



ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS AND METHODS (AMM) REQUESTS

PURPOSE: This guideline is intended to provide direction for submitting requests for use of Alternate materials, design and methods of construction and equipment (AMMs) in accordance with the 2024 International Fire Code (IFC) Sections 104.2 Determination of compliance: Technical assistance** Section 104.2.2, Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment Section 104.2.3, and Modifications Section 104.2.4.

SCOPE: Requests for alternate materials and methods shall be evaluated by Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) staff to ensure the proposed design, use, or operation satisfactorily complies with the intent of the IFC and that the method of work performed, or operation is, for the purpose intended, at least equivalent to that prescribed in the IFC in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, or safety.

PROJECT INFORMATION: For commercial, multi-family residential, and residential tract projects, the applicant shall provide the following written information in addition to the plans necessary to evaluate the project:

1. Relevant project information including:
 - a. The project name, address, contact person, and telephone number.
 - b. The owner's name, address, and telephone number.
 - c. Other specific information identifying the project as required (e.g., development permit type, tract, lot number).
2. Identify any local fire code or ordinances section or reference the specific requirement for which the AMM is requested.
3. Detail the alternative fire protection measures as part of the AMM proposal and how they establish equivalency to those prescribed in the code.
4. Any additional information identified by the PFA.

SUBMITTAL PROCESS: Approved documents shall be attached to new construction permit process.

1. The AMM Request Form and other supporting documentation is required to be submitted to PFA. Applicable fees due, in the amount indicated by the fee schedule currently adopted, **shall** be paid upon submittal of the AMM request.
2. AMM requests will be evaluated by the fire code official. All such requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Approval of an AMM request is based upon several factors, including, but not limited to, the level of equivalency achieved, the effect of the AMM on fire and emergency response and site conditions. All evaluations will be performed in the context of the specific project being reviewed.
3. If the AMM request provides an equivalent level of protection, considering all related conditions pertaining to the project, the fire code official will issue a written response granting approval. Such approval may be conditional upon implementation of additional requirements listed in the AMM approval that were not part of the original AMM request. Approval is granted only for the specific project under review and the conditions for approval shall not be construed as applicable to any other project.

4. In the event the AMM request does not provide an equivalent level of protection, the request will be denied, and a written denial will be issued.
 - a. Should the applicant submit a different AMM request for the same project or choose to revise and resubmit the previously denied request, additional AMM fees will apply.
 - b. To facilitate the evaluation process, the applicant should include any previously denied AMM proposals when submitting a revised AMM request.
5. Upon completion of the evaluation, the written AMM approval or denial and a copy of the applicant's AMM request shall be emailed to the applicant. Should evaluation of the AMM proposal require time and resources beyond the standard time allotted for this activity, additional time and materials fees may be assessed. Any additional fees assessed must be paid prior to approval or denial.
6. The approved AMM request and responses shall be included with the plan submittal. A copy of the approved AMM and response shall be kept on-site during construction.

** The fire code official has the authority to require the owner or owner's authorized agent to provide a technical opinion safety report. The report is to be prepared by parties that have the technical ability to evaluate the design of the facility or the operational process in question. A registered design professional is commonly used for these services. It is critical that the preparer of the report have the proper background and experience for the project since the credibility of the report depends on these qualifications.