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## **GENERIC ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS PROCESS FOR ADVANCED USE OF THE 2019 VANCOUVER BUILDING BY-LAW**

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The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide an update with respect to the use of specific provisions in the 2019 VBBL on a generic alternate solution basis.

On July 17, 2019, Council adopted the 2018 British Columbia Building Code, with unique to Vancouver requirements and revisions, resulting in the 2019 Vancouver Building By-law (VBBL) that will take effect on November 01, 2019.

In order to simplify the process of acceptance of alternative solutions, eliminate the need for alternative solution submissions for cases that become acceptable solutions in the 2019 VBBL and consequently, expedite issuance of building permits, the City authorizes the use of provisions in the 2019 VBBL on a generic alternate solution basis.

No alternative solution application will be required, except that the Registered Professional will prepare an sealed and signed letter identifying at-variance requirement in the 2014 VBBL and explain the proposed deviation. The letter will state the 2019 VBBL acceptable solution implemented to resolve proposed deviation. This would include sketches showing locations where these solutions are implemented.

In general, a letter shall be prepared in the alternative solution report format except where provisions in the 2019 VBBL would serve as mitigating features and there is no need to provide analysis and justification of the proposed solution. A separate letter is to be provided for each deviation from the 2014 VBBL. An electronically sealed and signed file in pdf format is to be sent to [cbo@vancouver.ca](mailto:cbo@vancouver.ca) with a subject line “**Request for Acceptance of Generic Alternative Solution**” and it will be reviewed as submitted without going into an alternative solutions review queue.

It will also be Registered Professional’s responsibility to coordinate design and field reviews of the discussed generic alternative solutions in conformance with requirements in Subsection 2.3.2. of Division C of the 2014 VBBL.

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