Continuous Footings at Garage Door Openings

Code:  2018 Residential Code  Date: April 10, 2019
Section: R403.1

Question:
Are footings required to be continuous under garage door openings?

Answer:
No. Section R403.1 states in part that "all exterior walls shall be supported on continuous...footings." If there is no exterior wall, such as at a garage door opening, there is no requirement for a footing. Please note however that, if the opening is in a bearing wall, and the continuous footing is omitted, a properly designed spread footing must be provided at each side of the opening. This also applies to structures built in the 120 and higher Wind Zones.