Braced Panels are required in wood construction by R602.10 of the International Residential Code. While there may be many options to meet these requirements, this handout provides guidance on the most common technique and is approved for use by local jurisdictions. This guide presumes CONTINUOUS SHEATHING. (Method CS-PF 2015 IRC figure R602.10.6.4)

NOTE- Garage door openings without Portal Framing- (Method CS-G Table 602.10.5) For an 8’ tall wall– min 24” wide panels, 9’ wall– min 27” wide panel, 10’ tall wall– min 30” wide panel, 11’ tall wall– min 33” wide panel, 12’ tall wall– min 36” wide panel on both sides of the door openings.

Portal Framing allows narrower walls next to the door opening

INSPECTION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED BEFORE COVERING, HOUSE WRAP, TYVEK, SIDING, STONE ETC!

Minimum Header Size 3” x 11 1/4”- No metal allowed
Spacers/sheathing must be to the inside, NOT sandwiched

Top of Header | Min Width
--- | ---
8’ | 16”
9’ | 18”
10’ | 20”

Fasten top plate to header with 2 rows of 16D sinkers 3” OC

Fasten king stud to the end of the header w Six– 16D sinkers

INSIDE- NOT on exterior sheathing side-1000 lb metal strap from top plate to 24” below the header nailed w 8D, 3” O/C or install per strap manufacturers installation instructions

OR - 2” dimensional lumber from the top plate to minimum 48” below the Header (Full length preferred) w two 16D nails in the top plate and nailed 6” O/C. This lumber may be used to mount the door hardware.

All areas nailed w 8D, 3” OC. NOT STAPLES

Sheathing Joints must be within the center 24” vertically and blocked w nailing required for seams

Double studs required

Sheathing in Braced Wall Panels must be nailed to all framing including the studs, blocking, sills and header with 8D nails, 3” on center. (Figure 602.10.4) Single or double sill allowed. Sill must be anchored to the foundation with 1/2 bolts and 2” PLATE washers within 12” of ends, 12” of joints and every 6’.

Please contact the Building Safety Department of the Jurisdiction if you have questions regarding this notice.