternate Means and Methods process with the City of Sacramento.
2. Examine the structural design considerations associated with a 6-over-2 building, including connection of the wood structure to the concrete podium.
3. Review the building's lateral system and relevant design considerations.
4. Describe how the 1430 Q project meets fire life safety objectives.

# Alternate Means and Methods Request (AMMR)



Wood Design Webinar March 11, 2020

- **The Vision**
  - Location
  - Building Overview
  - Code Limitations
  - AMMR Process

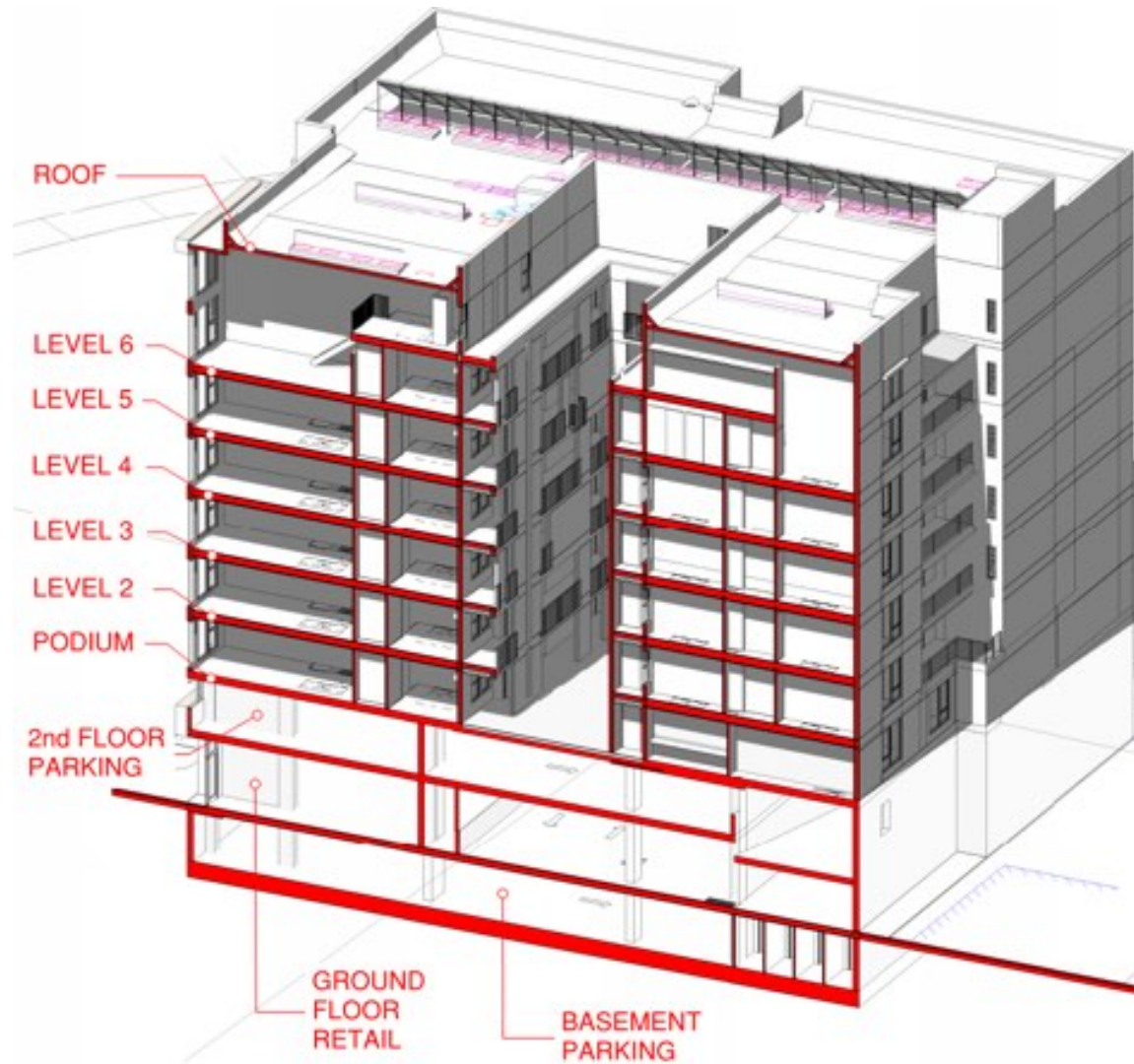
# Location



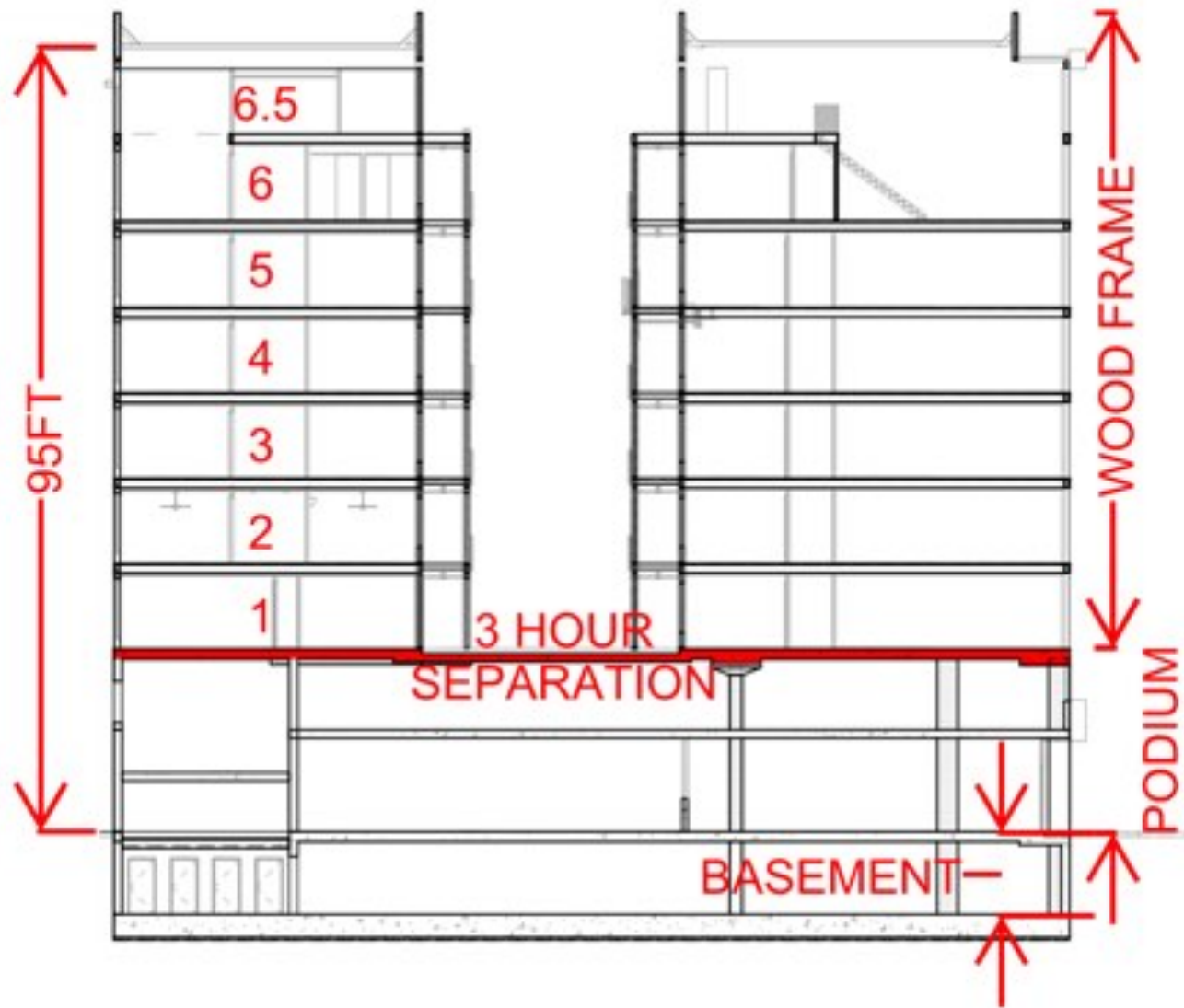
- **1430 Q Street,  
Sacramento, CA**
  - Fremont Park
  - Light Rail
  - R Street Redevelopment



# Building Overview



# Building Overview



- 6-1/2 stories wood-frame construction
- 2 story concrete podium
- 1 story concrete basement
- 121 ft x 161 ft overall plan dimension
- 163,000 square feet
- 95ft tall above grade to roof
- 74ft to level 8
- 10 ft basement



# Code Limitations | Podium

		CODE REFERENCE
CONSTRUCTION TYPE	Type 1A	601
OCCUPANCY TYPES	A-2, B, S-1 & S-2	301
BASIC ALLOWABLE AREA	A - Unlimited B - Unlimited S-2 Unlimited	TABLE 503
MAX. HEIGHT	Unlimited	504.2
MAX. STORIES	Unlimited	504.2
SPRINKLERS	Yes	901

- 2013 CBC / 2012 IBC
- Type I-A concrete podium
- Unlimited height and area
- Sprinklers
- CBC 510.2 limits height of podium to one story

# Code Limitations | Superstructure

		CODE REFERENCE
CONSTRUCTION TYPE	Type IIIA	601
OCCUPANCY TYPE	R-2	301
BASIC ALLOWABLE AREA	24,000 sf	TABLE 503
MAX. HEIGHT	65	504.2
MAX. STORIES	4	504.2
SPRINKLERS	Yes	901

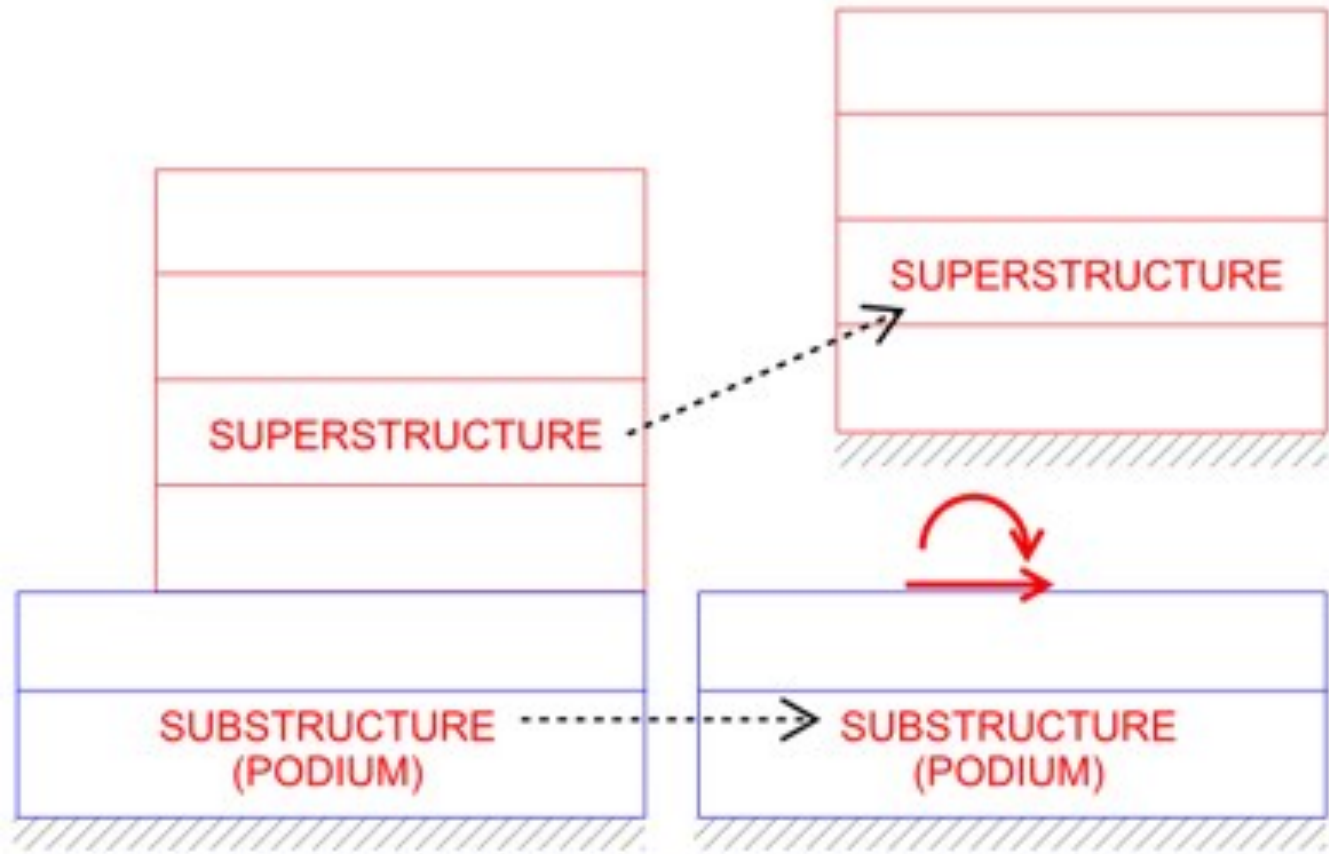
- 2013 CBC / 2012 IBC
- Type III-A wood framed superstructure
- 65ft max height or 4 stories
- Sprinklers
- 504.2 allows height increase of 20ft and/or one story if sprinklers installed.
  - 85ft Max Height (to roof)
  - 5 stories

# Code Limitations | Structural Lateral System

Seismic Force-Resisting System	Structural System Limitations Including Structural Height, $h_s$ (ft) Limits <sup>a</sup>				
	Seismic Design Category				
	B	C	D <sup>a</sup>	E <sup>a</sup>	F <sup>a</sup>
<b>A. BEARING WALL SYSTEMS</b>					
15. Light-frame (wood) walls sheathed with wood structural panels rated for shear resistance	NL	NL	65	65	65

- ASCE 7-10 Table 12.1-1
- 65ft max height for wood shear walls

# Code Limitations | Structural Lateral System



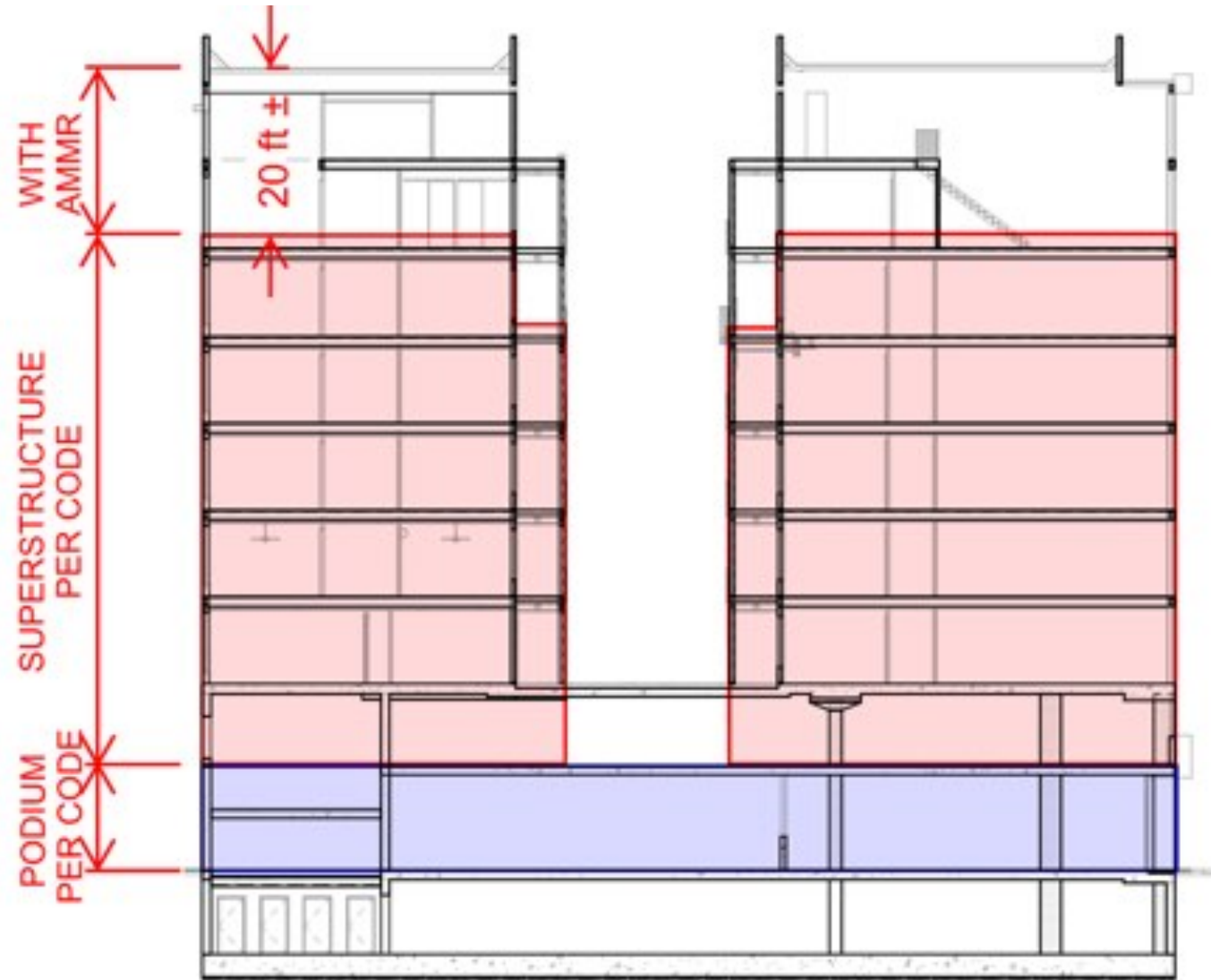
- Two-stage analysis per ASCE 7-10 12.2.3.2
- Stiffness and period requirements to be considered two-stage

# Code Limitations | Summary



- 85ft max height above grade
- 5 stories max height for wood-frame portion
- 65ft max height for wood shear walls
- Single-story podium

# AMMR Process



- Study options to go taller
- Allowed by CBC 104.11 and CFC 104.9
- Authority having jurisdiction needs to approve



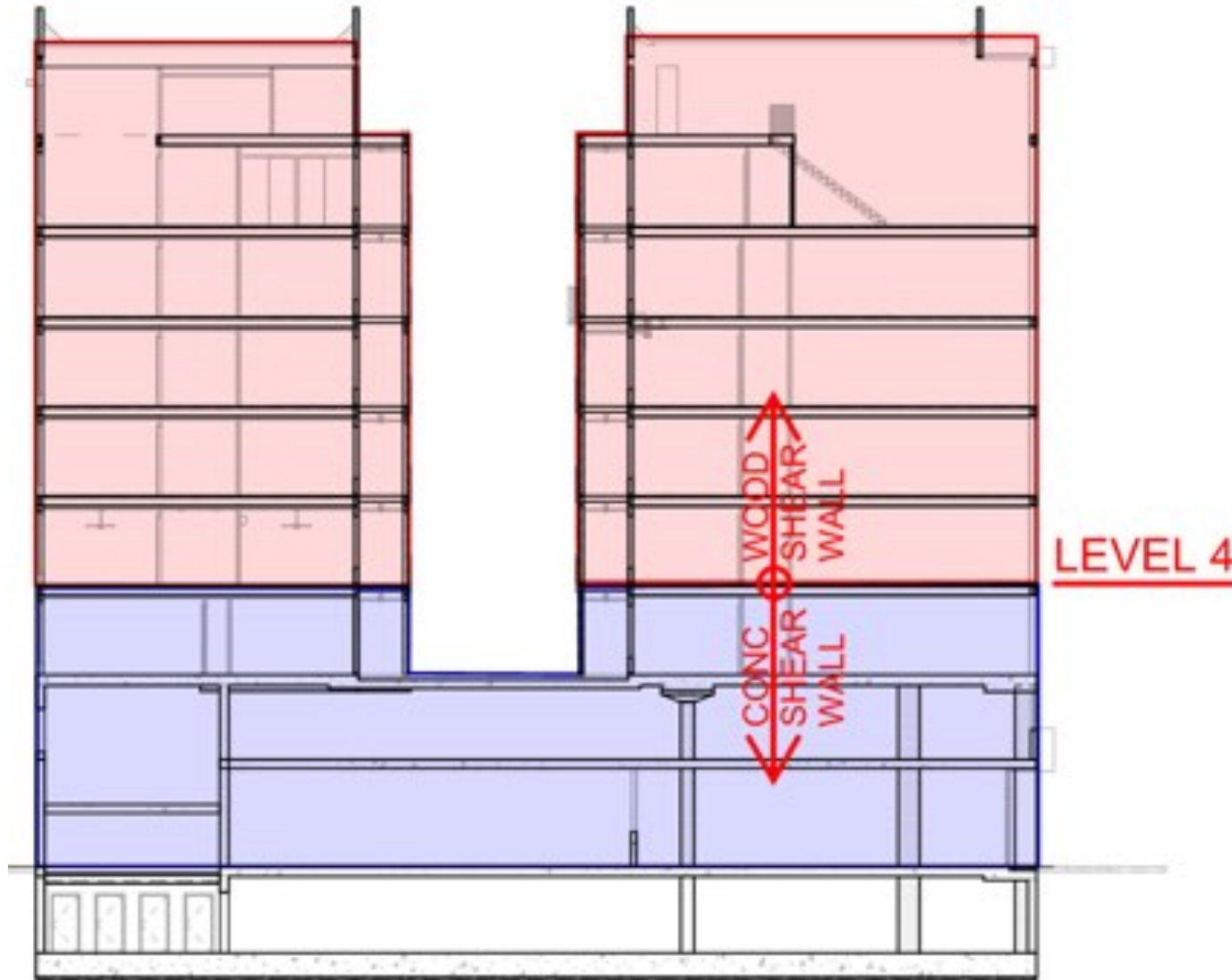
# AMMR Process

## City of Sacramento Code

d. **104.9 Alternate means and methods.** The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. The fire code official is authorized to approve an alternate material or method of construction where the fire code official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code and these local amendments, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not approved, the fire code official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved.

- Woodworks helped with AMMR application
- Fire Marshall decision
- 2-hour rated walls
  - Unit separation walls
  - Corridor walls/systems
  - Bearing walls
- Two roof-access stairwells

# AMMR Process



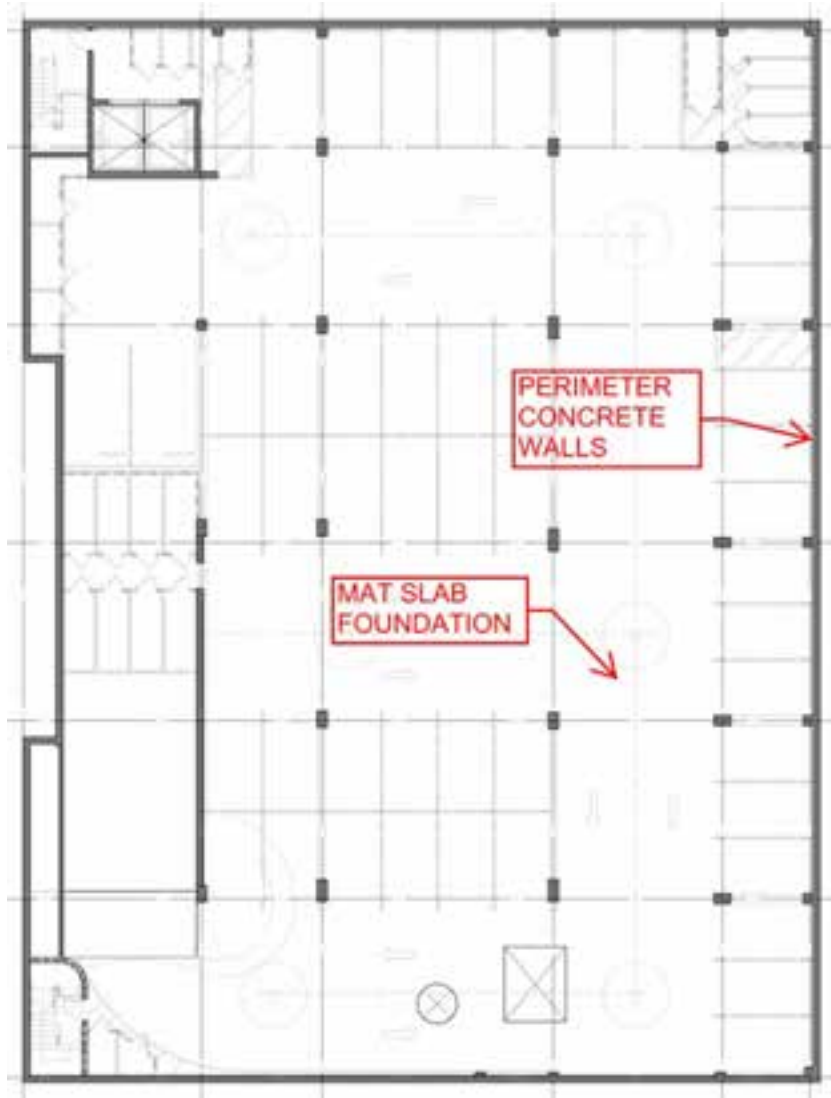
- No structural AMMR
- Seismic base is at level 4
- Level 4 is wood framed with the exception of the shear walls, which are concrete

# Structural Design Considerations



- Overall Building Layout
- Concrete Shear Walls
- Podium
- Concrete Columns
- Connection of Wood Structure to Podium
- Wood Framing System

# Overall Building Layout

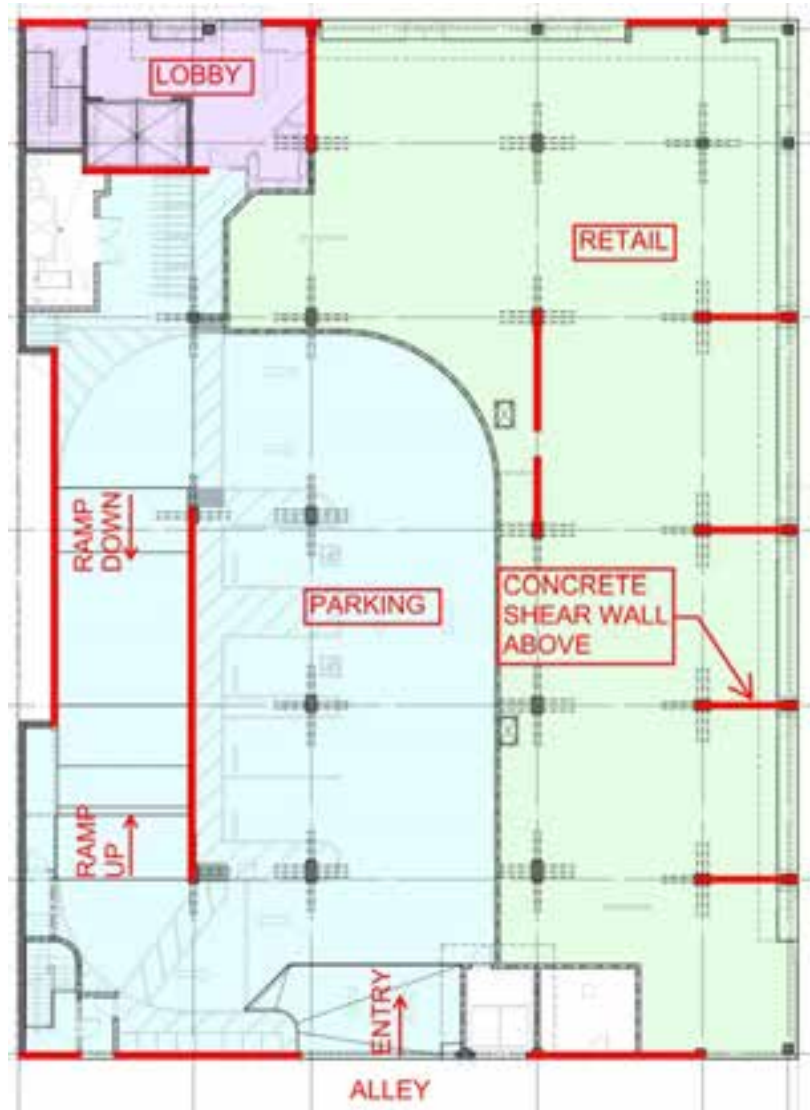


- 33" Basement Mat Slab Foundation
- Perimeter Concrete Retaining and Shear Walls





# Overall Building Layout

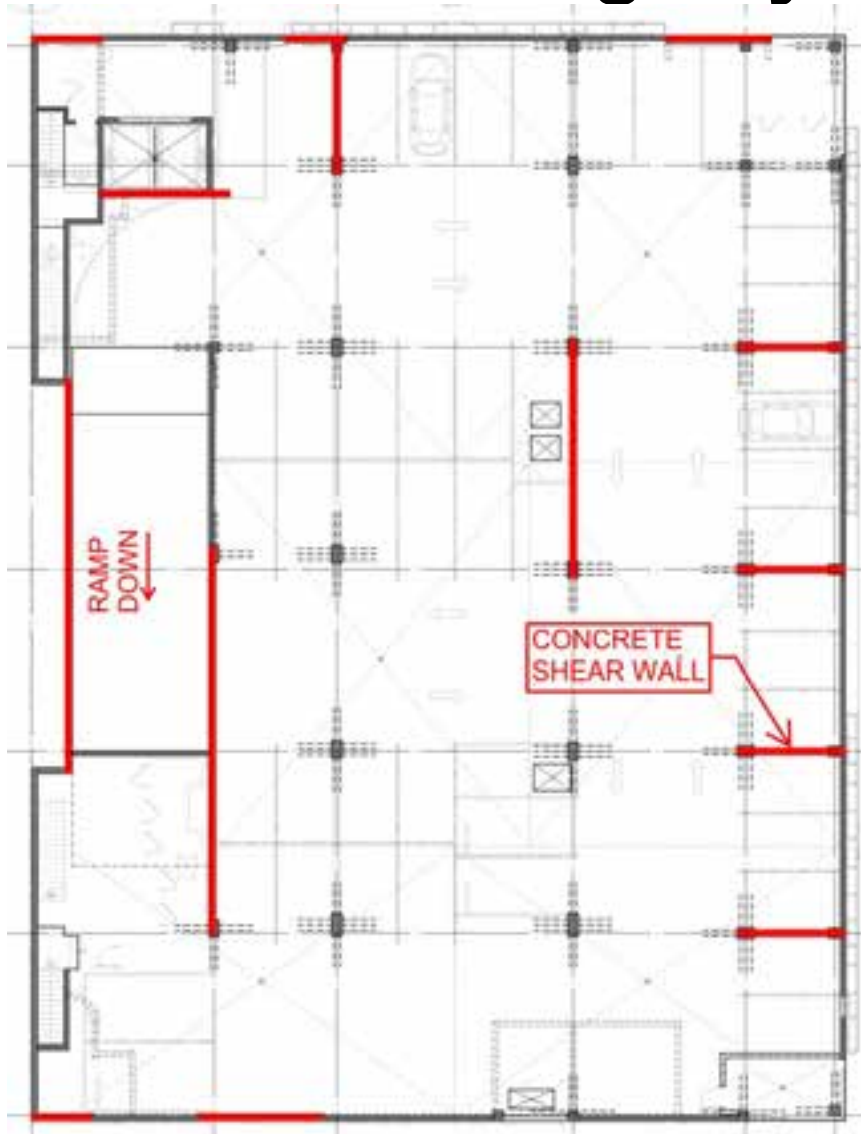


- Ground Level
- 14" Mild-reinforced two-way concrete slab
- Concrete shear walls



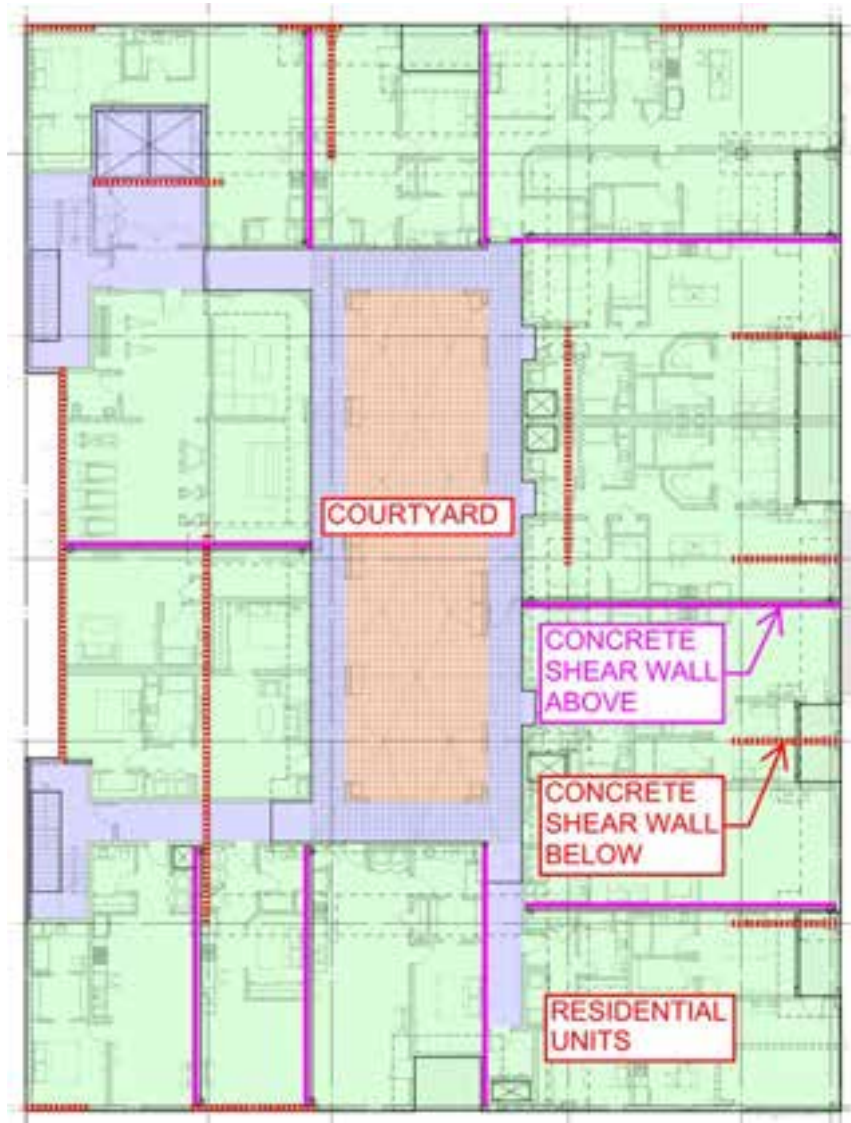
# Overall Building Layout

- Level 2 Parking
- 10" Post-tensioned two-way concrete slab
- Concrete shear walls





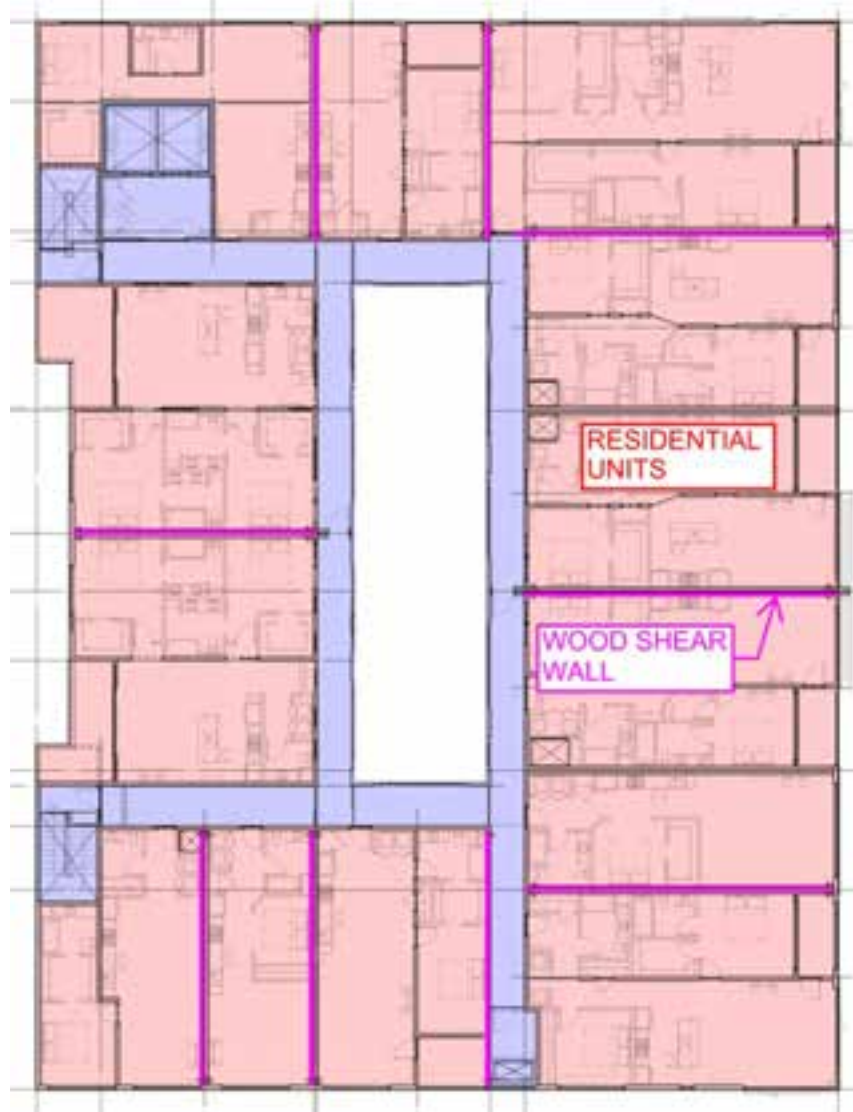
# Overall Building Layout



- Level 3 Podium
- 15" Post-tensioned two-way concrete slab
- Slab transfer beams
- Concrete shear walls



# Overall Building Layout

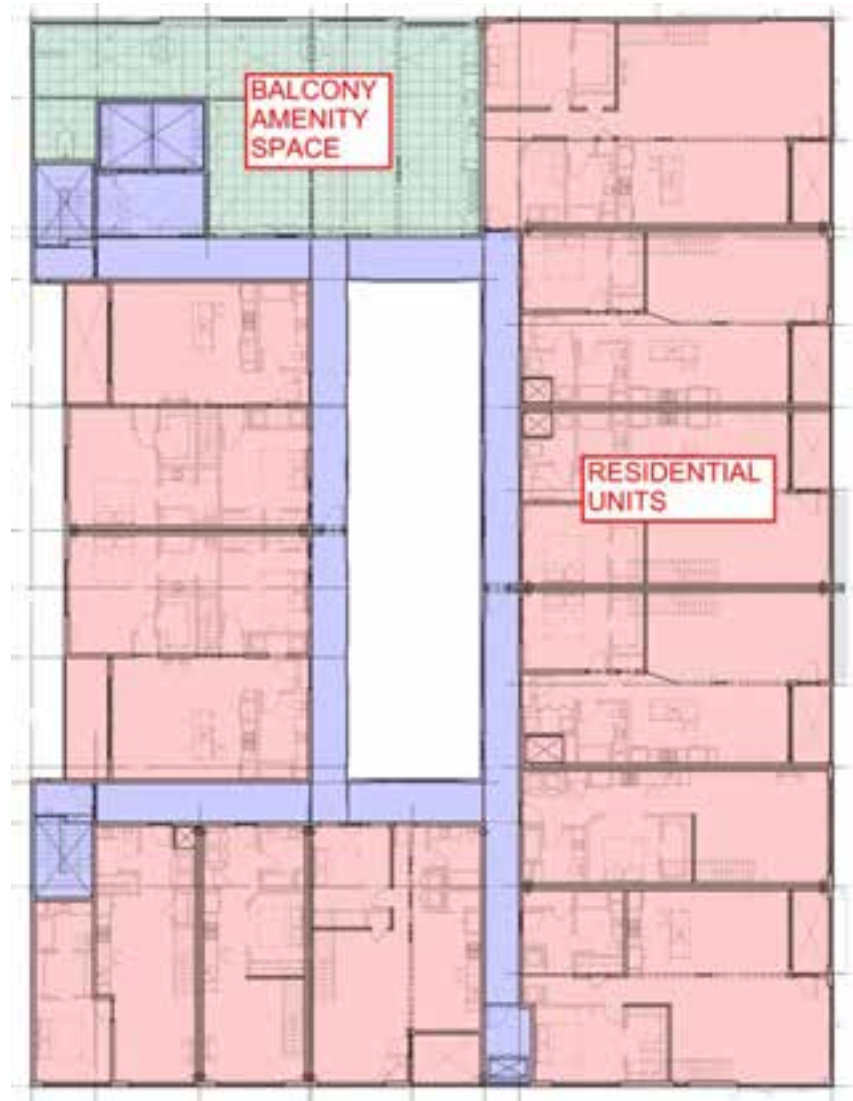


- Typical Wood Floors
- Pre-fabricated floor trusses
- Wood shear walls





# Overall Building Layout



- 8<sup>th</sup> Floor
- Common area roof deck

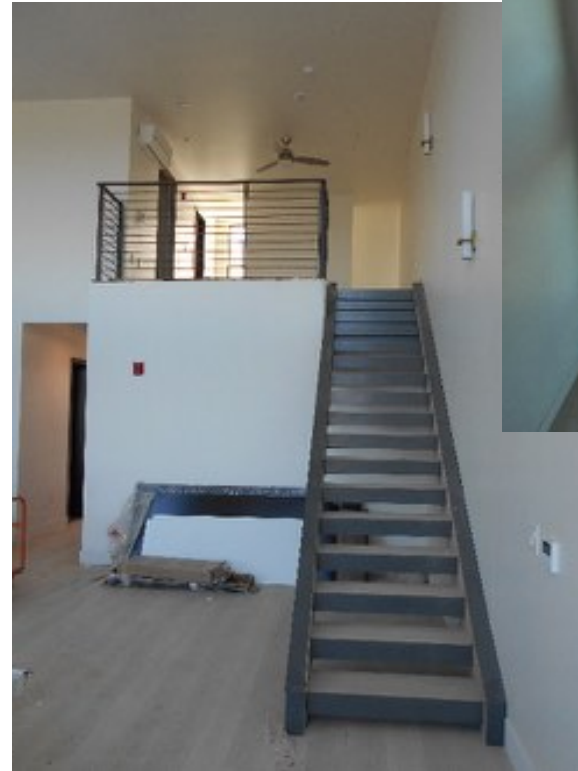


# Overall Building Layout

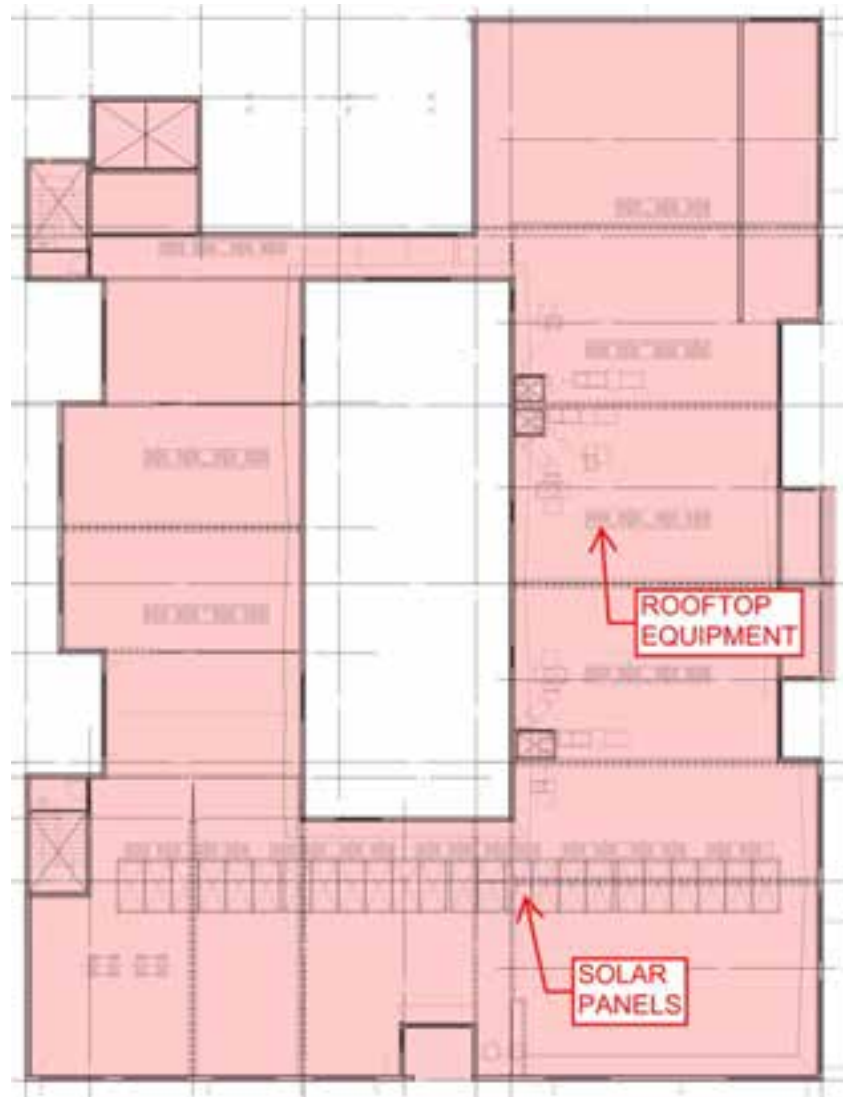


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- Mezzanine



# Overall Building Layout

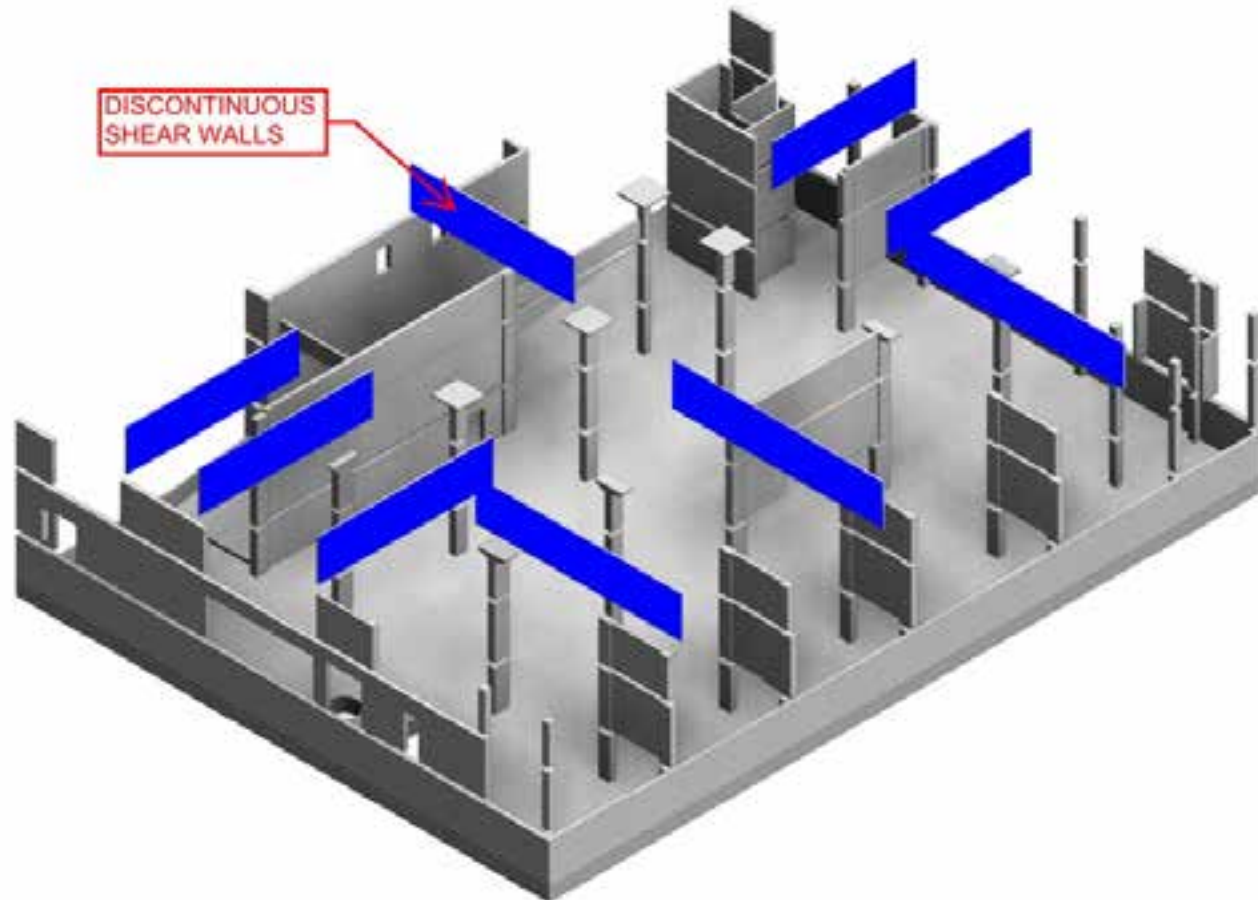


- Roof
- Pre-fabricated roof trusses
- Solar panels





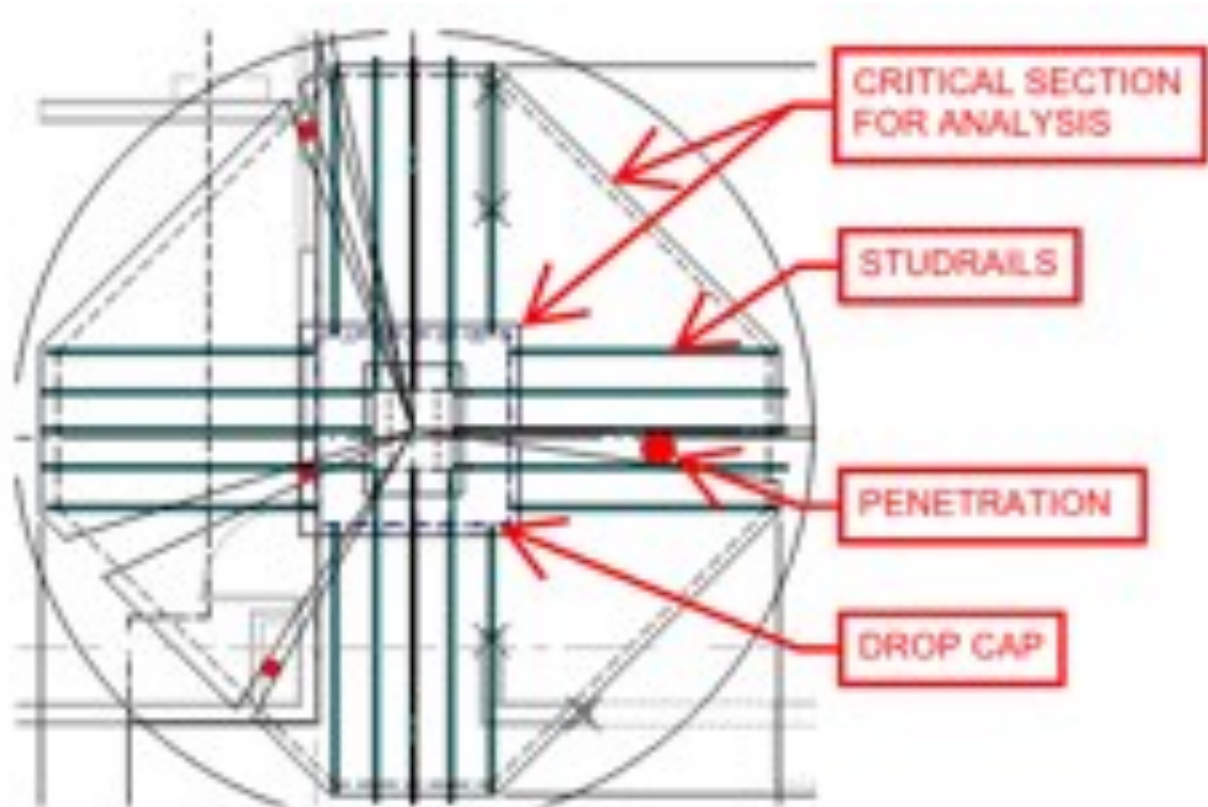
# Concrete Shear Walls



- Seismic base at level 4
- Discontinuous shear walls at level 3 and level 1



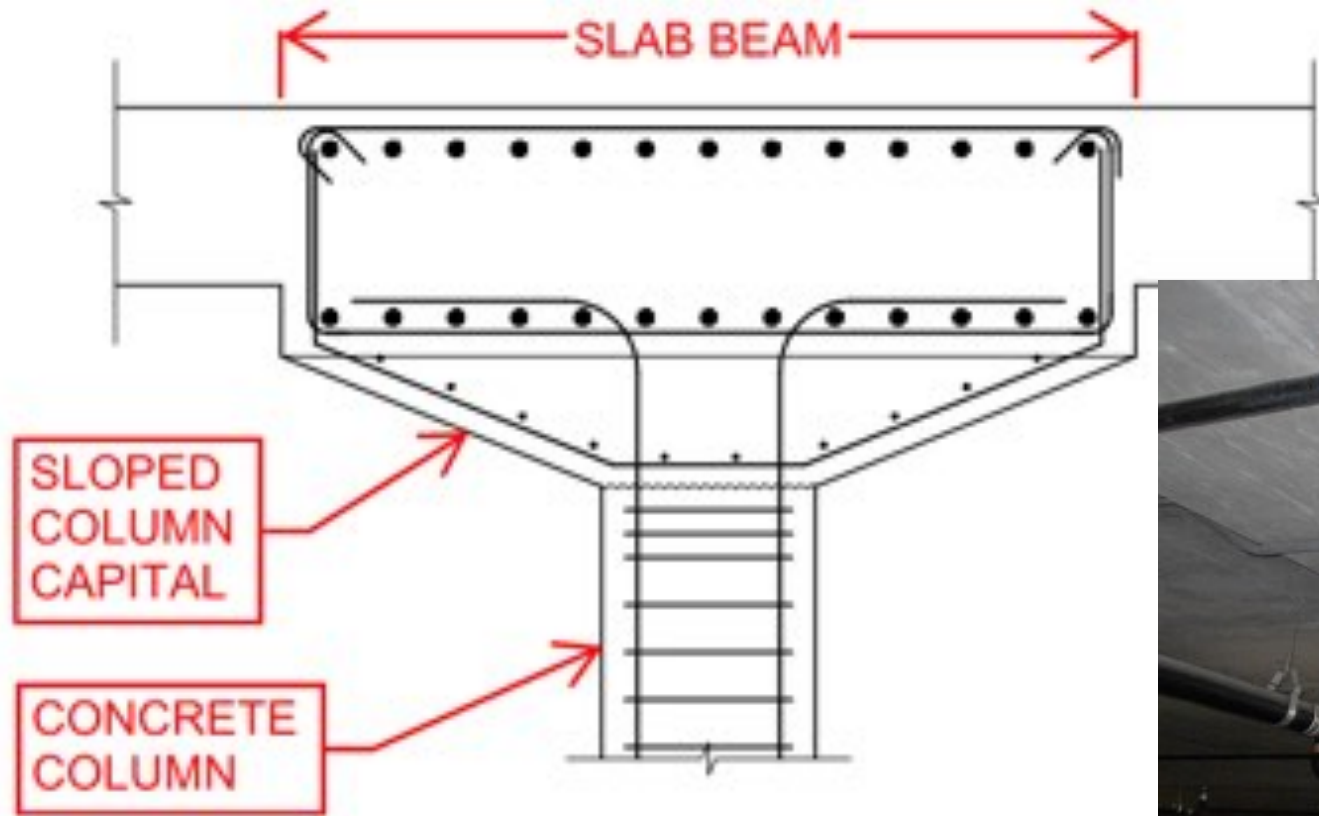
# Podium Design



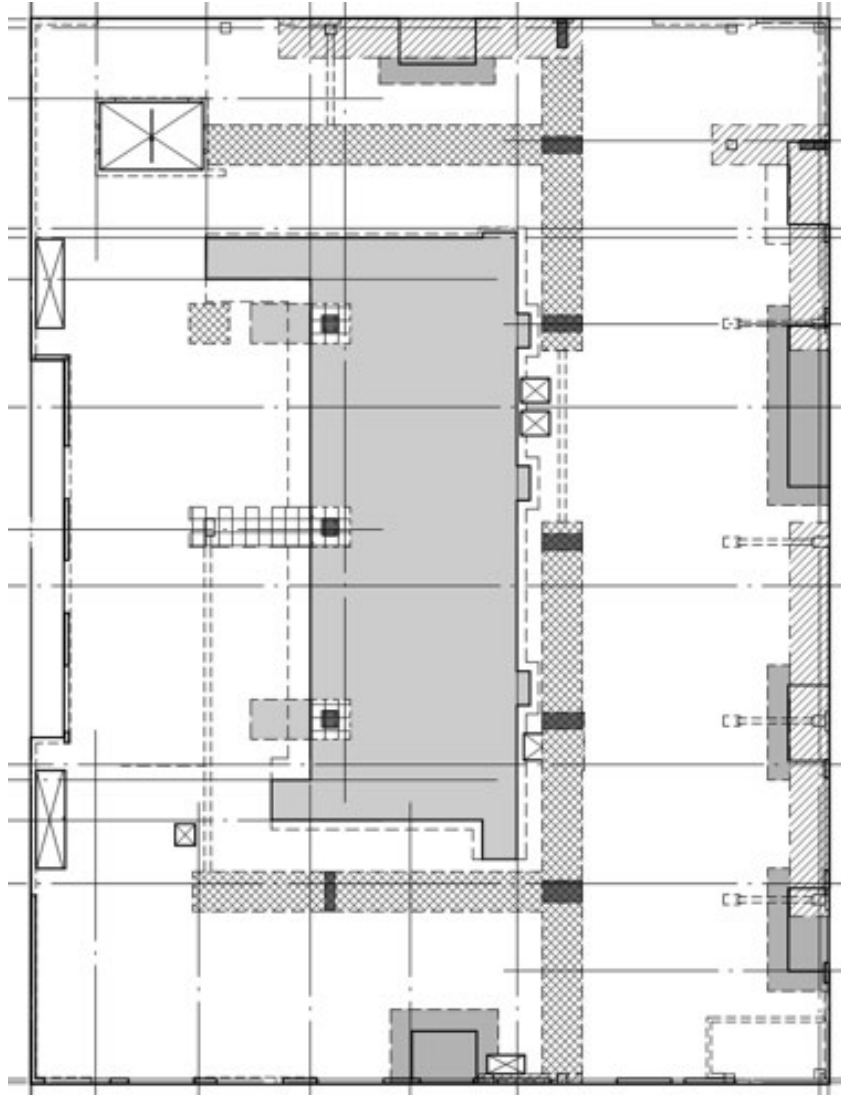
- Reduced thickness at center courtyard
- Punching shear uses drop caps and studrails in some locations

# Podium Design

- Slab beams
- Column capitals where needed

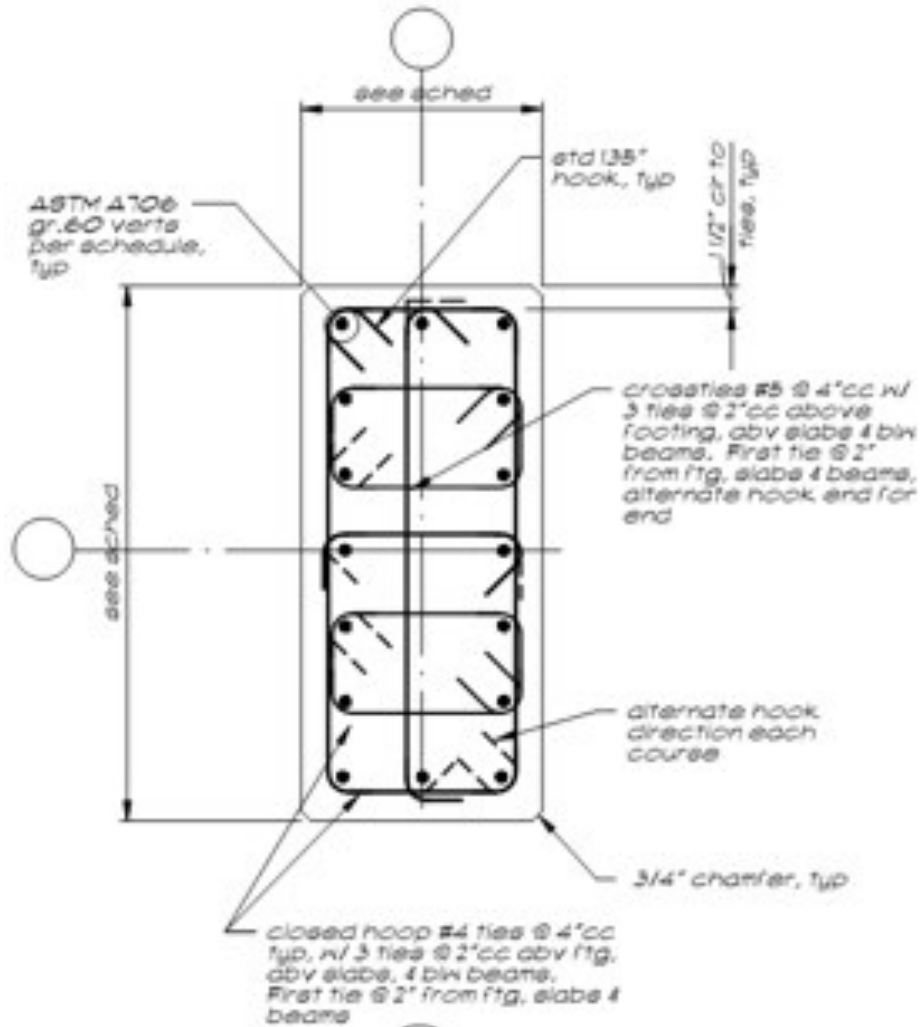


# Podium Design

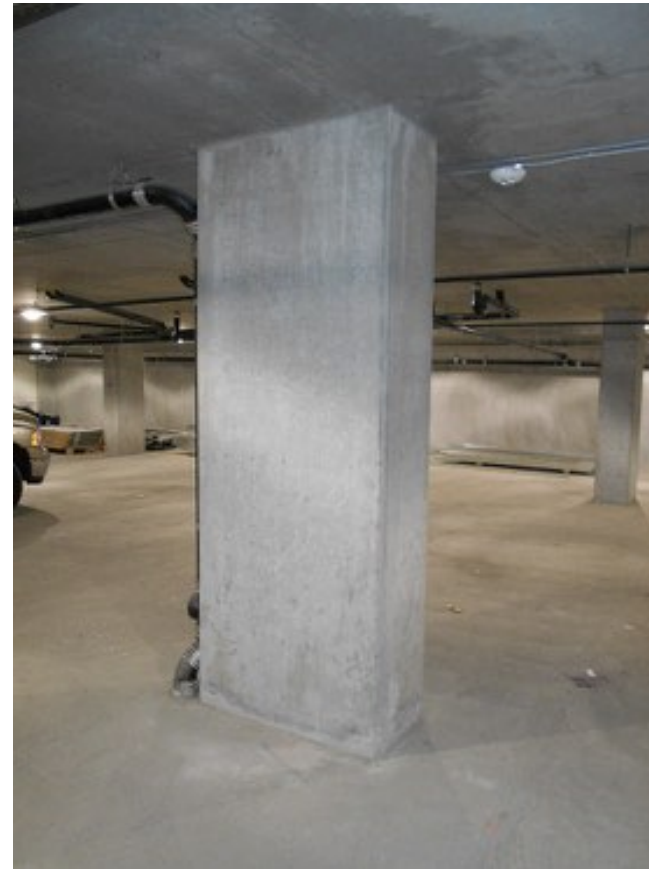


- Soffit elevation plan to clarify the height of:
  - Slab beams
  - Drop caps
  - Column capitals
  - Depressed areas
  - Sloped thickness transitions

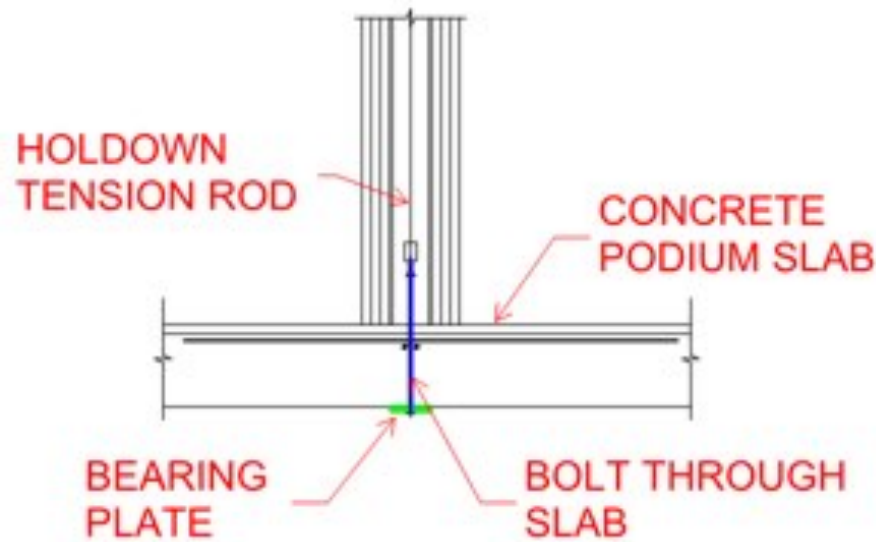
# Concrete Columns



- Constrained by parking layout
- 18x40 largest



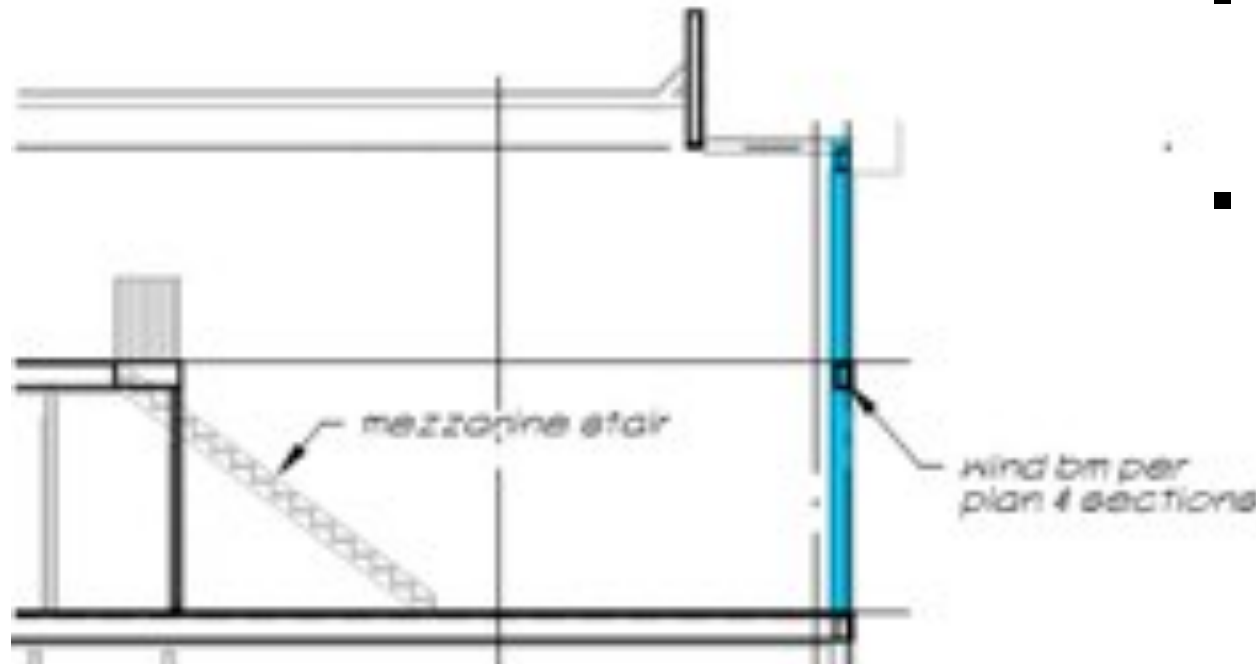
# Connection of Wood Structure to Podium



- Holdown system bolt through podium
- Holdown rod developed into concrete shear wall where occurs
- Sill bolts cast-in-place into concrete podium slab



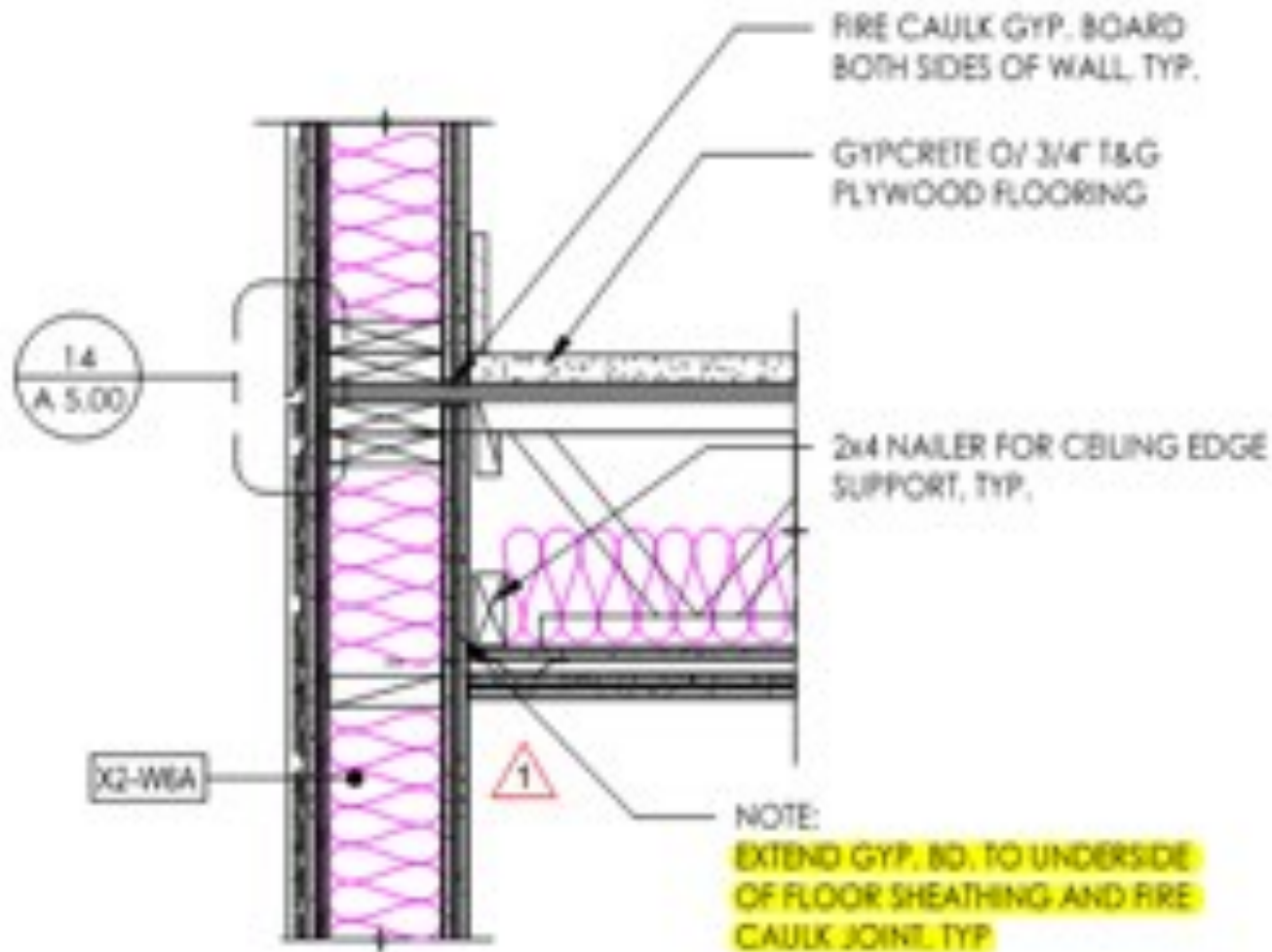
# Wood Framing System



- Wood stud bearing walls
- 3x6 @ 12"cc at lowest level wall
  - Some local areas of 3x6 @ 8"cc
- Top floor double height wall where mezzanine does not occur



# Wood Framing System



- Type IIIA construction
- Fire retardant treated wood in exterior wall
- 2-hour exterior walls
- Woodworks assistance on detailing options
- A discussion with the building department regarding detailing is necessary

# Wood Framing System



- Proprietary joist hangers to span over gyp board layers

# Shrinkage



Flexible coupling  
for gas pipes

- Shrinkage considerations due to extra level of wood framing
- Specify wood with <19% moisture content
- Other building systems such as plumbing pipes also need to consider shrinkage effects

A Estimated Building 50.02 Shrinkage/Settling		
Level	Level "S"	Cumulative "S"
Roof	0.15'	1.70'
Mezz	0.15'	1.55'
8th	0.30'	1.40'
7th	0.30'	1.10'
6th	0.27'	0.8'
5th	0.26'	0.53'
4th	0.27'	0.27'

Notes:

1. "S" indicates combined shrinkage and settling in.
2. Estimated shrinkage and settling in values assume all lumber in all framing has MC  $\leq 19\%$  at the time of installation.
3. These values have been provided for consideration in the design and detailing of building systems sensitive to shrinkage such as tie down take up devices, plumbing systems, etc.



# Plumbing in Walls



- Plumbing in walls required study and repairs

# Exterior Building Maintenance



- Tieback and davit anchors on wood framing



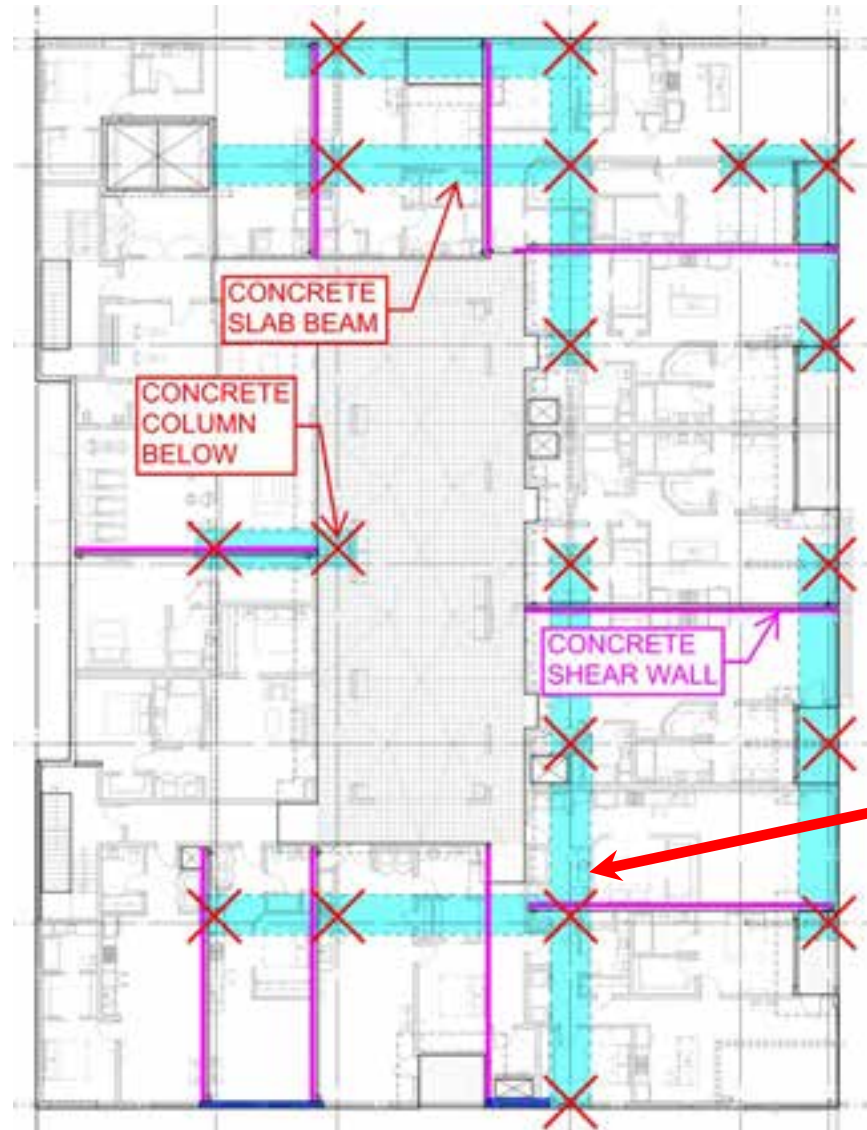


# Structural Lateral System



- Transfer 'Slab Beams'
- Wood Shear Walls
- Wood Diaphragms

# Transfer Slab Beams

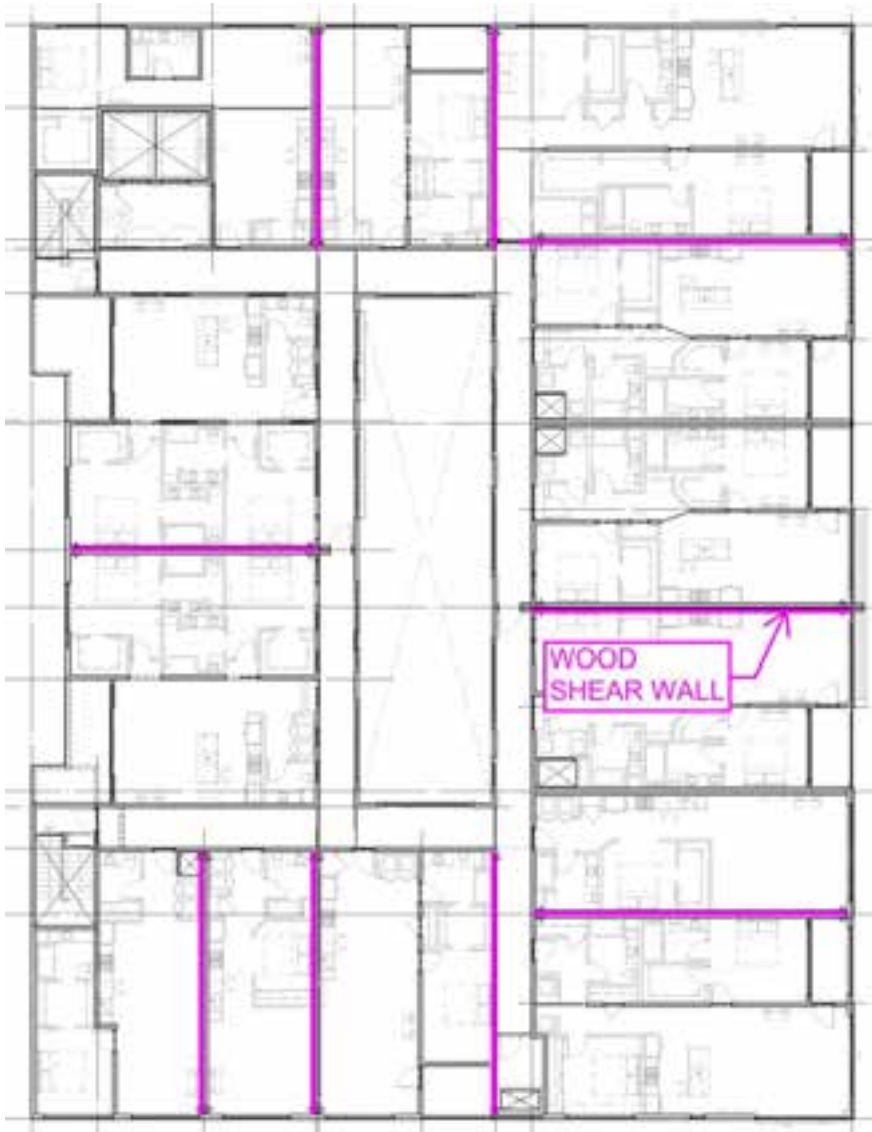


- Ductile reinforced beams
- Design for overstrength loads from wall overturning
- 6" additional soffit depth and 6 ft wide

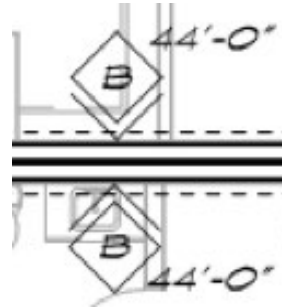




# Wood Shear Walls

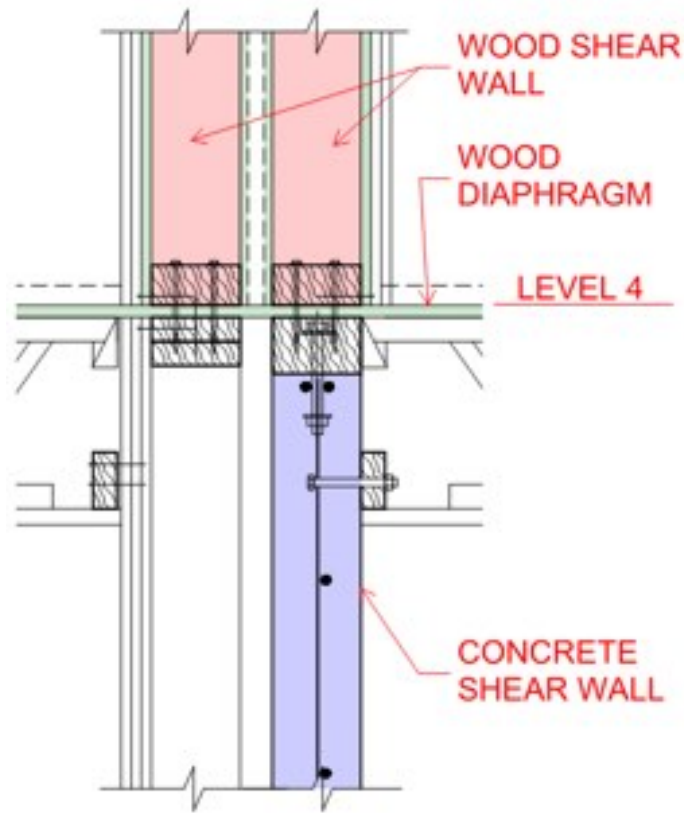
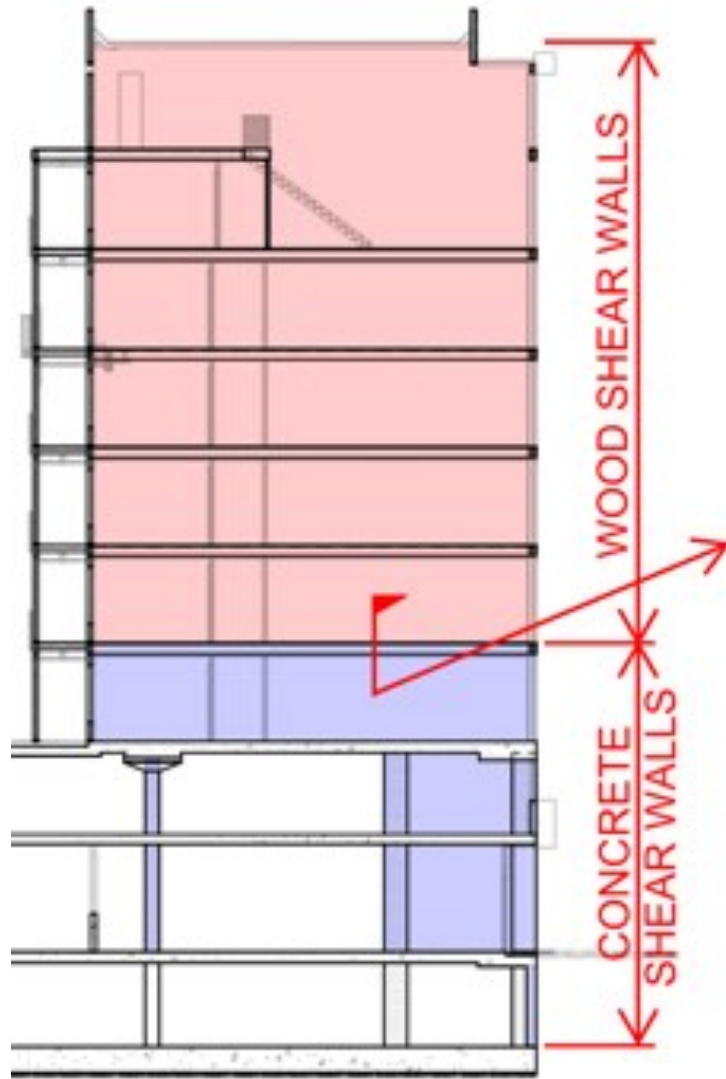


WOOD  
SHEAR WALL



- Both walls in the double party wall are shear walls
- Some walls near the bottom are double sided shear
- Continuous tie-down rod system is used for holdowns

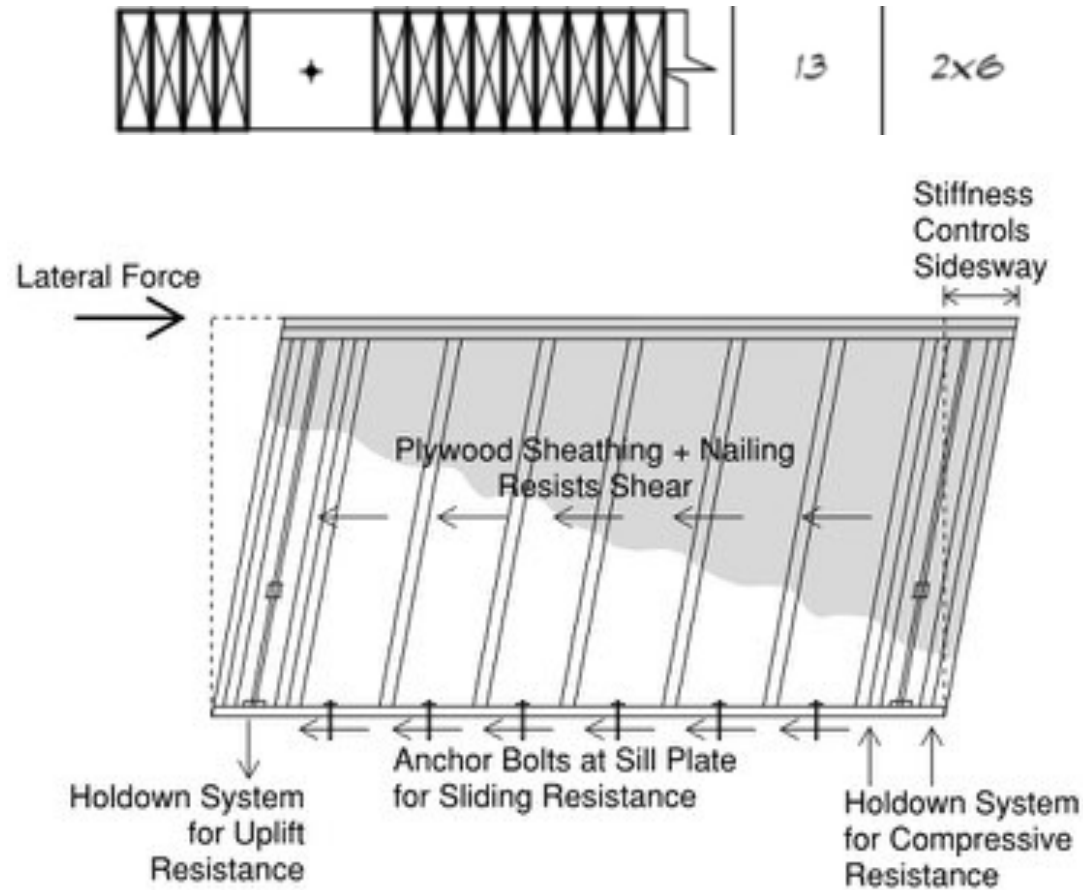
# Wood Shear Walls



- Concrete walls extend up to level 4
- Concrete shear wall at 3<sup>rd</sup> floor takes full load of superstructure

# Wood Shear Walls

- Large compression post sizes at bottom of wall





# Wood Diaphragms

**Exception:** Where calculations show that diaphragm deflections can be tolerated, the length, L, (normal to the open side) shall be permitted to be increased to an L/W ratio not greater than 1.5:1 when sheathed in conformance with 4.2.7.1 or 4.2.7.3, or not greater than 1:1 when sheathed in conformance with 4.2.7.2.

- 2008 SDPWS 4.2.5
  - Deflections checked to allow 1.5:1 ratio of L/W
- Note: 2015 SDPWS requirements are different – consult current code

# Wood Diaphragms



- Envelope rigid and flexible analysis
- Strap for collectors to shear walls



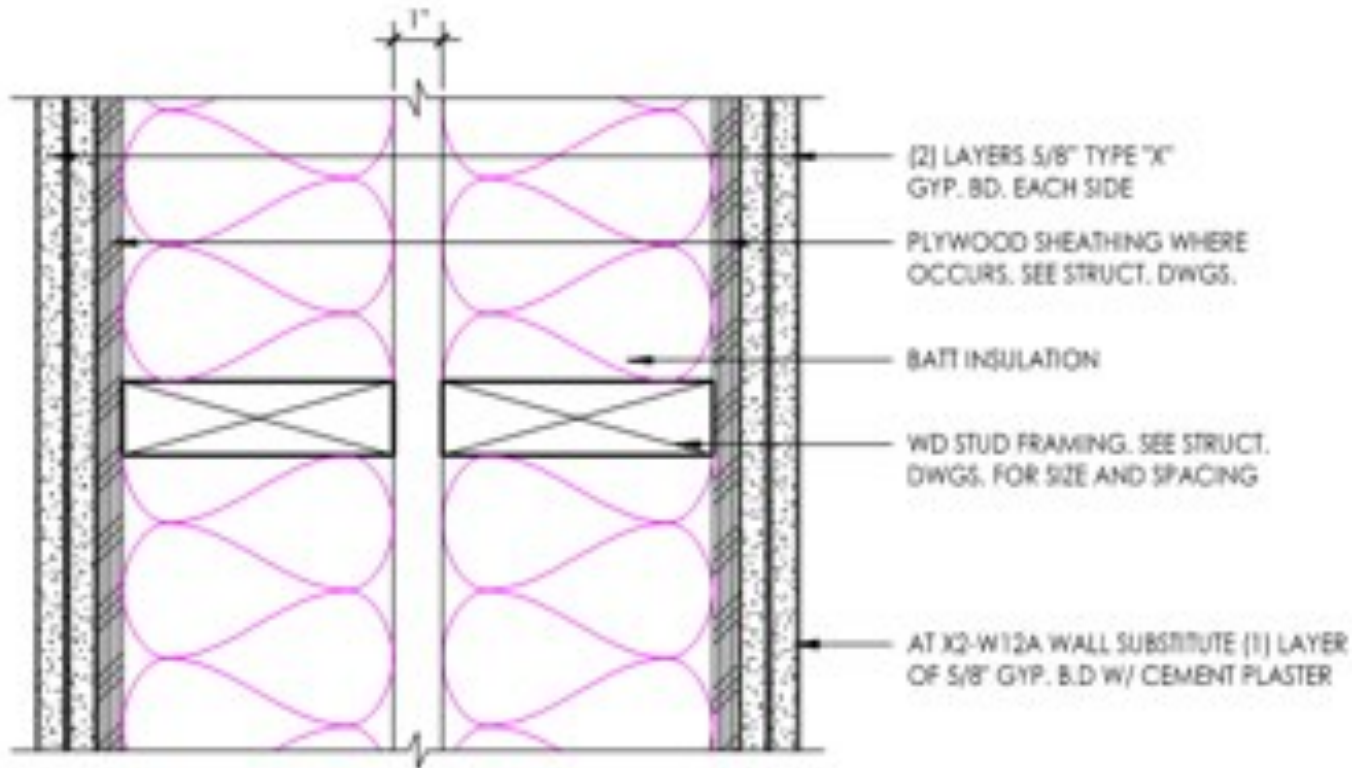
# Fire Life Safety Objectives



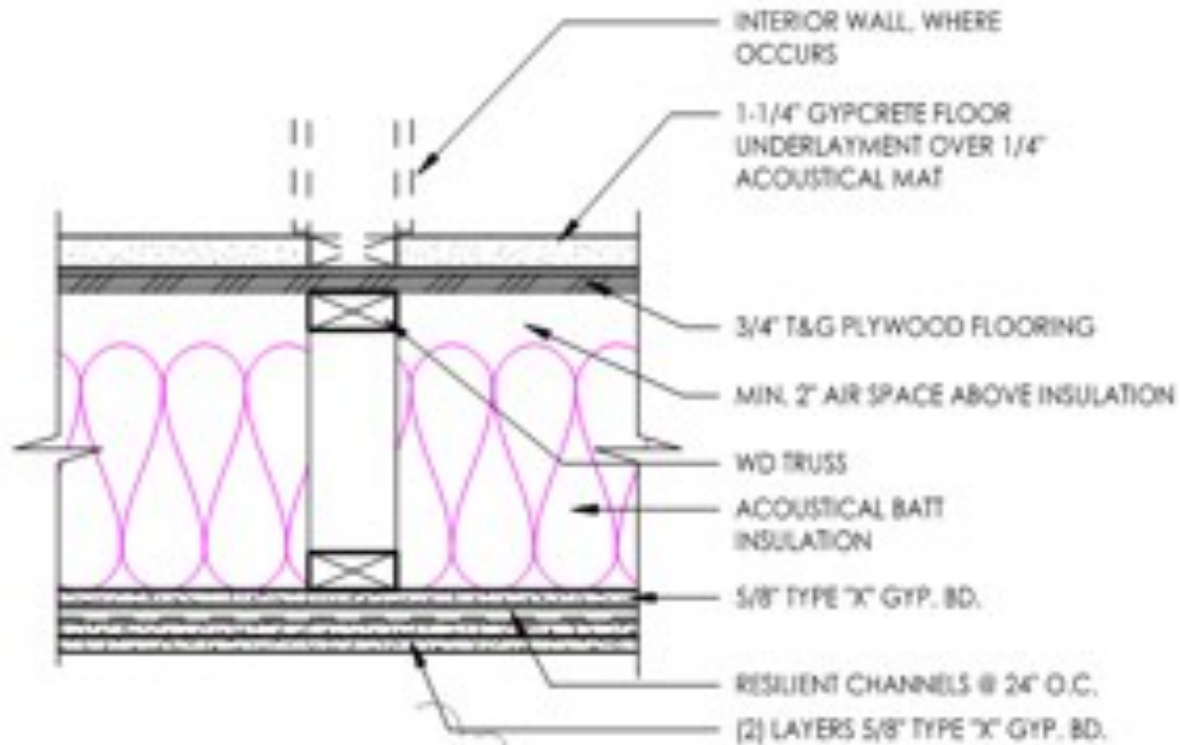
- Wall Assemblies
- Floor Assemblies
- Corridor Systems
- Fire Separations
- Sprinkler System
- Compartments

# Wall Assemblies

- 2-hour structural walls
- 2-hour exterior walls



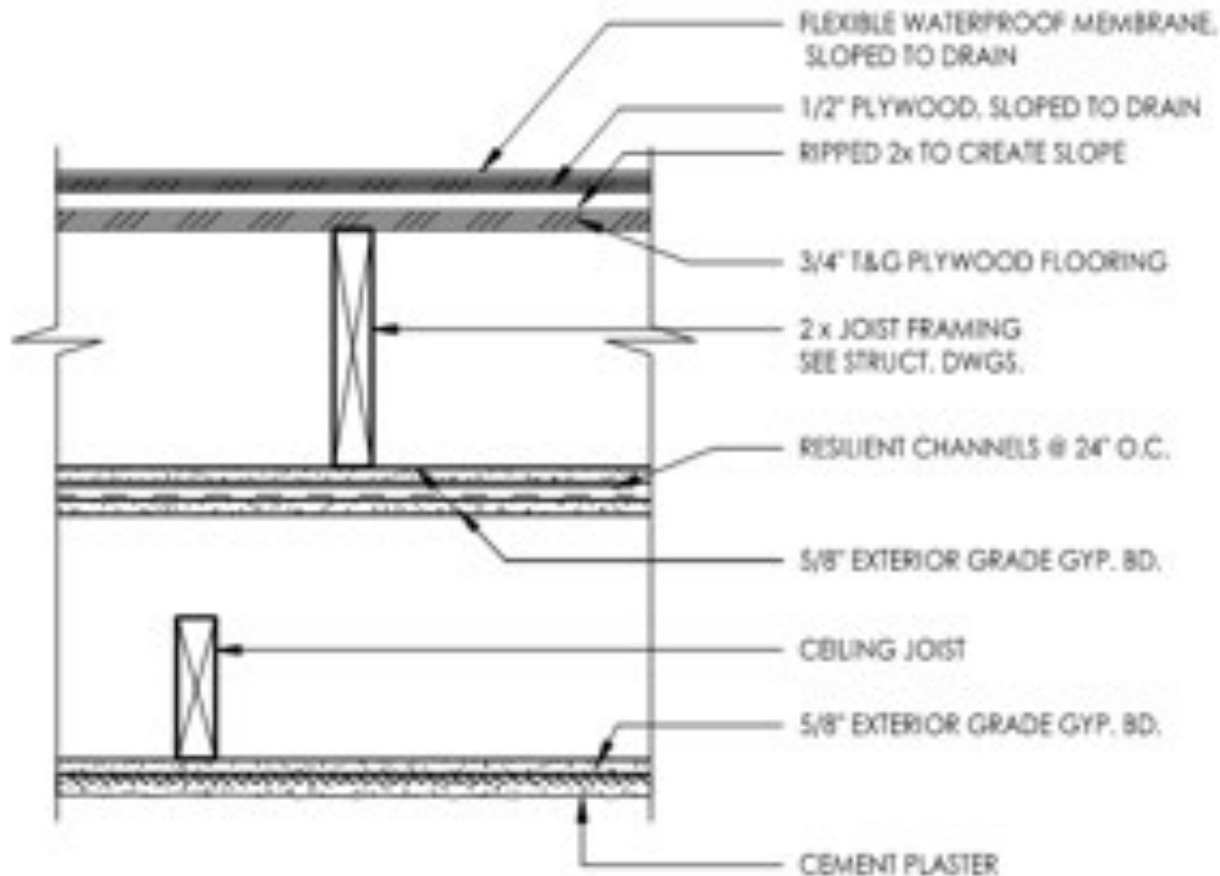
# Floor Assemblies



- 2-hour rated
- 3 layers 5/8" Type 'X' gypsum board ceiling
- 1 1/4" gypsum concrete floor topping



# Corridor Systems



- 2-hour rated
- 2 layers 5/8" Type 'X' gypsum board at floor joists
- 1 layer 5/8" Type 'X' gypsum board with plaster at ceiling joists

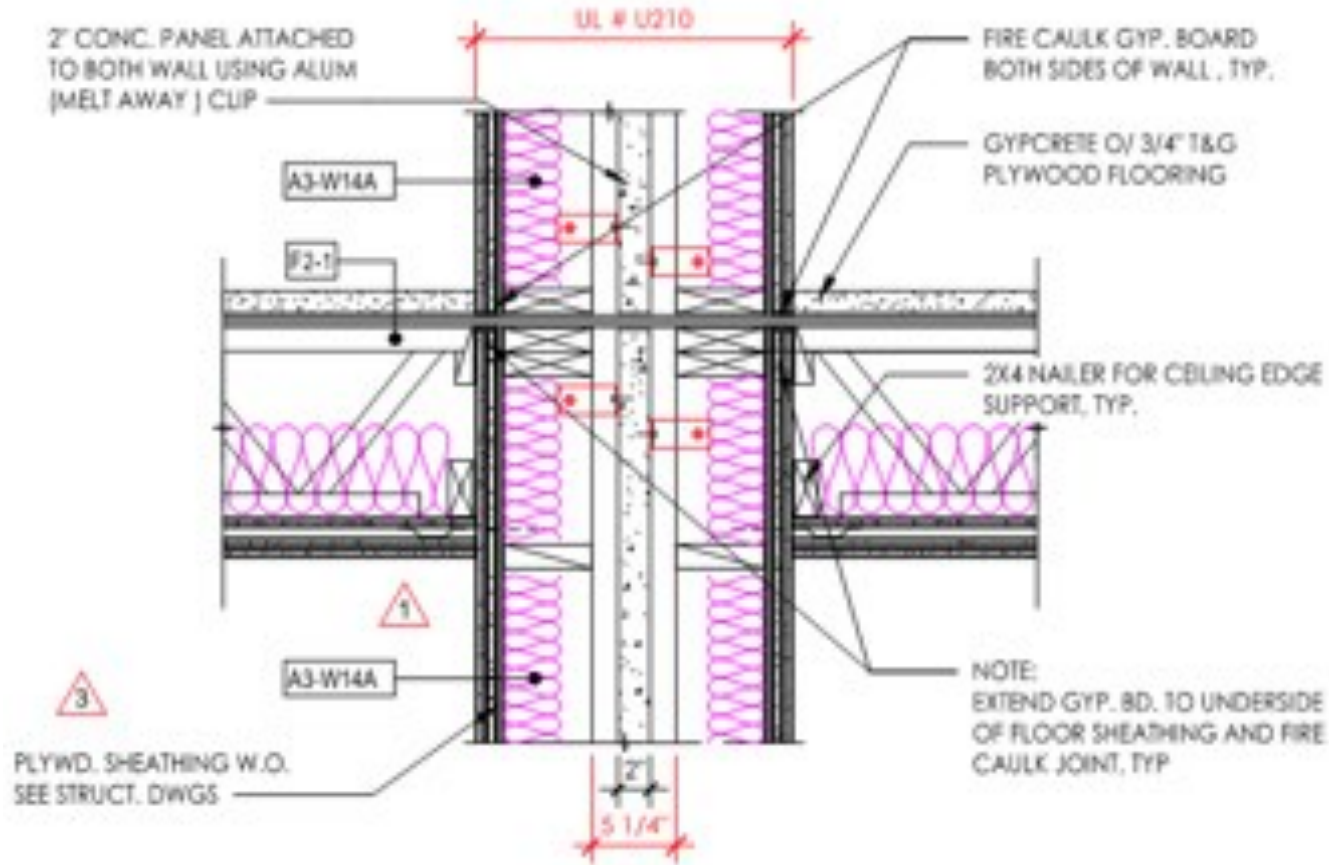
# Fire Separations



- 3-hour separation
- 2" autoclaved aerated concrete (AAC) panels



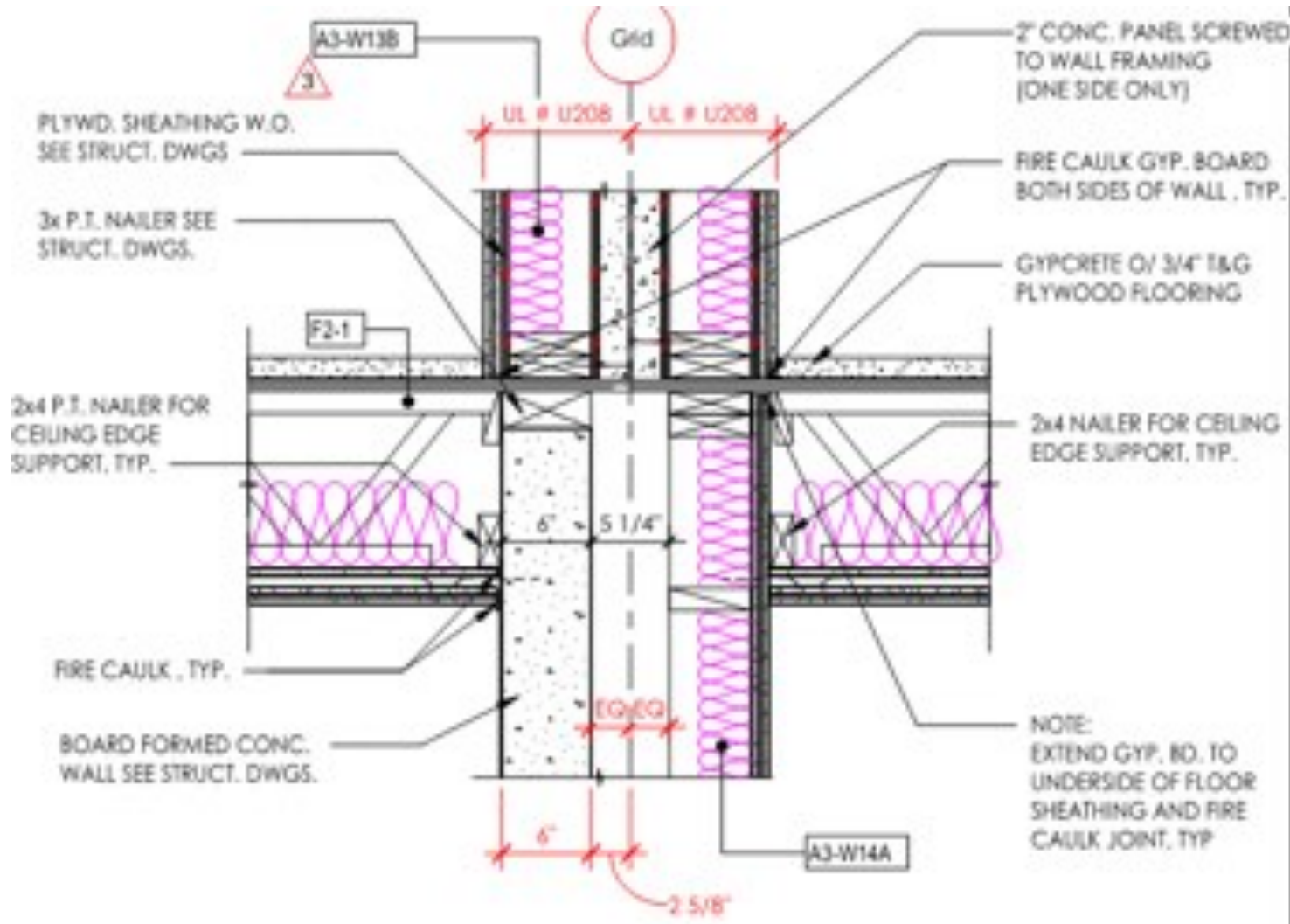
# Fire Separations



- Melt away clips on each side



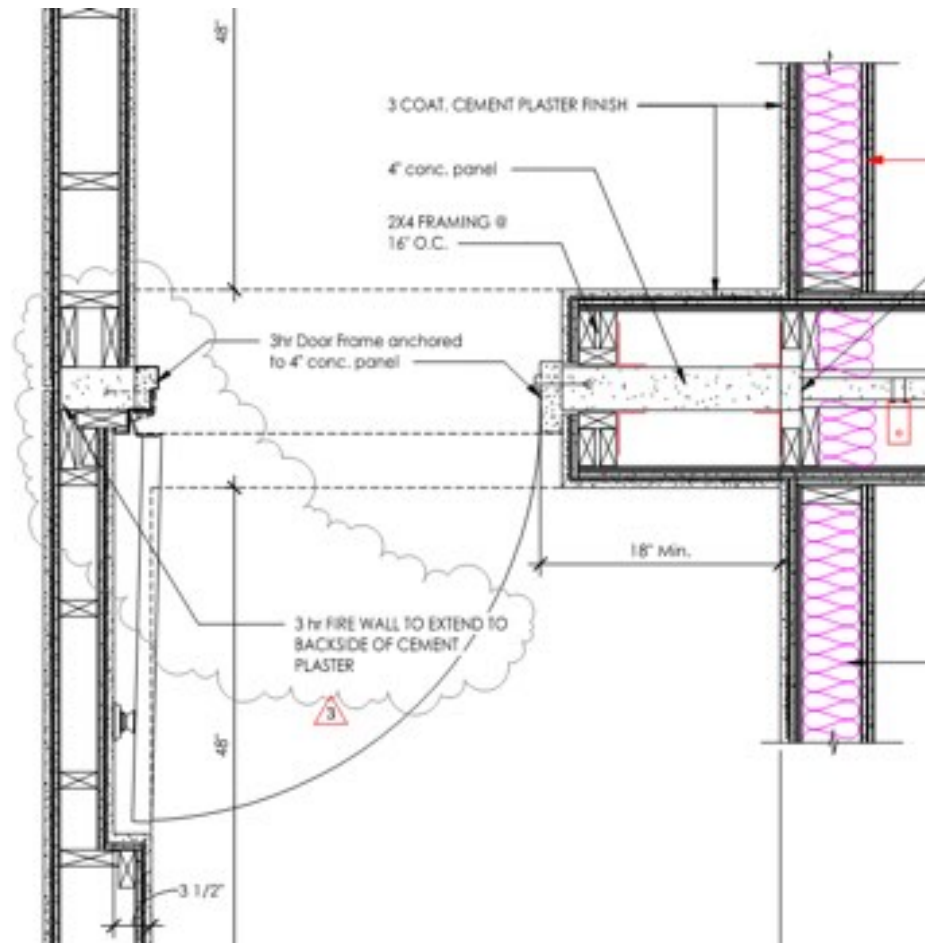
# Fire Separations



- 3-hour separation wall where double sided shear walls occur required two AAC panels for constructability



# Exiting Routes



- Horizontal exit through fire separation wall
- Door frame attached to concrete wall panel
- Two communication devices in corridor per level

# Fire Sprinklers

- Automatic sprinklers per NFPA 13



# Compartments & Access

City of  
SACRAMENTO  
Community Development

300 Richards Blvd., 3rd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95811  
Help Line: 916 264 5011  
CityofSacramento.org/dcd

Staff Findings: (STAFF USE ONLY)  
*Fire resistive elements are being added that make the Type IIIA portion of the building better than Type IIA (in terms of fire rating of building elements) - almost Type IIB. Two stairways to the roof are also being provided (one required)*  
STAFF (Print name and title): *Jay Griffin Supervising Building Inspector*

Circle one: ☒ APPROVAL RECOMMENDED ☐ NOT RECOMMENDED

Reviewed by: *Anna Telkautz 4/27/16*  
Anna Telkautz, PE  
Supervising Engineer

Circle one: ☒ APPROVAL RECOMMENDED ☐ NOT RECOMMENDED

Approved by: *W. DeLeon 4/29/16* *[Signature]* *4/29/16*  
Winfred DeLeon, PE, CBO  
Chief Building Official Jason Lee  
Acting Fire Marshal

CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL

FIRE MARSHAL

DENIED (initial, if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ DENIED (initial, if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

This approval is specific to this project and this request, and is not transferable.

*AMMR has been approved pending that all elements proposed in this document is included in the project drawings.*  
*W. DeLeon*

- Compartments facilitate in fire fighting
- Additional stair access to roof

when planning fire control in buildings. Due to the inherent design of apartments, residential occupancies have a high degree of compartmentalization. This includes floors, corridors and unit separation walls which define a fire area significantly less than the allowable building area. **These small compartments limit fire size and maintain structural integrity of the building.** Providing 2-hour fire-resistance-rated separation walls throughout the Type IIIA building will create smaller fire areas and help to reduce the spread of fire throughout the building.



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# Questions?

This concludes The American  
Institute of Architects Continuing  
Education Systems Course

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D&S Development

**Architect:**

HRGA

**Structural Engineer:**

Ryan Miller, S.E., LEED AP

BUEHLER

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