Explanatory Policy – Solar Photovoltaic Systems Installation on R-3 & R-4 with slopes of two vertical units in 12 units horizontal or less

**SUBJECT:**
Solar Photovoltaic Systems installed on R-3 and R-4 Roofs with slopes of two vertical units in 12 units horizontal or less

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**
September 1, 2020

**REFERENCES:**
Section 1204.2.1.3, 1204.2.1.5, 1204.3.1 and 1204.3.2

**REVIEW DATE:**
August 2021

**APPROVED:**
John Mertens, Fire Marshal

**Scope:**
To provide clarification on the requirements of pathways and separation distances for Solar Photovoltaic Systems on installed on R-3 and R-4 occupancies with roofs that have slopes of two vertical units in 12 units horizontal or less.

**Policy:**
Solar Photovoltaic Systems installed on R-3 and R-4 occupancies with roofs that have slopes of two vertical units in 12 units horizontal or less shall be provided with a minimum 3-foot perimeter pathway provided along the edges of the roof.

Interior pathways of not less than 3-feet in width shall be provided between array sections at intervals not greater than 150 feet throughout the length and width of the roof.

Roofs with slopes of two vertical units in 12 units horizontal or less technically don’t have a ridge, therefore there is no 3-foot requirement between the top of the solar panels and the ridge.