



Fairfield Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division
1200 Kentucky Street, Fairfield, CA 94533
Phone (707) 428.7375

ALTERNATE MEANS and METHODS REQUEST (AMMR)
STD# 22-24 Effective Date: 01/01/2024

SCOPE

The purpose of this document is to provide AMMR applicants with the necessary requirements to insure they are operating in conformance with California State Law and covers the fire and life safety requirements related to allowing non-conformance with codes, standards or regulation.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. An Alternate Materials and Methods Request is intended to mitigate a shortcoming in the design of a project with respect to an applicable code section known before or after the deficiency was identified. As such, a method for mitigating the deficiency with proof of equivalency may be presented to the City of Fairfield Fire Marshal.
2. AMMR submittals shall provide a building code analysis to clearly describe the site, construction, occupancy, occupant loads, operations and materials in use or stored on or in the subject property. The submittal shall include a written reasoning for the AMMR such that it describes the conditions, materials, or operation where the conformance of code is not achievable or will result in an undesirable outcome.
3. Reports, Plans, details or exhibitions shall be provided with such detailed information that the issue is clearly shown, code sections are identified and the alternate means is identified and proved to be sufficient to result in the code equivalent safety.
4. CODE SECTIONS: Indicate specific code section and associated table(s) for which an exception is requested. Separate code sections are to be



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addressed under separate requests.

5. DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATE METHOD OR MODIFICATION: Provide a clear description and any exhibits (i.e. drawings, details, etc...) to identify the location and exact nature of the deficiency along with the proposed mitigations.

6. EVIDENCE OR PROOF: Provide documentation (i.e. independent lab test results, product listings, engineering reports, etc...) which will clearly show the equivalent levels of safety required by code are being met.

2022 CFC Sections

CFC 104.8.2 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: To determine the applicability of technologies, processes, products, facilities, materials and uses attending the design, operation or use of a building or premise subject to inspection by the fire code official, the fire code official is authorized to require the owner or owners authorized agent to provide, without charge to the jurisdiction, a technical opinion and report. The opinion and report shall be prepared by a qualified engineer, specialist, laboratory or fire safety specialty organization acceptable to the fire code official and shall analyze the fire safety properties of the design, operation or use of the building or premise and the facilities and appurtenances situated thereon, to recommend necessary changes. The fire code official is authorized to require design submittals to be prepared by, and bear the stamp of, a registered design professional.

CFC 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, 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 fire prevention.



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CFC 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.

CFC 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.

CFC 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.