



Planning Department
Building and Safety Division

APPLICATION FOR ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS, DESIGN AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION

(Please provide separate application for each specific alternative request.)

(Please read Conditions of Approval & Disclaimer statement on page 2 before completing & submitting this application)

**Submit two copies of all documents, including plans, showing the proposed alternative.
All attachments must be a min. of 8½" x11" for documents and/or min. of 11" x 17" for plans.**

Pursuant to Sections 104.11 of the 2016 CBC, or R104.11 of the 2016 CRC, as adopted by the City of Berkeley, the undersigned requests consideration and approval of the alternative materials, design and/or methods of construction for the following:

Project Name: _____ **APN:** _____

Project Address: _____

Project Description: _____

Occupancy Group(s): _____, **Type of Construction:** _____ **# of Stories:** _____,

Sprinklers: Yes, No **Floor Area(s):** _____

Has a building permit been applied for? Yes, **Plan Check/Permit #:** _____ No

Subject of Specific Alternative:

Provide a brief description of the specific alternative and attach any additional supporting documents.

Code Requirement:

Provide specific code and code section(s) the applicant is seeking an alternative to.

Proposal and Justification of the Alternative:

Include a brief description even if additional documents are attached.

Attach copies of any references, test reports, expert opinions, etc. that clearly support the alternative is at least the equivalent of that prescribed in the code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire-resistance, durability and safety. The Building Official may require that a consultant be retained by the applicant to perform tests, research and analysis, and submit a full evaluation report for assisting in determining equivalency.

TWO SIDES TO THIS FORM ⇒⇒⇒⇒

DISCLAIMER: Applicants for ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS, DESIGN AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION shall note that the approval of this request is based on the factual documentation provided in support of the alternative at the time of approval. If at any point during the plan review or inspection process, the Building Official finds deviations from the approved alternative as outlined in this document, the approval becomes invalid, and any changes to the approved alternative will require a new submittal by the applicant and an approval by the Building Official. For Alternative proposals processed prior to building permit submittal, the approval is only conceptual. The approval needs to be validated by the Building Official after submittal and review of all construction documents.

Upon approval, all the features of the approved alternative materials, design and methods of construction (including a copy of this application) shall be incorporated into the drawings and this form shall be reproduced on the drawings.

Requested by:

Owner's Name (Required, Please Print)

Owner's Signature (Required)

Date

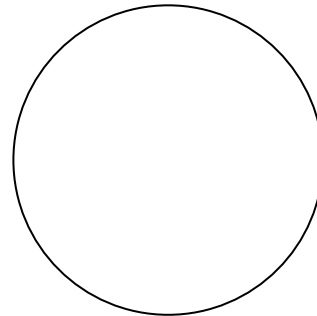
Applicant's Name (Print)

Applicant's Signature

Date

Applicant's Role

(Owner, Architect, Contractor, Engineer, etc.)



Applicant's Phone Number

Applicant's Email Address

Architect or Engineer Must Wet Stamp & Sign

For Office Use Only: **CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR THE ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS, DESIGN AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION**

- Proposed design complies with the intent of provisions of the current codes.
- The material or method proposed is at least equivalent to that prescribed in the code:

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Quality	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Effectiveness	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Durability
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Strength	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Fire resistance	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Safety

COMMENTS: _____			

STAFF NAME: _____		DATE: _____	
APPROVAL RECOMMENDED <input type="checkbox"/>		STAFF SIGNATURE: _____	
APPROVAL NOT RECOMMENDED <input type="checkbox"/>		_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/> DENIED	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/> DENIED
_____ BUILDING OFFICIAL	_____ DATE	_____ FIRE MARSHALL	_____ DATE

_____ Hours X \$180.00 = \$ _____		Total Fees Due	
Payment Information:		Staff Member Assessing Hours: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit/Debit Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____	Receipt#: _____ Date ___/___/___



Planning & Development
Building & Safety Division

CITY OF BERKELEY
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GUIDELINE: APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS, DESIGN AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION

ISSUE DATE: May 10, 2012

REVISION DATE: February 23, 2015

This guideline is intended to enhance local consistency in application and enforcement of the California Building and Residential Codes. Application of this guideline is project specific and does not authorize any violation of local or state code, ordinance or law in conjunction with the proposed work

CODE REFERENCES:

BMC Section 19.28.010, Article 1 / BMC Section 19.29.030 / CBC Section 104.11

GUIDELINES:

1. In order to request the Building Official's review and approval of any Alternate Method(s) of Construction, the applicant and/or registered design professional shall fill out an [Application for Alternative Materials, Design and Methods of Construction](#). The form is available at the Permit Service Center or on-line at <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us>. Select: "Online Forms & Applications", then "Application for Alternative Materials, Design and Methods of Construction". The request must be accompanied by the necessary additional documentation and must:
 - a. Describe all elements of the *Alternative* (i.e., materials, products, and methods of construction) and explain why request is being submitted.
 - b. Specify the code provision(s) for which the *Alternative* is requested.
 - c. Compare the proposed *Alternative* with the code requirements in terms of suitability, effectiveness, quality, durability, fire resistance, safety, structural strength, and any other impacts affecting the building or users of the building.
 - d. Provide documentation for evaluation methods, test reports, recognized standards, and expert opinions utilized in the request.
 - e. Specify when and where special inspection and testing are required at the job site and describe the verification procedures for field acceptance for demonstrating compliance.
2. The Application and supporting documentation shall be dated, signed, and stamped by the registered design professional.
3. The registered design professional shall coordinate construction documents to reflect the alternative proposal and shall be responsible for incorporating all the specifics of the proposal and conditions of approval into the reproducible drawings.
4. The Building Official and/or Fire Marshal shall review the proposed *Alternative* and supporting documentation for conformance with the adopted codes, ordinances, and regulations. If the City Officials do not have the expertise on staff to make a thorough and competent review, a third party or peer review process may be utilized. The cost of any such review shall be paid by the applicant, as specified in the City of Berkeley Fee Schedule.