



County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services

STEEL BUILDING GUIDANCE

BUILDING DIVISION

Purpose¹: This guidance document is to assist our customers in preparing for plan submittal of steel buildings. These projects typically utilize several engineered designs which require coordination from a managing consultant. It is recommended to show this document to your engineer(s).

Basic Submittal Documentation

- Steel Building Framing Plans and Calculations: Engineering documentation typically prepared by the steel building manufacturer. This documentation is to be stamped and signed by a California licensed engineer.
- Steel Building Foundation Plan and Calculations: Engineering documentation typically prepared by another California licensed engineer if not provided by the steel building manufacturer.
- Additional Plan Submittal Items: Plans such as a Plot Plan, stormwater BMP plan, Floor Plan, etc. prepared by an architect or other design consultant. See *Minimum Essential Plan Submittal Items for Single Family Dwellings and Accessory Structures* ([PDS 658](#)).
- Note on plans regarding required Structural Observation, Special Inspections, and Building Inspections per *Constructed Steel Building Certification* ([PDS 003A](#)): "Prior to final approval by the County of San Diego, a completed and signed form PDS 003A will be required from a California licensed engineer/architect certifying the construction is in accordance with the approved plans, calculations, and all requirements of the *California Building Code* as adopted by the County of San Diego. Additionally, any reports required for Special Inspection must be completed. Engineer/architect certification does not eliminate the need for required building inspections"

Basic Engineering Documentation

- Basis of Design. Including lateral system(s) proposed including the corresponding response modification coefficient (R-value).
- Vertical Calculations
- Lateral Calculations. Frame analysis per applicable codes including Seismic Provisions for Structural Steel Buildings (AISC 341) and North American Standard for Seismic Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Systems (AISI S400)
- Structural Details. Including vertical load path, lateral load path (shear transfer/eccentricities), moment connections, braced frame connections, and foundation/base connections.

1. Previously, the County used a certification option for steel buildings. However, due to changes in steel building construction methods, this option is no longer available.