



POLICY STATEMENT

FOR HURRICANE PROTECTION PANELS

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By motion of the Board of Architectural Review at the September 13, 2006 meeting, the following guidelines were adopted regarding the installation of hurricane protection panels installed in the Old and Historic and Old City District.

The Board understands the necessity of allowing property owners, particularly those of historic buildings, to protect their structures in the event of an impending storm through the use of hurricane panels over door and window openings. It is also imperative in where possible as little alteration of historic fabric occur. Therefore the following guidelines should be followed:

1. Where possible, existing swing type shutters should be used in lieu of panelized systems. In many instances, installation of these types of traditional shutters may be preferable to a panelized system, depending on the building under consideration. (Note that in the case of historic buildings, the shutters must be made of wood.)
2. Any panel system should be installed in a manner that is completely reversible, resulting in as little damage to the fabric of the building as possible.
3. Permanent Fasteners:
 - a. Shall be recessed "female type", installed such that the face is flush with the existing trim material.
 - b. The fasteners shall be stainless steel or other rustproof material, and shall be painted to match the adjacent trim.
 - c. The number of fasteners installed shall be as few as possible to meet the manufacturer's recommendations.
 - d. Fasteners should be set in sealant to minimize water intrusion and potential deterioration of historic material.
 - e. Any caps installed over the fasteners should be painted to match the adjacent trim.
4. Installation of the panel itself is only allowed in the event of an approaching storm, and must be removed within 14 days once the threat has passed.
5. No other more visible permanent alterations such as tracks, metal angles or other supports, raised bolts, etc., shall be permitted.
6. The panel shall fit within the opening (as opposed to the face of the adjacent wall surface) if at all possible.
7. In the case of masonry buildings, the panel shall fit within the masonry opening and be attached to the door or window trim if possible. If it is necessary to insert the permanent fasteners to a brick surface, the fasteners should be installed within the mortar joints.
8. Where plywood panels are to be simply installed over openings, screws are encouraged in lieu of nails to minimize damage to historic fabric.
9. This policy statement also encourages the use of interior panel systems for protection where possible to minimize damage to exterior fabric.

The above criteria are intended as general guidelines. Applications for the installation of hurricane panel systems shall be considered on a case by case basis.

This policy statement was approved by resolution by the Board of Architectural Review on September 13, 2006.