

Information Bulletin

Permit Requirements for Sprinkler & Standpipe Installations in Existing Buildings

Historically, the Winnipeg Building By-law (WBB) has not specified the quantity of sprinkler heads or standpipe valves and hoses that can be relocated, replaced or added without a permit. This bulletin aims to clarify the City's expectations in that regard. For reference, the WBB clause for exemptions for mechanical permits, Clause 14.8.1(2), states:

(2) Subject to Sentence (3), a mechanical permit is not required when the construction, extension, alteration, renewal or repair:

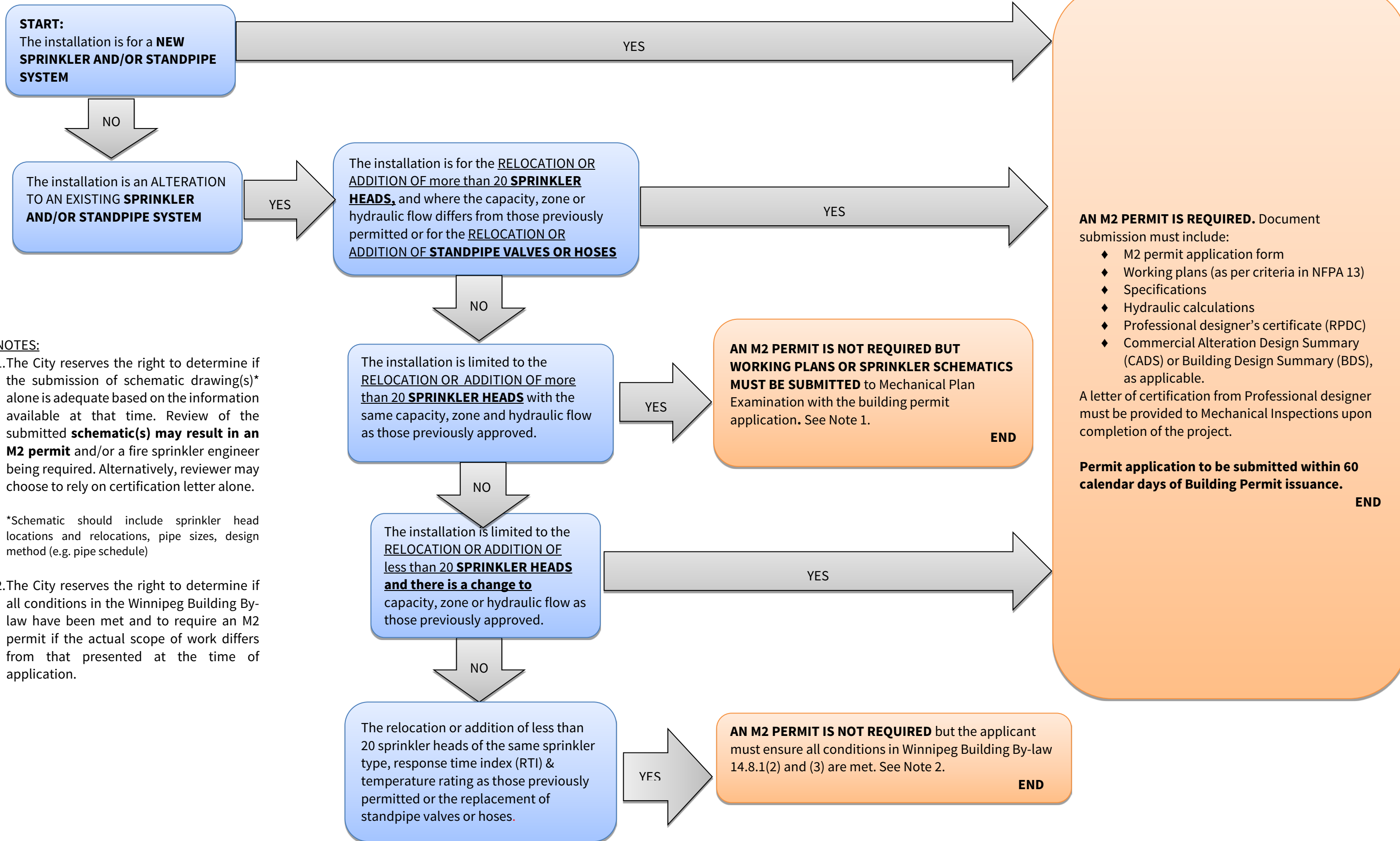
(d) is limited to the replacement, relocation or addition of sprinkler heads with the same capacity, zone and hydraulic flow as those previously approved.

(e) is limited to the replacement of one or more existing standpipe valves or hoses with the same capacity as those being replaced.

- Work that is limited to the relocation of 20 or fewer sprinkler heads with the same capacity, zone & hydraulic flow does not require an M2 permit.
- Work that is limited to the addition of 20 or fewer sprinkler heads that does not change the systems capacity, zones or hydraulic demand does not require an M2 permit.
 - Work that includes the relocation of more than 20 sprinkler heads with the same type, RTI, temperature rating, capacity, zone and hydraulic flow requires working plans or schematic drawings* to be submitted with the building permit application.
 - Work that includes the addition of more than 20 sprinkler heads that does not change the systems capacity, zones or hydraulic demand requires working plans or schematic drawings* to be submitted with the building permit application.
 - Work that is limited to the replacement of sprinkler heads for maintenance purposes under the requirements of NFPA 25 does not require an M2 permit. Work that is limited to the REPLACEMENT ONLY OF ONE OR MORE EXISTING STANDPIPE VALVES OR HOSES with the same capacity as those being replaced does not require an M2 Permit

In response to industry requests to clearly define permit and drawing submission requirements for modifications to existing sprinkler and standpipe installations, The City of Winnipeg has made the following determinations within the allowances of the WBB:

Refer to the flow chart on the next page for further clarification of requirements and document submittals for a “Mechanical M2 – Fire Sprinkler System” permit application.



NOTES:

1. The City reserves the right to determine if the submission of schematic drawing(s)* alone is adequate based on the information available at that time. Review of the submitted **schematic(s) may result in an M2 permit** and/or a fire sprinkler engineer being required. Alternatively, reviewer may choose to rely on certification letter alone.

*Schematic should include sprinkler head locations and relocations, pipe sizes, design method (e.g. pipe schedule)

2. The City reserves the right to determine if all conditions in the Winnipeg Building By-law have been met and to require an M2 permit if the actual scope of work differs from that presented at the time of application.