



Fire Alarm Operational Permit

The City of Redmond requires central station service and third party verification on all fire alarm systems. Typically fire alarm contractors have become listed with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) and have issued Alarm System Certificates through UL or Placards through FM. Building owners have expressed a desire to have more options in regards to our fire alarm requirements and we created an alternative method to third party verification in the form of our Fire Alarm Operational Permit.

The Fire Alarm Permit requires that a building owner designate a Building Agent who is responsible for all aspects of the building fire alarm system. The Building Agent can negotiate and enter into a contractual arrangement with a Fire Alarm Service Company who then provides central station service elements with their personnel or through contracts with qualified companies. The six elements of Central Station Service are:

1. Installation of fire alarm transmitters
2. Alarm, supervisory, and trouble signal monitoring
3. Retransmission
4. Associated record keeping and reporting
5. Testing and Maintenance
6. Runner Service

The Building Agent and the Fire Alarm Service Company have flexibility to determine the best contractual arrangement that meets the City of Redmond requirements and Fire Alarm Permit declarations while allowing the Building Agent to negotiate their best arrangement for fire alarm services.

Building owners have expressed concern about tenant improvement work involving modifications to existing fire alarm system and that UL certificate holders are the only ones capable of providing modifications to their systems. The Fire Alarm Permit allows greater flexibility between the

Building Agent and the Fire Alarm Service Company to negotiate the terms of future modifications. The Redmond Fire Department requires that the Fire Alarm Service Company making the declaration on the Fire Alarm Permit be involved in all modifications to a system to the degree that allows the Fire Alarm Service Company to maintain the level of declaration required by this Fire Alarm Permit. The Building Agent is not constrained by the Fire Alarm Permit to choose any other qualified contractor for system modifications, as long as the Fire Alarm Service Company maintains the required declaration on the Fire Alarm Permit.

All Fire Alarm Service Companies must either be listed with an approved listing authority for fire alarm services or have been listed within the previous three years to utilize the Fire Alarm Permit program. It is our intent to explore different options or criteria for fire alarm companies to be approved for this program. The initial program requires proof of current listing or proof of listing within the last three years.

The Fire Alarm Permit is available for use immediately on our website at:
<http://redmond.gov/common/pages/UserFile.aspx?fileId=56157>

We have included a Frequently Asked Questions section for this new permit that will assist in describing the program. If you have further questions about the program, please contact us at:

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We appreciate constructive criticism on this program or any other aspect of the services we provide, so please give us your feedback. We are committed to improving our processes and services to City of Redmond building owners and the companies that serve them.