

GUARDRAIL REQUIREMENTS ADJACENT TO OPENABLE WINDOWS

Section 1015.8 of the Los Angeles Building Code (LABC) and Section R312.2.1 of Los Angeles Residential Code (LARC) require that in residential occupancies, when the sill portion of an operable window is located more than 72 inches above the finished grade or other exterior surface below, a solid wall or fixed glazing measuring a minimum of 36 inches high shall be provided above the finished floor surface of the room in which the window is located.

Section 1015.3 of the LABC and Section R312 of LARC require that 42 inch high guards be provided along open-sided walking surfaces that are located more than 30 inches above the finished grade below.

To provide consistency among Section 1015.8, Section R312.2.1, Section 1015.3, and Section R312, when the sill portion of an operable window opening is located over 72 inches above the adjacent finished grade below in buildings with any occupancy, the Department will require compliance with Section 1015.3 and Section R312, and a solid wall or fixed glazing or guards measuring a minimum of 42 inches high above the finished floor surface of the room in which the window is located shall be provided. The diagram below illustrates this condition.

