



Planning, Building and Code Enforcement

# Alternate Design, Material or Construction Method Application

Please read the **Conditions of Approval** on page 2 before completing the application.

The City's Building Division is the lead agency for all requests for alternate design, materials, and methods of construction and interpretations to the Uniform Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, and National Electrical codes.

This form enables requests and explains the conditions of approval. The Chief Building Official may require the applicant to hire a consultant to perform applicable tests, conduct research and analysis, and submit an evaluation report for the Building Division's consideration.

**FEES**

As of August 14, 2017 the fees below are applicable:

- **Building Division Review**  
Minimum \$492 for up to 2 hours plus \$246/hour thereafter
- **Fire Department Review**  
Minimum \$690 for up to 3 hours plus \$230/hour thereafter

**Instructions:** Fill out a separate application for each proposed alternative. Provide 10 copies of all documents, including plans that show the proposed alternate design, materials, and/or construction method. Use paper sizes 8.5 X 11" or 11 X 17" for all attachments.

PLAN CHECK NUMBER:				
FEE PAID	RECEIPT #	ALTERNATE MATERIAL #:	DATE LOGGED	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<b>Under the authority of the California Building Code, Plumbing Code, Mechanical Code, and Electrical Code, the undersigned requests approval of alternate materials, alternate design and methods of construction for:</b>				
PROJECT NAME:				
PROJECT ADDRESS:				
# OF STORIES:	FLOOR AREA sf:	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION:		
SPRINKLERS: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	TENANT AREA sf:	OCCUPANCY GROUP:		
DESCRIBE USE:				
SUBJECT OF ALTERNATIVE:				
SPECIFY CODE REQUIREMENTS THAT APPLY:				
ALTERNATE PROPOSED Briefly describe, even if documents are attached:				
JUSTIFICATION Briefly describe, even if documents are attached, any reference, test reports, expert opinions, etc.:				

**REQUESTED BY**

<b>Signature of OWNER</b>	Print Name	Date
<b>Signature of CONTRACTOR</b>	Print Name	Date
<b>Signature of ARCHITECT/ENGINEER</b>	Print Name	Date
<b>WET STAMP &amp; Signature of ARCHITECT/ENGINEER</b>	CONTACT Phone Number	

INTERNAL USE ONLY	
FINDINGS:	
STAFF Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT RECOMMENDED
SECTION CHIEF Signature:	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DENIED
CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL Signature:	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DENIED
FIRE CHIEF Signature <i>If applicable</i> :	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DENIED

**San José Permit Center**  
San José City Hall  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San José, CA 95113  
408-535-3555  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/PermitCenter](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/PermitCenter)

## CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

The application to use an alternate design, material and/or construction method may be approved if sufficient evidence is provided that demonstrates:

- The proposed design complies with the intent of current code provisions.
- The proposed material or construction method is equivalent to code requirements in:  
**Suitability, Strength, Effectiveness, Fire Resistance, Durability, Safety, and Sanitation**
- All features of the approved application, including a copy of the application, must be incorporated into the drawings.
- **Disclaimer.** Applicants must recognize that approval of the proposal for Alternate Design, Material, and Method of Construction is based on the documentation provided at the time of approval. If at any point during the review or inspection process, a City building official notices deviations from the original application, the approval becomes null and void. The applicant will then need to either revert to the original proposal or file a new application based on revised plans.

For proposals that are processed prior to submittal of a full set of plans, only a conceptual approval can be given; a valid approval to proceed with the proposal requires submittal of all construction documents.