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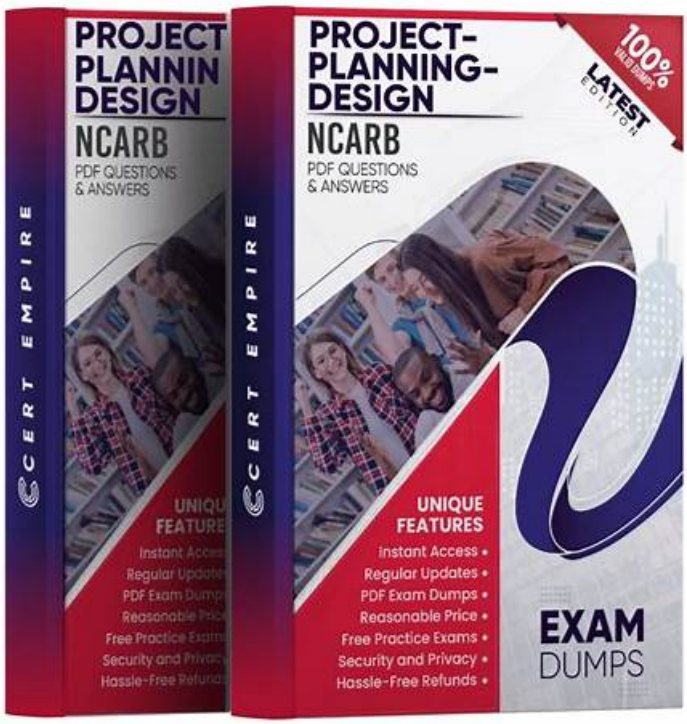

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NCARB Project-Planning-Design Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• Project Costs & Budgeting: This section of the exam measures skills of architectural designers and assesses the ability to evaluate design alternatives based on program goals, perform cost evaluations, and manage cost considerations throughout the design process.
Topic 2	• Project Integration of Program & Systems: This section of the exam measures skills of project architects and focuses on integrating decisions about environmental conditions, codes, and building systems into one cohesive project design. It highlights how to configure the building and incorporate both program requirements and contextual conditions in a unified design approach.
Topic 3	• Environmental Conditions & Context: This section of the exam measures skills of architectural designers and covers how to use site analysis information to determine building placement and environmental planning decisions. It emphasizes applying sustainable principles and considering the neighborhood context to guide project design.
Topic 4	• Building Systems, Materials, & Assemblies: This section of the exam measures skills of architectural designers and covers the understanding of building systems such as mechanical, electrical, and plumbing, along with structural and specialty systems. It also involves selecting appropriate materials and assemblies to align with program needs, budgets, and regulations.
Topic 5	• Codes & Regulations: This section of the exam measures the skills of project architects and focuses on applying zoning laws, environmental rules, and building codes during the planning stage. Candidates are tested on how to integrate multiple regulatory requirements into a project's design effectively.

NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Planning & Design (PPD) Sample Questions (Q83-Q88):

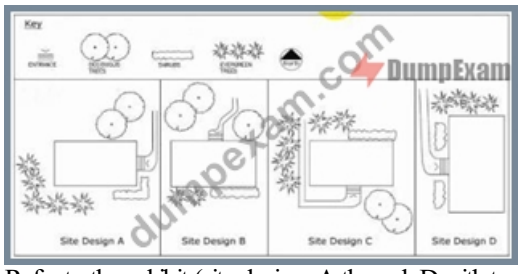
NEW QUESTION # 83
Which of the following are characteristics of heavy-timber construction? Check the four that apply.

- A. Susceptibility to rot
- B. Relatively rapid on-site erection times
- C. Presence of sapwood to prevent insect damage
- D. Suitability to create unusual layouts or irregular forms
- E. Fire resistance
- F. Susceptibility to differential shrinkage

Answer: A,B,E,F

Explanation:
Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:
Heavy timber construction is characterized by:
Fire resistance (A): Large timber members char on the surface when exposed to fire, which protects the structural core, giving inherent fire resistance.
Susceptibility to differential shrinkage (C): Heavy timber elements can shrink unevenly, potentially causing joints or connections to loosen.
Relatively rapid on-site erection times (D): Pre-fabricated heavy timber elements are large and can be quickly erected compared to traditional framing.
Susceptibility to rot (E): Without proper detailing and protection, timber can decay due to moisture exposure.
Unsuitable for unusual layouts or irregular forms (B): Heavy timber tends to be more rigid and better suited for regular layouts.
Presence of sapwood (F): Sapwood is generally more susceptible to insect attack; durable heartwood is preferred to resist insects.
References:
ARE 5.0 PPD - Building Systems and Assemblies, Heavy Timber Construction The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Wood Construction

NEW QUESTION # 84



Refer to the exhibit (site designs A through D with tree and shrub placement and prevailing northwest winds indicated).
Which of the following site designs would best protect the structure from prevailing northwest winds?

- A. Site Design B
- B. Site Design D
- C. Site Design A
- D. Site Design C

Answer: A

Explanation:
Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:
To protect a structure from prevailing winds, dense windbreaks such as evergreen trees should be planted upwind (northwest side) to reduce wind speed and buffer the building.
Site Design B places multiple deciduous and evergreen trees directly upwind (northwest) of the building, effectively creating a natural wind barrier.
Other site designs (A, C, D) do not position enough windbreak vegetation on the northwest side, making them less effective.
NCARB PPD guidelines emphasize site planning strategies that leverage natural vegetation as windbreaks to improve microclimate, energy efficiency, and occupant comfort.
References:
ARE 5.0 PPD - Environmental Conditions and Context, Site Planning and Microclimate The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Sustainable Site Design

NEW QUESTION # 85
A midrise concrete frame structure originally designed for an area of low seismic risk must be redesigned for use in an area of high seismic risk.
Which one of the following modifications will have the highest construction cost?

- A. Adding substantial shear walls
- B. Redesigning as a braced-frame structure
- C. Redesigning as a ductile moment-resisting frame
- D. Bracing a soft story

Answer: C

Explanation:
Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:
Redesigning a building for high seismic risk typically requires enhanced lateral force-resisting systems:
Ductile moment-resisting frames (B) involve special detailing for energy dissipation and ductility, requiring larger and more complex reinforcement, resulting in high construction costs.
Adding shear walls (A) or braced frames (C) can be more economical lateral systems but may affect architectural layouts.
Bracing a soft story (D) is a mitigation technique and usually less costly than complete frame redesign.
Therefore, ductile moment-resisting frame redesign is the costliest option.
References:
ARE 5.0 PPD - Environmental Conditions and Context, Seismic Design
The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Seismic Retrofitting and Design

NEW QUESTION # 86
Which of the following is the most effective way to reduce noise in mechanical air delivery systems?

- A. Reduce the free area of the supply air grille

- B. Increase the size of the ductwork
- C. Provide exterior duct insulation

Answer: B

Explanation:
Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:
Noise in mechanical air delivery systems is often caused by high air velocity and turbulence within ducts, which generate sound that can be transmitted to occupied spaces.
Increasing the size of the ductwork (A) lowers the air velocity for a given volume of air flow, which reduces turbulence and noise generation inside the duct. Larger ducts allow air to move more quietly and efficiently.
Exterior duct insulation (B) can reduce noise transmission through the duct walls but is less effective at controlling the noise generated by airflow itself inside the duct.
Reducing the free area of the supply air grille (C) increases velocity at the grille, potentially increasing noise at the outlet and causing discomfort.
Therefore, the most effective strategy is increasing duct size to reduce air velocity and noise.
References:
ARE 5.0 PPD - Building Systems and Assemblies, HVAC and Acoustics

NEW QUESTION # 87
An elementary school requires a renovation, selective demolition, and a major addition in order to accommodate a growing student population. An architectural firm has prepared schematic design plans incorporating the school's increased programmatic needs, including an enlarged library, cafeteria, and gymnasium; a secure courtyard; and additional space for administrative offices and classrooms. The main entrance was relocated in order to improve the traffic and pedestrian flow at the beginning and end of the school day, and additional parking was provided to comply with current zoning requirements.
The existing single-story masonry building was built in 1950. Two small additions were built later: the north addition will be kept and repurposed, but the south addition will be demolished. The building contains asbestos and lead in roof soffits, floor tiles, pipe insulation, and window paint. All existing mechanical systems need to be replaced; new systems have not been selected.
Considerations for the renovation include:
* The relocated front entrance must be easily recognizable, highly visible, and secure.
* Interior and exterior materials need to be durable and maintainable in order to withstand frequent student abuse, but also economical due to strict budget limitations.
* Good indoor air quality and increased energy efficiency are priorities for the selection of mechanical equipment.
After completion, the entire school should look uniform, without a distinctive difference between the existing building and new addition.
Building information:
* Construction Type is II-B.
The following resources are available for your reference:
* Existing Plans, including site and floor plans
* Proposed Plans, including site and floor plans
* Cost Analysis
* Zoning Ordinance Excerpts, for off-street parking requirements
* IBC Excerpts, showing relevant code sections
* ADA Standards Excerpts, showing relevant sections from the ADA Standards for Accessible Design Which of the following is the maximum height the platform can be above the gymnasium floor per the proposed design?

- A. 2'-6"
- B. 1'-6"
- C. 1'-9"

Answer: B

Explanation:
Per building and accessibility codes (such as ADA and IBC), raised platforms or stages in assembly areas like gymnasiums are limited in height to ensure safe access and egress. A maximum height of 1 foot 6 inches (18 inches) without requiring additional stairs or ramps is common to allow easy transition and avoid additional egress requirements.
Heights above 18 inches typically require stairs or ramps per ADA.
1'-9" or 2'-6" exceed these limits and would trigger additional code requirements.
References:
IBC Chapter 10 - Means of Egress

ADA Standards for Accessible Design
ARE 5.0 PPD - Codes and Regulations

NEW QUESTION # 88
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