



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FIRE RESISTANCE

# Column Protection

CITY OF SAN DIEGO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
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INFORMATION  
BULLETIN

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The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to describe some acceptable methods of protecting the fire-resistant covering of columns that are subject to impact.

Per Section 704.9 of the California Building Code (CBC), Impact Protection, “where the fire protective covering of a structural member is subject to impact damage from moving vehicles, the handling of merchandise or other activity, the fire protective covering shall be protected by corner guards or by a substantial jacket of metal or other non-combustible material to a height adequate to provide full protection, but not less than five feet from the finished floor”. Such corner protection is not required on concrete columns in open or enclosed parking garages.

## I. ACCEPTABLE METHODS

The following methods will be considered to provide minimum protection of structural columns:

- A. A 22-gauge minimum metal jacket to a height of 5 feet above the ground. This method is applicable to concrete, masonry, steel, or wood columns.
- B. 2”x 2” x 1/4” steel angles firmly attached on all corners to a height of 5 feet above ground. This method is applicable to masonry, wood, steel, or concrete columns.
- C. Wood columns qualifying as heavy timber construction (not less than 8” in nominal dimension) need not be protected with impact protection.

### Documents Referenced in this Information Bulletin

- 2010 California Building Code, (CBC)