



CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS

BUILDING & SAFETY DIVISION

6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 (916) 727-4760

Building@CitrusHeights.Net

Alternative Materials, Design and Methods of Construction and Equipment Request

Date: _____

Attn: _____

Joseph Cuffe, CBO, CFM
Chief Building Official
City of Citrus Heights Building & Safety Division
6360 Fountain Square Drive
Citrus Heights, CA 95621

Fire Marshal
Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Community Risk Reduction Bureau
10545 Armstrong Ave., Ste. 310
Mather, CA 95655

I. Project Location:

a. Permit or Activity Number: _____

b. Building Construction Type: _____

c. Building Area (sq. ft.) and # of stories: _____

d. Building Occupancy Type: _____

e. Current Fire Protection Systems (i.e. sprinklers/fire alarm): _____

*For sections II through IV provide a **separate document** that addresses each statement*

II. Background for Alternate Methods Request: *Briefly explain why this request is being made and why the project cannot comply with the code as written.*

III. Code/Ordinance Requirements: *Please include the applicable code sections and language along with any information on the intent.*

IV. Alternate Code Compliance: *Provide a justification for how the proposed alternate, in performance, safety and protection of life and health, conforms to, or is at least equivalent to, the standards contained in the adopted codes, rules, and regulations. Be specific and provide supporting documentation to substantiate all professional opinions.*

Requested by: _____

PRINT DESIGN PROFESSIONAL NAME & TITLE

DESIGN PROFESSIONAL SIGNATURE & DATE

Accepted by: _____
PRINT OWNER NAME

OWNER SIGNATURE & DATE

Findings:

Approval Recommended: ☐ Yes ☐ No

STAFF MEMBER NAME & TITLE

| | |
|--|--|
| City of Citrus Heights Approval | Sac Metro Fire Approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| _____ Chief Building Official | _____ Fire Marshal |

This approval is specific to this project and this request, and is not transferable.

Code Sections Related to Alternate Materials, Design and Methods of Construction and Equipment

California Building Code

SECTION 1.8.7 ALTERNATE MATERIALS, DESIGNS, TESTS AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION

1.8.7.2 Local building departments. The building department of any city, county, or city and county may approve alternates for use in the erection, construction, reconstruction, movement, enlargement, conversion, alteration, repair, removal, demolition or arrangement of apartments, condominiums hotels, motels, lodging houses, dwellings, or accessory structures, except for the following:

1. Structures located in mobilehome parks as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 18214.
2. Structures located in special occupancy parks as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 18862.43.
3. Factory-built housing as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 19971.

1.8.7.2.1 Approval of alternates. The consideration and approval of alternates by a local building department shall comply with the following procedures and limitations:

1. The approval shall be granted on a case-by-case basis.
2. Evidence shall be submitted to substantiate claims that the proposed alternate, in performance, safety and protection of life and health, conforms to, or is at least equivalent to, the standards contained in this code and other rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Housing and Community Development.
3. The local building department may require tests performed by an approved testing agency at the expense of the owner or owner's agent as proof of compliance.
4. If the proposed alternate is related to accessibility in covered multifamily dwellings or in facilities serving covered multifamily dwellings as defined in Chapter 2, the proposed alternate must also meet the threshold set for equivalent facilitation as defined in Chapter 2.

For additional information regarding approval of alternates by a building department pursuant to the State Housing Law, see California Health and Safety Code Section 17951(e) and California Code of Regulations, Title 25, Division 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1. (*Provided at the end of this document*)

[A] 104.10 Modifications. Where there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the building official shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, upon application of the owner or the owner's authorized agent, provided that the building official shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical, the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, accessibility, life and fire safety or structural requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the department of building safety.

[A] 104.11 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds that the proposed alternative meets all of the following:

1. The alternative material, design or method of construction is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code,
2. The material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, not less than the equivalent of that prescribed in this code as it pertains to the following:
 - 2.1. Quality.
 - 2.2. Strength.
 - 2.3. Effectiveness.

2.4. Fire resistance.

2.5. Durability.

2.6. Safety.

Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not approved, the building official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved.

[A] 104.11.1 Research reports. Supporting data, where necessary to assist in the approval of materials or assemblies not specifically provided for in this code, shall consist of valid research reports from approved sources.

[AI 104.11.2 Tests. Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the building official shall have the authority to require tests as evidence of compliance to be made without expense to the jurisdiction. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the building official shall approve the testing procedures. Tests shall be performed by an approved agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the building official for the period required for retention of public records.

California Residential Code

R104.11 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code. The building official shall have the authority to approve an alternative material, design or method of construction upon application of the owner or the owner's authorized agent. The building official shall first find that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, not less than the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. Compliance with the specific performance-based provisions of the California Codes shall be an alternative to the specific requirements of this code. Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not approved, the building official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved.

R104.11.1 Tests. Where there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the building official shall have the authority to require tests as evidence of compliance to be made at no expense to the jurisdiction. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the building official shall approve the testing procedures. Tests shall be performed by an approved agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the building official for the period required for retention of public records.

California Fire Code

[A] 104.9 Modifications. Where there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the fire code official shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, provided that the fire code official shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the department of fire prevention.

[A] 104.10 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the fire code official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, not less than the

equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not approved, the fire code official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved.

[A] 104.10.1 Research reports. Supporting data, where necessary to assist in the approval of materials or assemblies not specifically provided for in this code, shall consist of valid research reports from approved sources.

[A] 104.10.2 Tests. Where there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the fire code official shall have the authority to require tests as evidence of compliance to be made without expense to the jurisdiction. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the fire code official shall approve the testing procedures. Tests shall be performed by an approved agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the fire code official for the period required for retention of public records.

CA HSC 17951(e)

- (e) (1) The provisions of this part are not intended to prevent the use of any manufactured home, mobilehome, multiunit manufactured home, material, appliance, installation, device, arrangement, or method of construction not specifically prescribed by the California Building Standards Code or this part, provided that this alternate has been approved by the building department.
- (2) The building department of any city or county may approve an alternate material, appliance, installation, device, arrangement, method, or work on a case-by-case basis if it finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and that each such material, appliance, installation, device, arrangement, method, or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in the California Building Standards Code or this part in performance, safety, and for the protection of life and health.
- (3) The building department of any city or county shall require evidence that any material, appliance, installation, device, arrangement, or method of construction conforms to, or that the proposed alternate is at least equivalent to, the requirements of this part, building standards published in the California Building Standards Code, or the other rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this part and in order to substantiate claims for alternates, the building department of any city or county may require tests as proof of compliance to be made at the expense of the owner or the owner's agent by an approved testing agency selected by the owner or the owner's agent.

(Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 144, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2005.)

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 25, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 1, SUBCHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 14

Consistent with Section 17951(d) *(this is now in section "e" as of 2005 – JEC 5/31/23)* of the Health and Safety Code, the building department of any city or county may, on a case-by-case basis, approve alternate materials, appliances, installations, devices, arrangements, or methods of construction not specifically prescribed in this subchapter.