



Memorandum

Effective: March 1, 2018
To: Contractors, Building Inspectors, Design Professionals & Industry Stakeholders
From: John Cosmo, Chief Building Official
Subject: **Self-Adhering Membrane (Underlayment)**

Authority: Florida Statute 553.775 – Florida Building Code, Building – Chapter 15; Florida Building Code, Residential – Chapter 9; Boca Raton Building Regulations Section 19-57.

Purpose: To establish minimum acceptable criteria for the installation or replacement of roof sheathing, underlayment and roof coverings systems for new and existing buildings or structures in the City of Boca Raton, Florida.

Re: Self-Adhering Membrane (Underlayment)

The Florida Building Code requires that all roof sheathing and substrate materials on a building or structure be properly secured prior to installing underlayment to dry-in the roof before installation of a roof covering system. When an existing building or structure is re-roofed, the roof sheathing is required to meet the attachment requirements of the Florida Building Code or to be re-nailed adding additional fasteners to ensure the roof sheathing is properly secured and replace any damaged roof sheathing prior to installing any underlayment. Self-Adhering underlayment, once initially installed directly to roof deck sheathing may create such a bond that removal of the self-adhering underlayment from the roof sheathing becomes very difficult without removing the roof sheathing itself. The self-adhering underlayment must be removed during re-roofing to verify the roof sheathing attachment, as required by the Florida Building Code.

Therefore, on any new roofing system installed on a building or structure or during re-roofing of an existing building or structure within the City of Boca Raton, Florida, **if the underlayment being used, is a self-adhering membrane, the membrane shall be applied over a mechanically attached code compliant anchor sheet**, any such anchor sheet shall be properly attached and secured to the roof sheathing or substrate materials in accordance with the Florida Building Code.

This is an approved secondary water barrier in accordance with the Florida Building Code.