

****THE PROJECT MUST BE A REMODEL AND NOT A NEW FA SYSTEM**

The Austin Fire Department accepts documentation in the form of a letter, simple plan, and calculations, for remodels involving 5 or fewer fire alarm devices on an existing system. The plan must show the limits of work, and be drawn to scale or dimensioned, and indicate the candela rating of any strobes to allow device spacing to be checked.

If you are installing duct detectors only, or connecting a hood system to an existing panel, you can omit the plan, but the locations of the duct detectors must be indicated by a permanent means at the FACP.

The letter must be written and submitted in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Letter must be written and signed by the firm's APS, on the installing contractor's letterhead, with State License number shown, and with the following information:
 - a. Project name and address, including suite number if applicable.
 - b. Project's building permit number.
 - c. Number and type of devices added, moved, or deleted.
 - d. Indicate that the installation and materials shall be in accordance with NFPA 72.
 - e. Submit backup battery calculations.
 - f. For notification circuit remodels, submit voltage drop and current calculations accounting for affected circuits and power supplies per AFD guidelines ([guidelines below in blue text](#)).
2. Letter, plan, and fee must be dropped off at AFD the same as all other submittals (with completed fee calc noting method of payment). Contractor may also make an appointment with an AFD plan reviewer, if time permits.
3. Inspections will not be scheduled until the letter and plan has been approved. The approved letter and plan must be on site and be available for the AFD inspector prior to the fire alarm system test.
4. FYI, for intelligent addressable devices added on software controlled systems, a test of 100% of the new devices and an additional 10% or a minimum of 50 devices on the existing circuits including a variety of initiating devices and notification devices will be required per 2013 ed. NFPA 72, Sec. 14.4.2.4.
5. A completed Fire Alarm System Remodel fee calculation form, and payment is required with the submittal (check, credit card, and cash accepted), an online link to fee form is; <https://fs25.formsite.com/AFDPrevention/form64/index.html>.

The plan will go into the same 7 day turnaround queue as any other remodel project.

FYI: below are detailed requirements for jobs involving the addition or removal of notification devices.

INFO IF ADDING SIGNALING DEVICES:

Due to problems with contractor's pencil whipping the current load calculations and overloading the notification appliance circuits, we now have to require the detailed current data detailed below to verify circuit and power supply adequacy.

All submittals involving the addition of new notification devices to existing circuits will require one of the following to document the circuit and power supply capacity, and allow realistic calculations to show the final current and voltage values for the remodeled circuit and power supply:

- a. **For jobs where all the devices on the circuit are known:** Show on the plan all the devices on the altered circuit, from the end of line resistor to the power supply, account for all devices in the submitted voltage drop and current calculations. Indicate on the plan the make and model of the power supply, the circuit capacity and total capacity of the power supply, and the total load measured (or calculated) on the other power supply circuits. Existing devices not on the affected circuits can be shown on a riser diagram.
- b. **For jobs where all the devices on the circuit are not known:** Show on the plan all the known devices on the circuit to be altered and the location of the end of line resistor (existing devices not part of the work can be shown on a riser diagram). Then provide the following field measurements for all affected circuits:

Note: measurements No. 1 and 2 shall be taken on both the existing circuit before it is altered and then again after it is altered/devices added or removed.

1. Voltage at end of line resistor while circuit is activated.
2. Total current on the circuit when activated.
3. Total current from all circuits on the power supply with activated.

Use the above measurements in the submitted voltage and current calculations. Indicate on the plan the make and model of the power supply, the individual output current capacity and total current capacity of the power supply, and the total load measured on the power supply with all outputs activated.

For all field measurements, indicate on the plan the date and location of the measurement and the name of the technician taking the measurement. For all remodel jobs, field measurements documented as detailed above, will be acceptable as part of the calculations.

If you have any questions contact AFD offices, 512-974-0129