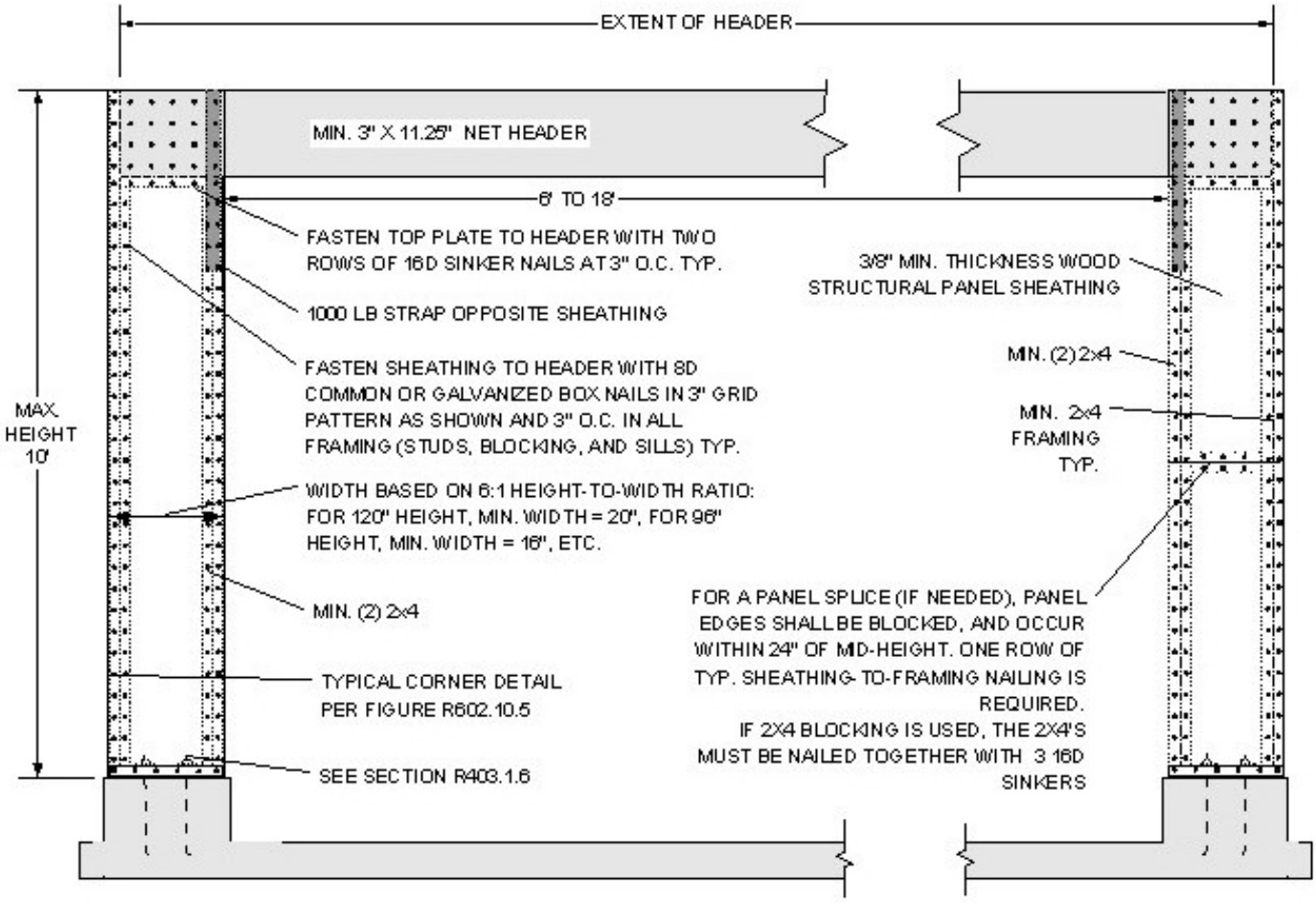
City of Arlington Texas

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Alternate Braced Wall Panel, Section R602.1.6-C, IRC
November 1, 2005

ALTERNATE BRACED WALL PANEL

Vertical wall segments in the first of one- or first of two-story buildings next to garage openings shall be permitted to have a 6:1 height-to-width ratio (with height being measured from top of header to sill plate) when constructed in accordance with the following provisions. Each panel shall have a length of not less than 16 inches (406 mm) and a height of not more than 10 feet (3048 mm). Each panel shall be sheathed on one face with a single layer of 3/8-inch-minimum-thickness (9.5 mm) wood structural panel sheathing nailed with 8d common or galvanized box nails in accordance with Figure R602.10.5(2). The wood structural panel sheathing shall extend up over the solid sawn or glued-laminated header and shall be nailed in accordance with Figure R602.10.5(2). The header shall extend between the inside faces of the first full-length outer studs of each panel. The clear span of the header between the inner studs of each panel shall be not less than six feet (1829 mm) and not more than 18 feet (5486 mm) in length. A strap with an uplift capacity of not less than 1000 pounds (454 kg) shall fasten the header to the side of the inner studs opposite the sheathing. Two anchor bolts shall be installed in accordance with Section R403.1.6, and plate washers shall be a minimum of 2 inches by 2 inches by 3/16 inch (51 mm by 51 mm by 4.88 mm) thick and shall be used on each bolt. This exception is only permitted in Seismic Design Categories A-C.

Figure R602.10.5(2)

BRACED WALL PANEL