



**BUILDING CODE MANUAL
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION
Based on the 2014 LACBC**

**#144
411
Article 1
12-11-13
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AMUSEMENT PARK STRUCTURES AND PERMANENT RIDES

ISSUE:

Amusement park structures and permanent rides pose unique egress, accessibility, fire/life-safety and structural issues. Temporary amusement devices (including rides) and structures shall comply with Chapter 66 and BCM 6601, Article 1.

POLICY:

Outdoor permanent rides such as roller-coasters, drop-towers, and Ferris wheels shall be classified as Group A-5 occupancies. Access to and egress from the ride vehicle load/unload area and ride vehicle shall be reviewed in accordance with Chapters 10 and 11B, but review of the ride and ride vehicle itself is the responsibility of Cal/OSHA Amusement Ride and Tramway Unit. Building and Safety structural review of the ride shall be limited to foundation design and structural anchorage resistance to gravity, lateral (e.g. wind and seismic), and dynamic (e.g. impact) loads.

Permanent rides housed within buildings shall be considered Special Amusement Buildings as defined in Section 411 and classified as Group A-3 occupancies. The building shall conform to all provisions of the Building Code, including access to and egress from the ride vehicle and ride vehicle load/unload area. Structural review of the building shall consider gravity, lateral, and dynamic loads imposed from the ride vehicle. The review and inspection of the ride itself is the responsibility of Cal/OSHA Amusement Ride and Tramway Unit.

Special consideration shall be given to the path of travel to and from the ride vehicle in both indoor and outdoor cases. An acceptable means of providing rider access from the ride vehicle load/unload area into the ride vehicle itself shall be provided. The Cal/OSHA Amusement Ride and Tramway Unit reviews rider egress where impacted by components of the manufactured ride vehicle, such as lap bars or vehicle doors, but Building and Safety must confirm rider egress to the exit level.

Annual inspection of all rides and ride vehicles is the responsibility of Cal/OSHA Amusement Ride and Tramway Unit in accordance with the Permanent Amusement Ride Safety Inspection Program. For additional information regarding this program, see:

<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/aroffices.htm>

Indoor or covered ride queues, retail shops, or access buildings shall be classified as Group A-3 and/or M occupancies and shall conform to all provisions of the Building Code.

PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION PROCEDURES:

Case 1: Exterior/unenclosed queue area

- 1) Classify as Group A-5 occupancy.
- 2) Shall comply with all applicable accessibility provisions of Chapter 11B, including ramps, walkways, and access to load/unload area.
- 3) Shall comply with applicable egress provisions for number and width of exits to public way or safe dispersal area. Ensure appropriate travel distance limits are met.

Case 2: Enclosed/covered queue area

- 1) Classify as Group A-3 occupancy.
- 2) Subject to applicable provisions of Section 411 – Special Amusement Buildings.
- 3) Shall comply with all applicable egress provisions of Chapter 10.
- 4) Shall comply with all applicable accessibility provisions of Chapter 11B, including ramps, walkways, and access to load/unload area.
- 5) Shall comply with all other applicable Building Code provisions including Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 9.

Case 3: Exterior/unenclosed permanent ride

- 1) Classify as Group A-5 occupancy.
- 2) Shall comply with access to and egress requirements for riders to and from the ride vehicle. (See Section 11B 234.3, Exception 3.)
- 3) The ride foundation system, as well as any additional supporting structures not associated with the ride or ride vehicle, shall comply with all structural provisions of the Building Code.
- 4) Permit and inspection shall include the foundation of the permanent ride only.

Case 4: Enclosed/covered permanent ride

- 1) Classify as Group A-3 occupancy.
- 2) Subject to applicable provisions of Section 411 – Special Amusement Buildings.
- 3) Shall comply with access to and egress requirements, including accessibility provisions, where riders exit from the ride vehicle during emergency procedures. (See Section 11B 234.3, Exception 3.)
- 4) Shall comply with all provisions of the Building Code, including Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 9.
- 5) Structural review of the building and any building element supporting the ride vehicle (gravity loads, lateral loads, and any dynamic loads imposed from the ride vehicle).
- 6) Permit and inspection is required for the building or structure enclosing or covering the ride. A separate permit and inspection is required for the foundation of the permanent ride.

RELATED CODE PROVISIONS:

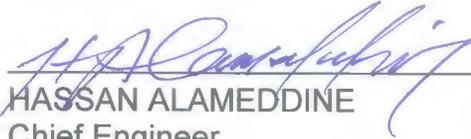
Section 411
Section 907.2.12
Table 903.2.11.6
Chapter 11B
Chapter 66
BCM 6601, Article I

New BCM

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H.A. Alameddine', is written over a horizontal line.

HASSAN ALAMEDDINE
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