



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
250 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA. SECOND FLOOR. OAKLAND CA. 94612

ELECTING TO USE A NEW CODE EDITION

BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTIVE	No.: 20-01
DATE: August 3, 2020	Type: Codes
	Category: Plan Check

Newer codes are more evolved and presumably provide better criteria for protecting life and property. During plan check, when requested by an applicant, it is permissible to use the latest code version that has been adopted by the City of Oakland to review and approve the project. This must be clearly indicated on the plans and entered in the permits tracking system.

In electing to use the current code in effect, the applicant may not mix requirements between the previous and the current codes, the entire project must comply with all the requirement of the current code version. Also, all other relevant codes such fire, electrical, mechanical and structural must be applied from the same code edition.

For example, if the plans were submitted while the 2016 codes were in effect, and the applicant would like it checked under the new 2019 codes, we will accept this request as long as the 2019 codes have been adopted by the City of Oakland and all the requirements are applied from 2019 code editions during the plan check process.

Once the permit is issued, the applicant may not request the use of a different code, unless they reapply for the permit.

Issam Shahroui
City of Oakland Building Official