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NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Planning & Design (PPD) Sample Questions (Q35-Q40):

NEW QUESTION # 35

Which statement accurately describes the use of an electrical conduit?

- A. Rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit provides a system ground path.
- B. Aluminum conduit is a cost-effective alternative to steel conduit because it can be used in all locations steel conduit is used.
- C. A separate ground wire is required to avoid a shock hazard when using steel conduit.
- **D. Steel conduit is used to support and protect the conductors.**

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

Steel conduit is primarily used to support and protect electrical conductors from physical damage and to provide mechanical protection. It can also serve as an equipment grounding conductor in many applications, but a separate ground wire is sometimes still required depending on code and installation specifics.

Option A is incorrect because steel conduit often acts as the grounding path, so a separate ground wire is not always required.

Aluminum conduit (B) is not commonly used in all the same locations as steel, especially due to corrosion concerns.

PVC conduit (C) is nonmetallic and does not provide a grounding path; a separate ground wire is needed.

References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Building Systems and Assemblies, Electrical Systems

The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Electrical Systems

NEW QUESTION # 36

When designing a three-story wood-frame home located in a high wind region, the addition of a green roof with a two-foot soil bed would do which one of the following?

- A. Increase the structure's resistance to overturning
- B. Increase the structure's resistance to racking
- C. Require additional tie-downs

Answer: C

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

Adding a green roof with a two-foot soil bed significantly increases the dead load on the roof and affects the uplift forces caused by high winds. This heavier roof mass necessitates additional structural tie-downs or anchorage to resist wind uplift and prevent overturning or structural failure.

The added weight does not inherently increase resistance to overturning (A) or racking (C); rather, it increases loads that require structural reinforcement.

References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Building Systems and Assemblies, Structural Loads and Wind Design The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Wind-Resistant Design

NEW QUESTION # 37

Refer to the exhibit (photo showing diagonal cracks in a wall).

The structural damage evident in the photograph illustrates a classic example of failure due to which of the following?

- A. Overturning
- B. In-plane shear
- C. Excessive diaphragm flexure

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

The diagonal cracking pattern seen in the photo is characteristic of in-plane shear failure in structural walls or diaphragms. In-plane shear occurs when lateral forces (such as seismic or wind loads) act parallel to the plane of the wall, causing it to deform in shear.

This results in diagonal tension cracks typically forming at roughly 45 degrees, as shown in the image.

Overturning (Option A) refers to the rotation of a wall or structural element about its base or a pivot point due to lateral forces.

Overturning typically causes tension cracks at the base or separation at connections rather than diagonal shear cracks.

Excessive diaphragm flexure (Option C) causes bending deformations in horizontal diaphragms such as floors or roofs, usually leading to different cracking patterns, such as horizontal or vertical flexural cracks.

This type of in-plane shear failure is critical to identify for seismic design, as walls or diaphragms must be detailed to resist shear forces to prevent such damage.

References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Environmental Conditions and Context, Seismic and Lateral Force Design The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Structural Systems NCARB Seismic Design Guidelines

NEW QUESTION # 38

Which light fixture and finish configuration will increase the apparent length of an office corridor?

- A. Install direct lighting pendants and a light color, highly reflective floor finish.
- **B. Provide indirect cove lighting and paint the ceiling a light color.**
- C. Install direct lighting pendants and paint the ceiling a dark color.
- D. Install lighting parallel to the sight line and paint the ceiling a dark color.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

The apparent length of a corridor can be influenced by lighting and finish strategies that affect perception of depth and spatial volume.

* Option D: Providing indirect cove lighting and painting the ceiling a light color helps increase the apparent length of the corridor.

Indirect lighting washes light softly onto the ceiling and walls, creating a continuous visual flow along the corridor. When combined with a light-colored ceiling, this reduces shadows and visual breaks, making the corridor feel longer and more expansive.

* Option A and C: Dark-colored ceilings absorb light and visually compress spaces, making corridors feel shorter and more confined. Direct lighting pendants create localized illumination that can produce shadows and disrupt visual continuity, which diminishes perceived length.

* Option B: While a light, highly reflective floor finish can brighten the corridor, direct lighting pendants and lack of emphasis on ceiling treatment limit the extension of perceived length. Reflective floors can increase brightness but don't significantly elongate space without complementary ceiling and wall treatments.

NCARB's ARE Project Planning & Design guidelines highlight that light color, fixture type, and ceiling finish greatly affect spatial perception. Light, evenly distributed illumination combined with light ceiling colors enhances the feeling of spaciousness and length in enclosed spaces like corridors.

References:

ARE 5.0 Project Planning & Design Content Outline: Environmental Conditions and Context - Lighting and Material Finishes The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition, Chapter 9: Interior Environments and Lighting NCARB PPD Study Materials: Perception of Space and Lighting Strategies

NEW QUESTION # 39

An architect is developing a master plan for a small area of a city located on a lake. The master plan has four open sites being considered for a proposed park. The city needs to avoid incoming noise pollution at the park and provide a variety of activities for the city.

Click on the open site that is appropriate for a city park with baseball fields and nature trails.

Answer:

Explanation:

Explanation:

open site directly adjacent to the industrial zone

It is away from the airport noise to the west.

It is separated from the residential low-rise and waterfront areas, reducing impact on sensitive neighbors.

It provides enough space and separation from commercial and retail zones (right map).

It avoids the smaller open sites on the waterfront and retail area, which are constrained and may be affected by residential noise concerns or limited in size.

NEW QUESTION # 40

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