



# CITY OF EL MONTE

## Economic Development Department Building Division

### Standard for a Patio Enclosure

The California Residential Building Code (CRC), which is adopted by the City of El Monte into its Municipal Code, does not allow a patio enclosure to be used as habitable space; therefore, a patio enclosure cannot be heated or cooled and must comply with all of the following requirements:

1. The existing doors and windows that opens from the residence into the patio must remain in place;
2. The longest exterior wall and one additional exterior wall of the patio must have an open area that is equal to at least 65% of the wall area located below a height of 6' 8" of each wall;
3. Open areas may be enclosed with insect screening, translucent or transparent plastic not more than 0.125 inch (3.2mm) in thickness or glass conforming to Section R308 of the California Residential Building Code or any combination thereof;
4. Bedroom egress windows that are required for emergency escape or rescue must open directly to the outside and may NOT open into a patio enclosure; and,
5. A Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) must protect all receptacle outlets that are located in the patio enclosure.

Note: A patio enclosure that does not comply with all of the above requirements must comply with the building code requirements for a habitable room, including for foundations, wall framing, ceiling framing, roof framing, insulation, energy efficiency, light and ventilation, electrical receptacle outlets and switched lighting.