



Alternate Materials, Methods or Modifications

Application Request & Handout

Rev.20180730

What is an alternate materials, methods or modifications application process?

It is a permitted use of alternate materials or methods of construction not specifically prescribed in the IBC, IMC, UPC, NEC, WAC 51-11 (Energy Code) or City of Spokane Municipal Code (SMC). Modifications to code requirements are allowed only when there are significant difficulties encountered, making it impractical to carry out the prescriptive provisions of the application code. The proposed alternate materials, methods, or modifications may be permitted where the equivalent objectives prescribed by the code can be achieved by establishing and maintaining effective fire and safety, structural integrity, strength, fire resistance, sanitation, and/or equipment suitability.

What is not acceptable under the alternate materials and methods application process?

The use of alternative materials, methods of construction, or modifications will not avoid compliance with the objectives or intention of the code section, rule, or ordinance. An application will not be granted if the alternative material, methods, or modifications would reduce the levels of fire and life safety, structural integrity, strength, fire resistance, sanitation, and/or equipment suitability required by the code.

What does an acceptable alternate materials, methods, or modifications application cover?

If use of alternative materials or methods of construction is granted, it is site-specific and will be limited to the particular case(s) covered in the application. It will not be applicable to future installations or equipment, unless specifically allowed by the building official. The application approval may be revoked for cause.

What information is required under "Alternate Proposal" on the AMM form?

The use of alternate materials or methods begins with the code section governing the requirement(s). Code-approved standards, methods, or systems are commonly referenced from the code. Typically an AMM is an extrapolation or combination of one or more of these approved standards, methods or systems. In some cases third-party technical specialists are needed to evaluate and render judgement as to whether the solutions proposed in the AMM are in compliance with current codes and standards. As such, indicate the applicable code section(s) to the requirement(s), and any approved standards, methods, or systems upon which the AMM is based. A narrative and/or graphic detailing the proposed AMM and how it is to be constructed or applied will be needed, along with any required third-party evaluations or judgements.

Who may apply for use of alternate materials and/or methods of construction?

Only the owner, the owner's agent, or the contractor may apply to use alternate materials, methods of construction, or modification. Applications must be in writing.

Who grants the use of alternate materials and/or methods of construction?

The use of alternate materials, methods of construction, or modifications is granted only by the City of Spokane Building Official or other duly authorized representative, upon written request.

2 Alternate Materials, Methods or Modifications Application Request & Handout

For Department Use Only

Date Received	Date Received	Date Reviewed	Date Completed	Approval: Yes No AMM#:
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Project Name:		Permit Number:	Application Date:
Project Address:		Property Owner:	
Contact Person:	Title:	Address:	
Address:		City, State, Zip	
Phone Number:	Fax Number:	E-mail:	Phone Number: Fax Number:

Type of Project:	Building	Electrical	Mechanical	Plumbing	Fire
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Type of Request:	Alternate Materials	Alternate Methods	Modification of Code or Standard
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Has the installation been made? Yes No	Has a violation been noted? Yes No	Date:	Inspector/Plans Examiner:
Applicable Code/Standard: IBC IMC UPC NEC Other:		Specific Code, Section, Rule or Standard:	

Statement of Problem(s):

3 Alternate Materials, Methods or Modifications

Application Request & Handout

Alternate Proposal: (Attach additional pages, plans, drawings, technical reports, descriptions, etc. to support proposal)

I certify that I am the owner or owner's agent and have the authority to request the above stated alternate materials, methods of construction, or modification in building code requirements. I understand that this request is subject to review and may be approved or denied in part or in whole. The City of Spokane's decision will be in writing and will be specific to this request, unless otherwise noted, and is based solely on the facts included with this request.

Signature	Title	Date
Print Name		

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Reviewed By:	Date:	Recommendation: Approve Deny No Comment
Comments:		
Reviewed By:	Date:	Recommendation: Approve Deny No Comment
Comments:		
Reviewed By:	Date:	Recommendation: Approve Deny No Comment
Comments:		

Final Review:	Date:	Final Status: Approved Denied
Comments/Condition		