Applications for residential window replacements require the following documents and information to be complete. Required items may vary depending on the project. Check with a member of our staff to confirm exactly which documents are required. If at any point during construction, the scope of the approved work changes, all modifications shall be submitted to the County for approval prior to performing work which deviates from that approved.

WINDOW replacement SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST

- Site Plan with Vicinity map
- Floor Plan with windows being replaced numbered
- List of window sizes to correlate to the number on the floor plan
- Mention if like for like (In addition to the size)
- Title 24 or Window new and replacement fenestration document

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarification for the building permit requirements related to window replacements or window retrofits.

Note: Homes located in the Wildland Urban Interface Areas (WUI) must also meet the requirements for applicable glazed assemblies if they were required at the time of original new construction. (After July 1, 2008)

DEFINITIONS

Window Replacement: The replacement of one or more windows including window frames. This does not include glass replacement and/or repairs only in an existing window frame.

Window Retrofit: The replacement of one or more windows where a retrofit window will be installed utilizing the existing window frame(s).

Like-for-like: The replacement window is the same size, type and there are no alterations or changes to the existing window opening. The structural window frame, interior and exterior materials are not altered.

POLICY

Historically, building permits have not been required for the replacement of broken or damaged window glazing. Permits are required for replacement and retro-fit windows as required per the 2019 California Building Code.

Policy Procedure

A. Building permits are not required for the replacement of broken or damaged glazing within an existing window frame and is considered maintenance work. The installation or replacement of glazing shall be in accordance with new installations.

B. A Building Permit is required to replace an existing window when any of the following conditions are met:
1) The existing window frames are removed and a new window and frame is installed in the existing rough window opening. In a bedroom, as long as the existing window complied with the building code at the time of installation, the new, same type window and rough opening size window will be considered as compliant. There is no increase in the level of hazard. Refer to Egress Window Table below to determine the requirements at the time of original installation.

2) The existing window and frame are removed and the rough window opening size is changed or altered. If this is a bedroom egress window, the window must comply with current Emergency Escape and Rescue Egress requirements. Framing plans and flashing details are required for new structural alterations when existing openings are altered.

3) The existing window and stops are removed, the existing frame is left in place and a new retro-fit window and frame is inserted within the existing window frame. If the window opening size is changed by this installation, it must meet Emergency Escape and Rescue Egress requirements.

4) Replacement windows must meet current Climate Zone 2 California Energy requirements.

5) Like-for-like window replacement projects require a single inspection once all work has been completed. Any other window replacement project that involves the installation of flashing, opening alterations or similar construction requires a minimum of two (2) inspections. An in-progress inspection is required while windows are being installed and final inspection once all work is complete.

All window decals shall remain on window surfaces indicating the energy efficiency ratings of windows until a final building inspection is completed.

**Egress Window Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Original Permit Application</th>
<th>Code in Effect</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Maximum Sill Height</th>
<th>Minimum Net Opening</th>
<th>Minimum Height</th>
<th>Minimum Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun 11, 1962 through Apr 18, 1971</td>
<td>UBC 1961 and 67</td>
<td>3320</td>
<td>48 inches</td>
<td>5.0 sq. ft.</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 19, 1971 through Jul 5, 1977</td>
<td>UBC 1970, 73</td>
<td>1404</td>
<td>48 inches</td>
<td>5.0 sq. ft.</td>
<td>22 inches</td>
<td>22 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 6, 1977 through Aug 15, 1983</td>
<td>UBC 1976</td>
<td>1404</td>
<td>44 inches</td>
<td>5.7 sq. ft.</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>20 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 28, 1995 through Dec 31, 2007</td>
<td>1994 UBC/1995 CBC, 98 CBC</td>
<td>310.4</td>
<td>44 inches</td>
<td>5.7 sq. ft.</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>20 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1, 2008 through Dec 31, 2010</td>
<td>2007 CBC</td>
<td>1026</td>
<td>44 inches (bottom of clear opening)</td>
<td>5.7 sq. ft. (5.0 sq. ft. at the ground floor)</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>20 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1, 2011 through Dec 31, 2013</td>
<td>2010 CBC/CRC</td>
<td>1029 and R310</td>
<td>44 inches (bottom of clear opening)</td>
<td>5.7 sq. ft. (5.0 sq. ft. at the ground floor)</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>20 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1, 2014 through Dec 31, 2016</td>
<td>2013 CBC/CRC</td>
<td>1029 and R310</td>
<td>44 inches (bottom of clear opening)</td>
<td>5.7 sq. ft. (5.0 sq. ft. at the ground floor)</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>20 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1, 2017 through Dec 31, 2020</td>
<td>2016 CBC/CRC</td>
<td>1029 and R310</td>
<td>44 inches (bottom of clear opening)</td>
<td>5.7 sq. ft. (5.0 sq. ft. at the ground floor)</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>20 inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>