Top 5 Plan Review Mistakes – Commercial Construction

1. Incorrect design criteria and codes. Due to design professionals working globally now, local codes and requirements are often ignored or overlooked. Assumptions are often made on plans as to what code cycle we are on or what our loads are, which will often lead to a disapproval that could’ve easily been avoided.

2. Inaccurate representation of existing building data and conditions like the type of construction, occupancy, building areas, etc. If the existing building is not accurately represented, it can lead to a discrepancy in the documents. A plan will be disapproved if a known discrepancy exists.

3. Inconsistent information. Information is often repeated throughout a plan set to provide details for various code requirements. If the information is different between different details that are depicting the same thing, the plan gets confusing. The devil is in the details.

4. Incomplete drawings. Anything less than 90% complete should not be submitted. Plans are often submitted early to meet a deadline of some sort, but submitting incomplete plans often leads to multiple resubmittals and a longer, drawn out review process.

5. Missing required documents. A plan set can’t be approved without all of the required documents. The RBD commercial handouts have a lot of information that frequently gets ignored or overlooked. The handouts can be used as a check list to help people to include all the necessary documents.
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