

AUG
2021

Building Bulletin

HURRICANE STRAPS – VOLUNTARILY EXCEEDING BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENTS

Since the tornado in Barrie, on July 15, 2021, there has been much discussion about the use of hurricane straps to anchor roofs to walls. The City is supportive of building to a level that exceeds the Ontario Building Code minimum, but cannot legally enforce these provisions. Any additional building provisions (i.e., straps or clips) should be included in permit application documentation. The City will issue the permit however there will not be mandatory enforcement should the straps not be used.

Where straps are provided, the fasteners must be in addition to, not instead of, the minimum connections specified in the Ontario Building Code.

Should the City implement an incentive program regarding the use of hurricane straps, that program will be administered independently of the building permit process as these installations are not regulated by the Ontario Building Code. Retroactive processing of any incentives will be available once the program is in place and evidence of installation is provided.

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Chief Building Official

