



CITY OF BAKERSFIELD
BUILDING DEPARTMENT
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ALTERNATIVE AND MODIFICATION TO BUILDING STANDARDS

1. Modification of Building Standards – California Building Code Appendix 104.10

Intent: The provision of California Building Code Appendix Section 104.10 permit that Building Official/Building Director to make modifications to the requirements of the code if there is a finding that the strict application of the code is impractical and, furthermore, that the modification is in conformity with the intent and purpose of the California Building Code currently in effect.

2. Alternative Materials, Alternate Designs and Methods of Construction – California Building Code Appendix Section 104.11

Intent: To encourage the use of state-of-the-art concepts in construction and materials which currently are not covered by the code, however, do meet the performance intended by the California Building Code in effect at that time.

3. Fee Required:

Each request made under California Building Code Appendix Section 104.10 or 104.11 requires the applicant to pay a research and processing fee in the amount of \$100.00 (additional fee may be charged depending on the complexity of request).

4. Request Form Submittal Requirements and Process:

- Applicants must file a form, “Request for Modification of Building Standards” or “Request for Alternate Material or Methods of Construction.” (Forms are available at the Building Department Counter)
- It is the applicant’s responsibility to submit substantiating data and evidence to show that the alternate is in fact equivalent to the performance required by the California Building Code Section. Test report shall be those required by the California Building Code Section shall have been performed by an International Code Conference (ICC) approved testing agency.
- Request for a modification shall clearly justify how the proposed modification is in conformity with the intent and purpose of the California Building Code Section. The code does not allow the Building Official/Building Director to issue a variance, nor waive building standard requirements.
- Attach drawing (floor plan, details, etc.) for clarification of subject request.
- A fee in the amount of \$100.00 shall be paid at the time of submittal.
- The Plans Checker in charge of the project will be responsible for insuring that each request is processed in a timely manner. Request may be reviewed by the Fire Department and other department staff as necessary. The Plans Checker shall review each request and provide detailed comments with a recommendation for approval or denial, and submit to Building Director.
- The details of any action granting an approval of an alternate or modification by the Building Director shall be recorded and made as a part of the approved set of construction plans.

The action of the Building Director will be applicable only to the project reviewed under the subject case and non-binding to any similar future requests.

For any questions on this new procedure, please feel free to contact the Plan Check Staff.