

Print

Los Angeles Municipal Code

**SEC. 12.22. EXCEPTIONS.**

**A. Use.**

1. **Private Garage Not Required – Topography** – Where a lot abuts upon a street or place which due to topographic conditions or excessive grades is not accessible by automobile, and such lot is to be occupied by not more than a one-family dwelling, no private garage shall be required.

2. **Public Utilities and Public Services** – The provisions of this article shall not be so construed as to limit or interfere with the construction, installation, operation and maintenance for public utility purposes of water and gas pipes, mains and conduits, electric light and electric power transmission and distribution lines, telephone and telegraph lines, oil pipe lines, sewers and sewer mains, and incidental appurtenances.

3. **Family Day Care Homes. (Title and Subdiv. Amended by Ord. No. 173,085, Eff. 3/19/00.)** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article to the contrary, and in all zones wherein residential uses are permitted by right the following shall apply:

(a) **Small Family Day Care Homes:** Any dwelling unit may be used as a small family day care home, with up to eight children, as defined in Section 12.03, if it is licensed by the State of California as a small family day care home. **(Amended by Ord. No. 176,545, Eff. 5/2/05.)**

(b) **Large Family Day Care Homes:** Any dwelling unit may be used as a large family day care home, with up to 14 children, as defined in Section 12.03, if it is licensed by the State of California as a large family day care home, and if it complies with the conditions set forth in Subparagraph (1) below. **(Amended by Ord. No. 176,545, Eff. 5/2/05.)**

(1) **Conditions.** A large family day care home shall comply with the following conditions:

(i) Provide drop-off facilities, such as curb spaces or driveway area, which are necessary to avoid interference with traffic and promote the safety of the children;

(ii) Comply with any standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Subdivision (d) of Section 1597.46 of the California Health and Safety Code relating to large family day care homes;

(iii) Comply with all provisions of the Los Angeles Municipal Code relating to large family day care homes and dwelling units;

(iv) The use shall not create an unreasonable level of disruption or interference with the peaceful enjoyment of the adjoining and neighboring properties;

(v) Name plates and signs shall conform to the provisions of Section 12.21 A.7.;

(vi) Play equipment, swings, sandboxes, or structures shall be located in the rear yard only;

(vii) No loud speaker or public address system shall be installed or operated on any open portion of the premises, and any phonograph, radio or other recorded music used in connection with any activity shall be sufficiently modulated to ensure that the use does not disturb the adjoining and neighboring residents;

(viii) The existing residential character of the building and site shall be maintained, including the exterior facade, landscaping, fences, walls, lawn area, and driveways;

(ix) The floor space of any dwelling unit used for the operation of a large family day care home shall not be increased for such use, and the floor space shall not be altered to reasonably preclude its continued use as a dwelling unit; and

(x) There shall be at least 300 feet between the lot containing the building where the proposed large family day care home will be located and the building housing any existing large family day care home. This distance is to be measured along the shortest street route between the two lots as determined by the Department of Recreation and Parks. **(Second Sentence Amended by Ord. No. 181,192, Eff. 7/27/10.)**

**(2) Notice of Intention to Operate Large Family Day Care Home. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** A Notice of Intention to Operate a Large Family Day Care Home shall be filed in the public office of the Department of City Planning, on forms provided by the Department. The forms shall be accompanied by all information deemed necessary by the Department. The notice shall include verification provided by the Department of Recreation and Parks that the large family day care home is in compliance with the concentration and spacing

condition set forth in Section 12.22 A.3.(b)(1)(x) above. **(Sentence Amended by Ord. No. 181,192, Eff. 7/27/10.)** No fee shall be charged and no public hearing shall be required in connection with the filing of the notice.

(3) **Exemption from Concentration and Spacing Condition.** If a proposed Large Family Day Care Home is not in compliance with the concentration and spacing condition set forth in Section 12.22 A.3.(b)(1)(x) above, then the operator may apply to the Zoning Administrator for an exemption from this condition pursuant to Section 12.24 X.25. **(Amended by Ord. No. 176,545, Eff. 5/2/05.)**

(4) **Violation of Conditions - Authority of Zoning Administrator to Require Modification of Conditions of Operation or Discontinuance of Large Family Day Care Homes.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, the Zoning Administrator may require a modification of the conditions of operation or the discontinuance of a large family day care home if the Zoning Administrator finds that as operated or maintained there has been a violation of any of the conditions or standards set forth in Subparagraph (1) of Paragraph (b) of this subdivision, or that such use:

- (i) jeopardizes or endangers the public health or safety of persons residing in, working on, or occupying the premises; or
- (ii) constitutes a public nuisance; or
- (iii) violates any provision of this chapter or any other city, state or federal regulations, ordinance or statute.

The procedure for the modification of the conditions of operation or discontinuance of a large family day care home shall be as provided for in Section 12.27.1 of this Code.

4. **Sale of Christmas Trees** – Notwithstanding any provisions of this article to the contrary, the annual retail sale, including sales by philanthropic, political, patriotic, and charitable associations, of Christmas trees and ornaments shall be permitted in all zones, except the RE, RS, R1, RU, RZ, and RMP Zones, between December first and twenty-fifth, inclusive, and the necessary permits and licenses may be issued provided that: **(Amended by Ord. No. 164,904, Eff. 7/6/89.)**

(a) Any lights used to illuminate the site shall be arranged to reflect the light away from any adjacent residentially-zoned property except that this restriction does not apply to frosted light bulbs of 100 watts or less; and

(b) There shall be no use of any sound equipment in the residential zone in

conjunction with the retail sale of Christmas trees; and

(c) The operator of such a sale of Christmas trees shall post a Two Hundred Dollar (\$200.00) cleanup deposit with the Office of the City Clerk prior to any lot preparation or sales; and

(d) The operator of such a sale of Christmas trees shall comply with all other applicable provisions of the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

**5. (Title and First Para. Deleted by Ord. No. 172,489, Eff. 4/16/99.)**

(a) **(Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** Notwithstanding any other provisions of Articles 2 and 3 of this chapter to the contrary, no oil well, controlled drill site or temporary geological exploratory hole may be permitted in an A, R, P or C Zone within the area located between the mean high tide line of the City's shoreline and a line 1,000 yards landward from that line. This prohibition shall not be construed or interpreted as affecting:

(1) any shore line areas within the Los Angeles Harbor except for Cabrillo Beach;

(2) any oil well, controlled drill site or a facility for the production of oil gases or other hydrocarbon substances in existence on the effective date of this subdivision;

(3) any connected subterranean gas holding areas and facilities that are operated as a public utility pursuant to Section 14.00; and

(4) subsurface drilling and producing operations more than 500 feet below the surface of this area.

(b) Ordinances 159,607, 159,608 and 159,609, which created Oil Drilling Districts U-171-A, U-172-A and U-173-A, respectively, to allow exploration and production of oil within 1,000 yards of the mean high tide in the City of Los Angeles, are hereby repealed.

(c) This subdivision shall apply to all supplemental use districts within this area for which a vested right for production of oil has not accrued as of the effective date of this subdivision

(d) If any provision or clause of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect other Ordinance provisions thereof which can be implemented without the invalid provision, clause or application, and to this end the provisions and causes of this

ordinance are declared to be severable.

**[Subdivision 5(a) - (d) adopted by the voters as Initiative Ordinance “O” on November 8, 1988, Eff. 11/30/88.]**

**6. Infrequent Helicopter Landings.(Amended by Ord. No. 150,623, Eff. 4/13/78.)**  
– Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, helicopters may land and take off in any zone except RA, R, C1 and CR Zones, provided that a permit therefore has first been obtained from the Fire Department under the provisions of Division 5, Article 7 of Chapter 5 of this Code. Such helicopter landings and takeoffs shall not exceed three per day in or upon any single location or premises except that the Fire Department may permit as many such landings and takeoffs in or upon any single location or premises in a day as it determines are required by the individual nature of each such helicopter use, including occasions of civic interest, and are consistent with the public health, safety, general welfare and intent of this article. In the RA, R, C1 or CR Zones helicopters may land and take off in or upon any single location not more than two times per calendar year in a park, school ground or other similar type of public open space, for educational programs sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Department or the Los Angeles City Unified School District, provided that the Fire Department permit referred to above has first been obtained. Nothing herein shall prevent nor curtail the operation of emergency helicopter landing facilities as required in Section 57.18.11 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

The provisions of this subdivision shall not be construed or interpreted as permitting the establishment of a regularly operating airport, aircraft landing field, heliport or helistop.

**7. Temporary Operations of Carnivals and Rides. (Added by Ord. No. 130,076, Eff. 5/26/65.)** – Notwithstanding any provisions of this article to the contrary, carnival shows and amusement enterprises of a similar type may be operated in the P Zone for a period of not to exceed five consecutive days in any 30 day period in or upon any single location, provided that:

(1) All such operations are conducted at least 200 feet from any school or adjoining occupied property classified in any A or R Zone.

(2) Such operations do not cause or produce any dust, gas, smoke, noise, fumes, odors, or vibrations detrimental to other property in the neighborhood or to the welfare of the occupants thereof.

(3) Any lights used to illuminate the event are arranged so as to reflect the light away from any adjacent residentially used premises.

(4) No public address system in connection with the event is installed on the property unless it is modulated so as not to be disturbing to occupants of any

nearby dwelling units.

(5) All structures, apparatus and appurtenances shall be removed from the premises the next day following the closing of the carnival.

(6) The hours of such operation to be limited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

**8. Occasional Use of Private Homes for Adult Education Classes. (Added by Ord. No. 132,573, Eff. 8/5/66.)** – Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, adult education classes shall be permitted in homes in the RA or R Zones and no additional off-street parking shall be required in conjunction therewith, provided that:

(a) Classes are held not more than one day a week for a period not to exceed three hours per day and each class does not meet for more than fifteen weeks in any one semester.

(b) Classes are purely incidental to the use of the property as a home and no more than thirty persons are permitted to attend each class.

(c) Classes primarily involve oral discussions and no laboratory equipment, heavy machinery, or large tools are used in connection therewith, except small record players, slide projectors and other similar audiovisual teaching aids.

(d) All classes are scheduled on the first floor of the building.

For the purpose of this subdivision “**adult education classes**” shall mean any educational programs conducted by University Extension of University of California or any other comparable university.

No certificate of occupancy shall be required in connection with the use authorized by this ordinance.

**9. Maintenance of Accessory Structures. (Amended by Ord. No. 172,839, Eff. 11/1/99.)** Notwithstanding any provisions of this article to the contrary, an accessory building or structure may be maintained on a lot without a main building and a residential building may be maintained on a lot without the required off-street parking for the periods of time as authorized by the Advisory Agency in conformance with Article 7 of Chapter 1 of this Code.

**10. Model. (Amended by Ord. No. 174,999, Eff. 1/15/03.)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a model or models, as defined in Article 7 of Chapter 1 of this Code, may be erected and maintained on any lot or site designated by the Advisory Agency as a site for a model or models on an approved or conditionally approved tentative map, in the A, RE, RS, R1, RU, RZ, RMP, or RW1 Zones with respect to

one-family homes, and in the R2, RD, RW2, R3, RAS3, R4, RAS4, or R5 Zones with respect to multiple unit structures, i.e., buildings containing more than one dwelling unit, for a period of time as determined by the Advisory Agency, provided that:

(a) In an “H” hillside or mountainous area, a grading plan for the entire approved or conditionally approved subdivision or any final map unit thereof has been approved by the Grading Division of the Department of Building and Safety and a Grading Certificate has been issued for the property involved or that the grading is being carried on under the authorization of a valid grading permit.

(b) Necessary easements for the installation of water system facilities and underground utilities have been dedicated and the developer has guaranteed the cost of relocation or future adjustment of these facilities to the satisfaction of the Department of Water and Power.

(c) The owner assumes liability for any damage caused to water system facilities and underground utilities prior to final street improvements in a manner satisfactory to the Department of Water and Power.

(d) Adequate fire protection facilities are provided to the satisfaction of the Fire Department.

(e) Adequate sewer facilities are provided to the satisfaction of the Bureau of Engineering and the Los Angeles County Health Department.

(f) A paved access roadway at least 20 feet in width is provided which is satisfactory to the Department of Building and Safety.

(g) Off-street parking be provided as follows:

(1) For multiple unit structures, the numbers and location of the off-street parking facilities shall be determined by the Advisory Agency;

(2) For one-family detached structures, one lot for each six model dwellings or fraction thereof shall be located contiguous to the model dwelling sites. All off-street parking facilities and driveways shall be dust-proofed with asphaltic surfacing or with decomposed granite which is sprinkled at sufficient intervals to prevent dust, or by an alternate method of dust control satisfactory to the Department of Building and Safety.

(h) The model dwelling sites are attractively maintained and, with respect to one-family detached structures, attractively landscaped.

(i) Not more than one sign is placed on each designated model dwelling. Said sign shall not exceed 12 square feet in area and shall be used only for

identification or directional purposes. Prohibited are banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, string of light bulbs, spinners, or other similarly moving devices.

(j) Any furnishings placed in the model dwelling are maintained solely for purposes accessory to the display of the model dwelling and in no way are used to sell or promote the sale of such furnishings.

(k) Prior to the issuance of any building permit for a model dwelling, the property owner shall first execute and file with the Superintendent of Building a notarized agreement assuming all risks and agreeing to all of the conditions set forth in this Subdivision 10. With respect to one-family detached structures, the agreement shall further provide that in the event that a final map which includes the property whereon the model dwelling is located is not recorded, all buildings or structures authorized by said permit shall be removed, within 90 days from the expiration of the tentative tract, and that if all buildings and structures are not completely removed as required above, they may be confiscated and removed or demolished by the City without further notice. Prior to the erection of any model dwelling that is a one-family detached structure, authorized pursuant to the approval of any subdivision and contingent thereon, the property owner shall post in the Department of Building and Safety a bond in favor of the City of Los Angeles (to be approved by the City Attorney and duplicates to be furnished to him) in an amount satisfactory to the Department of Building and Safety sufficient to defray any expense incurred by the City in the removal or demolition of the model dwelling or dwellings. The bond shall be released to the property owner or person legally entitled thereto either upon recordation of the subdivision tract map or upon removal of the concerned structures or buildings, as the case may be, to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Building. **(Amended by Ord. No. 158,561. Eff. 1/14/84.)**

(l) This subdivision shall apply to approved or conditionally approved tentative tract maps which include model dwelling units and which have not been recorded as of the effective date of this ordinance. **(Added by Ord. No. 158,561, Eff. 1/14/84.)**

11. **(Amended by Ord. No. 145,410, Eff. 2/16/74.)** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, a real estate tract sales office may be established and maintained in one model dwelling approved in accordance with the provisions of Section 12.22 A.10. or in a dwelling constructed on a recorded lot previously designated as a model dwelling site by the Advisory Agency and temporarily serving as an example of houses or units built or to be built in the same subdivision, provided that:

(a) No general real estate brokerage business is conducted on the premises, and any business transacted thereon is limited to the original sale of vacant or improved land shown on the tentative map or units of airspace shown on the



condominium plan.

(b) All name plates and signs conform to the provisions of Section 12.21 A.7.

(c) The tract sales office is attractively maintained and, where located in a one-family detached structure, is attractively landscaped.

(d) The property owner has first executed and filed with the Superintendent of Building a notarized agreement agreeing to comply with all other provisions of this Subdivision and, further, agreeing that after all dwelling units in the development are initially sold or rented, all tract sales being conducted within the structure will cease; all signs will be entirely removed from the premises; any residential type of sliding glass door in a private garage doorway will be replaced with a conventional private garage door, and any sales office activity located in a private garage will be discontinued and this area reconverted for the storage of private vehicles. **(Amended by Ord. No. 158,561, Eff. 1/14/84.)**

12. **(Added by Ord. No. 149,472, Eff. 5/14/77.)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, equipment and material storage yards used exclusively in connection with public facilities projects may be located in the A, R and C Zones, provided the following conditions are complied with.

(a) That such storage activities not be commenced prior to the execution of the construction contract with the governmental entity authorizing such work, and such storage activity be terminated within 30 days of the expiration of the contract or 30 days after completion of the construction, whichever comes first.

(b) That no storage or related activities be located closer than 25 feet to any residential improvement unless a solid 8 foot high fence be constructed along the entire property line adjoining such improvement, except at parking of employees' personal vehicles shall be permitted within the 25 foot buffer area, and such parking area need not comply with the requirements of Section 12.21 A.6. of this article.

(c) That the premises and grounds be frequently sprinkled and watered to prevent dust from becoming a nuisance to the neighboring residents.

(d) That there be no stockpiling of materials above 8 feet.

(e) That hours of operation including servicing and maintenance of all stored equipment be only between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and at no time on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays except in emergencies.

Prior to the use of any land for equipment and material storage activities pursuant to this Subdivision, the operator or operators of such storage yard shall obtain a certificate

of occupancy of land as provided for in Section 12.26 E. of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. Where it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Building that the conditions of this Subdivision are not being complied with, the Superintendent may revoke the certificate of occupancy. Such revocation may be appealed to the Board of Building and Safety Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of Section 98.0403 of this Code.

**13. Infrequent Use of Property for Commercial Filming. (Amended by Ord. No. 170,516, Eff. 6/18/95.)** Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this article to the contrary, property in all zones may be used for the purpose of infrequent filming of commercial motion pictures and still photographs, provided that a permit therefor has first been obtained from the City Council, or whomever the Council by order, resolution or ordinance may delegate such authority. The City Council, or whomever the Council by order, resolution or ordinance may delegate such authority shall adopt such rules and regulations concerning the issuance of said permits as may be necessary to assure that filming will be conducted at such times and in such a manner as to cause a minimum of interference with the enjoyment and use of adjacent property, and consistent with public health, safety and general welfare.

**14. (None)**

**15. Parking Requirements For Showcase Theaters. (Added by Ord No 148,910, Eff. 11/18/76.)** Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, the parking for showcase theaters required under Section 12.21 A.4.(e) (g) (i) (m); Section 12.21 A.5.; and Section 12.26 C. and 12.26 E.5. may be provided on the site, or off the site under a written agreement approved by the City Attorney and the Superintendent of Building. Where off-site parking is provided under any written agreement other than a Parking Covenant, such agreement shall be for a minimum of one year and shall be signed by the theater operator and the lessee or owner of the property upon which the required parking spaces shall be located. This agreement shall remain in effect for the duration of the existence of the showcase theater. Such agreement shall be filed with the Department of Building and Safety.

Where the parking covenant or other written agreement provides for parking on a lot which does not meet the design standards set forth in Section 12.21 A.5. and 12.21 A.6., but which parking area met the applicable Municipal Code design standard when originally established, such spaces shall be accepted for purposes of this Subdivision without compliance with the provisions of Section 12.21 A.5. and 12.21 A.6.

**16. Outside Automobile Hoists. (Amended by Ord. No. 172,468, Eff. 4/1/99.)** Any type of outside automobile hoist in the C2, C4, C5, CM or M1 Zones is prohibited.

**17. Temporary Residency in Residential Vehicle Pending Reconstruction of Disaster – Destroyed Dwelling. (Added by Ord. No. 153,144, Eff. 12/28/79.)**

(a) **Use of Land Permit.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code to the contrary, the Department of Building and Safety may issue a use of land permit to any resident–owner of a single–family dwelling destroyed by disaster to temporarily place and reside in a residential vehicle upon the subject property. Such use of land permit shall be limited to a period of one year from the date of the subject disaster, during which period a building permit for the reconstruction of the subject dwelling unit must be obtained. When such a building permit is obtained the use of land permit shall be valid for an additional period to total no more than two years from the date of the subject disaster or until the dwelling unit is complete, whichever occurs first. No other extension of time shall be granted for such use of land permit.

(b) **Fence Requirement.** Where a residential vehicle is placed within a required yard area, such residential vehicle shall be screened from public view by a fence constructed to the specifications of Section 91.4401 (c) of this Code; on corner lots, the restrictions of Section 62.200 of this Code shall also apply. Such fence shall be maintained in good condition and appearance.

(c) **Yard Area Requirements.** Such residential vehicle must observe five–foot front, side and rear yards and adequate access shall be assured to permit the removal of such residential vehicle after reconstruction of the disaster–destroyed dwelling unit.

(d) **Site Restoration.** Within thirty (30) days of the removal of the residential vehicle, all equipment and utilities accessory to such residential vehicle and any nonconforming fence constructed pursuant to this section shall be removed and the site restored to permitted use and condition.

18. **Developments Combining Residential and Commercial Uses.** Except where the provisions of Section 12.24.1 of this Code apply, notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, the following uses shall be permitted in the following zones subject to the following limitations: **(Amended by Ord. No. 163,679, Eff. 7/18/88.)**

(a) Any use permitted in the R5 Zone on any lot in the CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4 or C5 Zones provided that such lot is located within the Central City Community Plan Area or within an area designated on an adopted community plan as "Regional Center" or "Regional Commercial". Any combination of R5 uses and the uses permitted in the underlying commercial zone shall also be permitted on such lot. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,452, Eff. 4/4/13.)**

(b) Any use permitted in the CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4 or C5 Zones on any lot in the R5 Zone provided that the lot is located within the Central City Community Plan Area. Any combination of these commercial and residential uses shall also be permitted on the lot. Commercial uses or any combination of commercial and residential uses may be permitted on any lot in the R5 Zone by conditional use

pursuant to Section 12.24 W.15. outside the Central City Community Plan Area.  
**(Amended by Ord. No. 182,452, Eff. 4/4/13.)**

(c) **Yards.** Except as provided herein, the yard requirements of the zone in which the lot is located shall apply.

(1) The yard requirements of the C2 Zone shall apply to buildings located on lots in the R5 Zone in a redevelopment project area approved by the City Council if such buildings are used exclusively for commercial uses.

(2) The following yard requirements shall apply to buildings located on lots in the R5 Zone which are used for any combination of commercial and residential uses:

(i) The yard requirements of the C2 Zone shall apply to the portions of such buildings used exclusively for commercial uses.

(ii) No yard requirements shall apply to the portions of such buildings which are used exclusively for residential uses and which abut a street, private street or alley, if the first floor of such buildings at ground level is used for commercial uses or access to the residential portions of such buildings.

(3) No yard requirements shall apply to the residential portions of buildings located on lots in the CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4, and C5 Zones used for combined commercial and residential uses, if such portions are used exclusively for residential uses, abut a street, private street or alley, and the first floor of such buildings at ground level is used for commercial uses or for access to the residential portions of such buildings.

(4) No yards shall be required along air space lot boundaries within the interior of buildings.

(d) The residential and commercial density, maximum floor area or height otherwise permitted for any lot shall not be increased by reason of the existence of one or more air space lots.

(e) **Pedestrian Bridges.** Residential uses in a building combining residential and commercial uses shall be limited to the floors above the level of a connecting pedway or pedestrian bridge except that the Director of Planning may modify or waive this requirement if the Director finds unusual topography or other special circumstances justify such modification or waiver.

(f) **(Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** In the event of a conflict

between the terms of this subdivision and the terms of a specific plan enacted prior to December 31, 1981, the terms of the specific plan shall prevail. The terms of this subdivision shall not apply within the boundaries of the Century City North Specific Plan.

**19. Dwelling Adjacent to An Equinekeeping Use. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, the City shall not issue a building permit for a residential building (excluding non-habitable rooms) that is less than 35 feet from a legally established equine use, unless the Zoning Administrator makes an exception in accordance with Section 12.24 X.5.

**20. Adult Entertainment Businesses. (Amended by Ord. No. 161,111, Eff. 5/18/86.)**

**(a) Exceptions from Section 12.70 C.**

(i) A person may establish and maintain, or continue to operate, an adult entertainment business on a lot within 500 feet of an “A” or “R” Zone, or within the “CR”, “C1” or “C1.5” Zones, if a site consistent with Section 12.70 C. is not reasonably available elsewhere in the City for the establishment or relocation of the subject adult entertainment business. This exception shall only apply to an adult entertainment business which is otherwise in compliance with all other provisions of this chapter including Section 12.70 C.

A site is “**reasonably available**” elsewhere in the City if it meets all of the following criteria:

(1) Its use as the proposed adult entertainment business is consistent with all applicable zoning regulations, including Section 12.70 C.

(2) It is available for use, purchase, or rental as an adult entertainment business.

(3) It has adequate street access, street lighting, and sidewalks.

(4) It is at least 500 feet away from any uses which are or may become obnoxious or offensive by reason of emission of odor, dust, smoke, noise, gas, fumes, cinders, refuse matter or water carried waste.

This exception shall not apply to massage parlors or sexual encounter establishments.

(ii) **(Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** To apply for an exception, an applicant shall file an application with the Department of City Planning, on a form provided by the Department, identifying the present or proposed location of the adult entertainment business, and accompanied by data supporting the proposed exception and the fee provided for in Section 19.01 of this Code.

The procedures described in Section 12.24 shall be followed to the extent applicable. However, a hearing shall be held and a decision made within 60 days from the date of filing of an application. This time limit may be extended by mutual written consent of the applicant and the Zoning Administrator. An exception shall be approved if it meets the requirements of Subparagraph (i) above.

An appeal from the determination of the Zoning Administrator on whether a proposed exception meets the requirements of Subparagraph (i) may be taken to the Area Planning Commission in the same manner as prescribed in Section 12.24 I. The Area Planning Commission's decision may be appealed to the City Council. The appeal to the Council shall follow the procedures set forth in Section 12.24 I. However, a decision on any appeal shall be made within 30 days of the expiration of the appeal period. This time limit may be extended by mutual written consent of the applicant and the Area Planning Commission or Council, whichever then has jurisdiction over the appeal.

If the Zoning Administrator, Area Planning Commission or Council disapproves an exception, then it shall make findings of fact showing how a site consistent with Section 12.70 C. is reasonably available elsewhere in the City for the establishment or relocation of the subject adult entertainment business.

**(b) Extensions of the Section 12.70 C. Amortization Period.**

(i) An adult entertainment business existing on March 6, 1986 and operating within 500 feet of a lot in an "A" Zone of "R" Zone or, within the "CR", "C1", or "C1.5" Zones may be continued, as specified below:

(1) If the adult entertainment business is otherwise in compliance with all other provisions of this chapter including Section 12.70 C.; and

(2) If the adult entertainment business is subject to a written lease, entered into prior to March 6, 1986, with a termination date extending beyond March 6, 1988, then the adult entertainment business may continue until the expiration of the present term of

the lease but no later than March 6, 1991; or

(3) If the adult entertainment business invokes the investment of money in real property, improvements, or stocks in trade such that a termination date beyond March 6, 1988 is necessary to prevent undue financial hardship, then it may be continued until March 6, 1991.

(ii) **(Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** To apply for an extension of time, an applicant shall file an application with the Department of City Planning, on a form provided by the Department, identifying the present or proposed location of the adult entertainment business, and accompanied by data supporting the extension request and the fee provided for in Section 19.01 of this Code. An extension shall be approved if it meets the requirements of Subparagraph (i) above.

The procedures described in Section 12.24 shall be followed to the extent applicable. However, a hearing shall be held and a decision made within 60 days from the date of filing. This time limit may be extended by mutual written consent of the applicant and the Zoning Administrator.

An appeal from the determination of the Zoning Administrator on whether a proposed exception meets the requirements of Subparagraph (i) may be taken to the Area Planning Commission in the same manner as prescribed in Section 12.24I. The Area Planning Commission's decision may be appealed to the City Council. The appeal to the Council shall follow the procedures set forth in Section 12.24I. However, a decision on any appeal shall be made within 30 days of the expiration of the appeal period. This time limit may be extended by mutual written consent of the applicant and the Area Planning Commission or Council, whichever then has jurisdiction over the appeal.

If the Zoning Administrator, Area Planning Commission or Council disapproves an extension, then it shall make findings of fact showing how the proposed extension fails to meet the requirements of Subparagraph (i).

21. **(Deleted by Ord. No. 171,687, Eff. 8/19/97.)**

22. **(Deleted by Ord. No. 170,752, Eff. 12/14/95.)**

23. **Mini-Shopping Centers and Commercial Corner Development. (Amended by Ord. No. 175,223, Eff. 6/30/03.)** If the requirements set forth in Paragraph (a) and the conditions set forth in Paragraph (b) of this subdivision are met, and the proposed use or uses are not enumerated in Section 12.24 W.27., then a conditional use approval pursuant to Section 12.24 W.27. shall not be required for any new use, change of use or addition of

floor area to a Mini-Shopping Center or a Commercial Corner Development.

(a) **Development Standards.**

(1) **Height.** Buildings or structures located in Height District Nos. 1 and 1-L shall not exceed a maximum height of 45 feet. However, buildings or structures shall comply with the provisions of Section 12.21.1 A.10., “Transitional Height,” of this Code.

(2) **Front Yard.** The front yard requirements set forth in Sections 12.12.2 C., 12.13 C.1. and 12.13.5 B.1. of this Code shall not apply to Mini-Shopping Centers or Commercial Corner Developments.

(3) **Windows.** The exterior walls and doors of a ground floor containing non- residential uses that front adjacent streets shall consist of at least fifty percent transparent windows, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

(4) **Parking.**

(i) Notwithstanding Section 12.21 A.5.(h) of this Code to the contrary, no tandem parking shall be permitted, except those spaces reserved exclusively for residential use.

(ii) Bicycle parking shall be provided as required by Section 12.21 A.16. of this Code.

(iii) Parking in the Downtown Business District shall be provided as required by Section 12.21 A.4.(i) of this Code.

(5) **Lighting.** All public areas of the lot or lots not covered by a building shall have night lighting for safety and security. All other open exterior areas, such as walkways and trash areas, shall have low-level, security-type lighting. All exterior lighting shall be directed onto the lot or lots, and all flood lighting shall be designed to eliminate glare to adjoining properties. All parking areas shall have a minimum of 3/4 foot-candle of flood lighting measured at the pavement.

(6) **Signs.**

(i) In addition to the requirements set forth in Division 62 of this Code, no person shall erect on the lot or lots the following signs, as defined in Section 91.6203 of this Code without first obtaining a conditional use permit: pole signs; projecting signs; or roof signs.



(ii) Monument signs and information signs shall be located only within the landscape-planted areas of the lot or lots.

(7) **Utilities.** All new utility lines which directly service the lot or lots shall be installed underground. If underground service is not currently available, then provisions shall be made for future underground service.

(8) **Walls and Trash Storage.** A solid masonry wall at least six feet in height shall be erected along the lot lines of the lot or lots where the lot or lots abut or are across an alley from any residential zone or use, except for that portion of the lot line where an access driveway is required by the City. Trash storage bins shall be located within a gated, covered enclosure constructed of materials identical to the exterior wall materials of the building.

(9) **Recycling Area or Room.** Every Mini-Shopping Center or Commercial Corner Development shall conform to the requirements of Section 12.21 A.19.(c) of this Code.

(10) **Landscaping.** All landscaping shall comply with Sections 12.41, 12.42 and 12.43 of this Code and the following requirements:

(i) **Landscaping - Setback. (Amended by Ord. No. 177,103, Eff. 12/18/05.)** A landscaped, planted area having a minimum inside width of five feet shall be required along all street frontages of the lot and on the perimeters of all parking areas of the lot or lots which abut a residential zone or use.

Notwithstanding the above, in the Downtown Business District as defined in Section 12.21 A.4.(i) of this Code, a landscape (planted) area having a minimum inside width of five feet shall be required on the perimeters of all parking areas of the lot which abut a residential zone or use.

(ii) **Irrigation System.** An automatic irrigation system shall be provided for all landscaped areas. This system shall be installed prior to the issuance of any certificate of occupancy.

(b) **Conditions of Operation.** A Mini-Shopping Center or a Commercial Corner Development shall comply with the following conditions:

(1) **Maintenance.** The condition of the lot or lots, including but not limited to parking areas, exterior walls, required lighting, and landscaped areas, shall at all times be maintained in a safe and sanitary condition and

in a state of good repair. Exterior wall surfaces shall at all times be kept free from graffiti and any marks of vandalism.

(2) **Debris Removal.** The lot or lots shall at all times be kept clear of weeds, rubbish, and all types of litter and combustible materials. Trash receptacles shall be located throughout the open areas of the lot or lots.

(3) **Hours.** Parking lot cleaning and sweeping, and trash collections from and deliveries to a Mini-Shopping Center or Commercial Corner Development, shall occur no earlier than 7 a.m., nor later than 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and no earlier than 10 a.m., nor later than 4 p.m., on Saturdays and Sundays.

(4) **Landscape Maintenance.** Maintenance of landscaped areas shall include continuous operations of watering, removal of weeds, mowing, trimming, edging, cultivation, reseeding, plant replacement, fertilization, spraying, control of pests, insects, and rodents, or other operations necessary to assure normal plant growth. All trees, shrubs and ground cover shall be maintained as healthy and vigorous at all times. Irrigation systems, installed pursuant to the requirements in Subsubparagraph (a)(10)(ii) above shall be continuously maintained in accordance with Section 12.41 B.5. of this Code.

(5) **Covenant.** Prior to the issuance of a building permit or land use permit, the owner of the lot or lots shall execute and record a covenant and agreement in a form satisfactory to the Director of Planning, acknowledging that the owner shall implement each of the conditions set forth in Paragraph (b) of this subdivision, and shall not permit the erection of any of the signs enumerated in Paragraph (a)(6) of this subdivision or the establishment of any uses enumerated in Section 12.24 W.27. of this Code without first obtaining a conditional use approval. The covenant and agreement shall run with the land and be binding upon the owners, and any assignees, lessees, heirs, and successors of the owners. The City's right to enforce the covenant and agreement is in addition to any other remedy provided by law.

**(c) Existing Building Changed to Mini-Shopping Center or Commercial Corner Development.**

(1) An existing building or buildings may be converted to a Mini-Shopping Center or to a Commercial Corner Development without first obtaining a conditional use approval if all of the following requirements are met:

(i) all alterations result in no more than a twenty percent

increase in the existing floor area of all of the buildings on a lot or lots;

(ii) the proposed Mini-Shopping Center or the Commercial Corner Development use or uses are not enumerated in Section 12.24 W.27.;

(iii) no sign identified in Paragraph (a)(6) of this subdivision shall be erected on the site; and

(iv) the proposed Mini-Shopping Center or the Commercial Corner Development complies with the conditions of operation of Paragraph (b) of this subdivision.

(2) For an existing Mini-Shopping Center, or existing Commercial Corner Development use, no person shall establish as a new use, any of the uses enumerated in Section 12.24 W.27. of this subdivision without first obtaining a conditional use approval.

(d) **Exemptions.** The following Projects shall not be subject to this subdivision:

(1) A Mixed Use Project as defined in Section 13.09 B.3. that consists of predominantly residential uses and does not contain commercial uses enumerated in Section 12.24 W.27.;

(2) Adaptive Reuse Projects as defined in Section 12.22 A.26.; and

(3) Libraries, governmental offices, police stations, fire stations, and other government owned related facilities or uses.

(e) **Specific Plan Compliance.** If, as determined by the Director of Planning or his/her designee, the provisions of this Section conflict with those of an adopted Specific Plan, then the provisions of the Specific Plan shall prevail.

**24. Mobile Medical Facilities and Bloodmobiles. (Added by Ord. No. 166,045, Eff. 8/17/90.)**

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, any mobile medical facility may operate once a month for no more than 72 consecutive hours, in any single established parking area, in the P, PB, CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4, CM, M1, M2 and M3 Zones, provided the parking area meets all requirements of the Municipal Code for a parking area and the operation of the facility does not obstruct any driveway access aisle or required parking space.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the article to the contrary, any bloodmobile may operate once a month for no more than 72 consecutive hours, in any single established parking area in any zone, provided the parking area meets all requirements of the Municipal Code for a parking area and the operation of the bloodmobile does not obstruct any driveway access aisle or required parking space.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, any mobile medical facility may operate once a week for no more than 72 consecutive hours, in any single established hospital parking area, in the P, PB, CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4, CM, M1, M2 and M3 zones, provided the parking area meets all requirements of the Municipal Code for a parking area and the operation of the facility does not obstruct any driveway access aisle or required parking space. **(Added by Ord. No. 170,161, Eff. 1/16/95.)**

**25. Affordable Housing Incentives - Density Bonus. (Amended by Ord. No. 179,681, Eff. 4/15/08.)**

(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this subdivision is to establish procedures for implementing State Density Bonus requirements, as set forth in California Government Code Sections 65915-65918, and to increase the production of affordable housing, consistent with City policies.

(b) **Definitions.** Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, the following definitions shall apply to this subdivision:

**Affordable Housing Incentives Guidelines** - the guidelines approved by the City Planning Commission under which Housing Development Projects for which a Density Bonus has been requested are evaluated for compliance with the requirements of this subdivision.

**Area Median Income (AMI)** - the median income in Los Angeles County as determined annually by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) or any successor agency, adjusted for household size.

**Density Bonus** - a density increase over the otherwise maximum allowable residential density under the applicable zoning ordinance and/or specific plan granted pursuant to this subdivision.

**Density Bonus Procedures** - procedures to implement the City's Density Bonus program developed by the Departments of Building and Safety, City Planning and Housing.

**Disabled Person** - a person who has a physical or mental impairment

that limits one or more major life activities, anyone who is regarded as having that type of an impairment or, anyone who has a record of having that type of an impairment.

**Floor Area Ratio** - the multiplier applied to the total buildable area of the lot to determine the total floor area of all buildings on a lot.

**Housing Development Project** - the construction of five or more new residential dwelling units, the addition of five or more residential dwelling units to an existing building or buildings, the remodeling of a building or buildings containing five or more residential dwelling units, or a mixed use development in which the residential floor area occupies at least fifty percent of the total floor area of the building or buildings. For the purpose of establishing the minimum number of five dwelling units, Restricted Affordable Units shall be included and density bonus units shall be excluded.

**Incentive** - a modification to a City development standard or requirement of Chapter I of this Code (zoning).

**Income, Very Low, Low or Moderate** - annual income of a household that does not exceed the amounts designated for each income category as determined by HCD or any successor agency.

**Residential Hotel** - any building containing six or more Guest Rooms or Efficiency Dwelling Units, which are intended or designed to be used, or are used, rented, or hired out to be occupied, or are occupied for sleeping purposes by guests, so long as the Guest Rooms or Efficiency Dwelling Units are also the primary residence of those guests, but not including any building containing six or more Guest Rooms or Efficiency Dwelling Units, which is primarily used by transient guests who do not occupy that building as their primary residence.

**Residential Unit** - a dwelling unit or joint living and work quarters; a mobilehome, as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 18008; a mobile home lot in a mobilehome park, as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 18214; or a Guest Room or Efficiency Dwelling Unit in a Residential Hotel.

**Restricted Affordable Unit** - a residential unit for which rental or mortgage amounts are restricted so as to be affordable to and occupied by Very Low, Low or Moderate Income households, as determined by the Housing and Community Investment Department. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

**Senior Citizens** - individuals who are at least 62 years of age, except that for projects of at least 35 units that are subject to this subdivision, a threshold of 55 years of age may be used, provided all applicable City, state and federal regulations are met.

**Senior Citizen Housing Development**- a Housing Development Project for senior citizens that has at least 35 units.

**Specific Adverse Impact** - a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.

**Transit Stop/Major Employment Center** - any one of the following:

(1) A station stop for a fixed transit guideway or a fixed rail system that is currently in use or whose location is proposed and for which a full funding contract has been signed by all funding partners, or one for which a resolution to fund a preferred alignment has been adopted by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority or its successor agency; or

(2) A Metro Rapid Bus stop located along a Metro Rapid Bus route; or, for a Housing Development Project consisting entirely of Restricted Affordable Units, any bus stop located along a Metro Rapid Bus route; or

(3) The boundaries of the following three major economic activity areas, identified in the General Plan Framework Element: Downtown, LAX and the Port of Los Angeles; or

(4) The boundaries of a college or university campus with an enrollment exceeding 10,000 students.

(c) **Density Bonus.** Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, the following provisions shall apply to the grant of a Density Bonus for a Housing Development Project:

(1) **For Sale or Rental Housing with Low or Very Low Income Restricted Affordable Units.** A Housing Development Project that includes 10% of the total units of the project for Low Income households or 5% of the total units of the project for Very Low Income households, either in rental units or for sale units, shall be granted a minimum Density Bonus of 20%, which may be applied to any part of the Housing Development Project. The bonus may be increased according to the

percentage of affordable housing units provided, as follows, but shall not exceed 35%:

<b>Percentage Low Income Units</b>	<b>Percentage Density Bonus</b>
10	20
11	21.5
12	23
13	24.5
14	26
15	27.5
16	29
17	30.5
18	32
19	33.5
20	35

<b>Percentage Very Low Income Units</b>	<b>Percentage Density Bonus</b>
5	20
6	22.5
7	25
8	27.5
9	30
10	32.5
11	35

(2) **For Sale or Rental Senior Citizen Housing (Market Rate).** A Senior Citizen Housing Development or a mobile- home park that limits residency based on age requirements for housing for older persons pursuant to California Civil Code Sections 798.76 or 799.5 shall be granted a minimum Density Bonus of 20%.

(3) **(Deleted by Ord. No. 181,142, Eff. 6/1/10.)**

(4) **A Common Interest Develop-ment That Includes Moderate Income Restricted Affordable Units.** (Amended by Ord. No. 181,142,

**Eff. 6/1/10.)** A common interest development as defined in Section 1351 of the Civil Code that includes at least 10% of its units for Moderate Income households shall be granted a minimum Density Bonus of 5%. The bonus may be increased according to the percentage of affordable housing units provided, as follows, but shall not exceed 35%:

<b>Percentage Moderate Income Units</b>	<b>Percentage Density Bonus</b>
10	5
11	6
12	7
13	8
14	9
15	10
16	11
17	12
18	13
19	14
20	15
21	16
22	17
23	18
24	19
25	20
26	21
27	22
28	23
29	24
30	25
31	26
32	27
33	28
34	29
35	30
36	31
37	32



38	33
39	34
40	35

(5) **Land Donation.** An applicant for a subdivision, parcel map or other residential development approval that donates land for housing to the City of Los Angeles satisfying the criteria of California Government Code Section 65915(h)(2), as verified by the Department of City Planning, shall be granted a minimum Density Bonus of 15%.

(6) **Child Care.** A Housing Development Project that conforms to the requirements of Subparagraphs (1), (2), (3), (4) or (5) of this paragraph and includes a child care facility located on the premises of, as part of, or adjacent to, the project, shall be granted either of the following:

(i) an additional Density Bonus that is, for purposes of calculating residential density, an increase in the floor area of the project equal to the floor area of the child care facility included in the project.

(ii) An additional Incentive that contributes significantly to the economic feasibility of the construction of the child care facility.

(7) **Fractional Units.** In calculating Density Bonus and Restricted Affordable units, any number resulting in a fraction shall be rounded up to the next whole number.

(8) **Other Discretionary Approval.** Approval of Density Bonus units shall not, in and of itself, trigger other discretionary approvals required by the Code.

(9) **Other Affordable Housing Subsidies.** Approval of Density Bonus units does not, in and of itself, preclude projects from receipt of other government subsidies for affordable housing.

(10) **Additional Option for Restricted Affordable Units located near Transit Stop/Major Employment Center.** In lieu of providing the requisite number of Restricted Affordable Units in a Housing Development Project located in or within 1,500 feet of a Transit Stop/Major Employment Center that would otherwise be required under this subdivision, an applicant may opt to provide a greater number of smaller units, provided that:

(i) the total number of units in the Housing Development

Project including Density Bonus units does not exceed the maximum permitted by this subdivision;

(ii) the square footage of the aggregate smaller Restricted Affordable units is equal to or greater than the square footage of the aggregate Restricted Affordable Units that would otherwise be required under this subdivision;

(iii) the smaller Restricted Affordable units are distributed throughout the building and have proportionally the same number of bedrooms as the market rate units; and

(iv) the smaller Restricted Affordable Units meet the minimum unit size requirements established by the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program as administered by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC).

**(11) Common Interest Development with Low or Very Low Income restricted Affordable Units for Rent.** In a common interest development as defined in California Government Code Section 1351, such as a condominium, Restricted Affordable Units may be for sale or for rent.

**(12) Condominium Conversion.** A Housing Development Project that involves the conversion of apartments into condominiums and that includes 33 percent of its units restricted to households of Low or Moderate income or 15 percent of its units restricted to households of Very Low Income shall be granted a Density Bonus of 25 percent or up to three incentives as provided in Paragraph (e) of this subdivision.

**(d) Parking in a Housing Development Project.** Required parking spaces for a Housing Development Project that is for sale or for rent and qualifies for a Density Bonus and complies with this subdivision may be provided by complying with whichever of the following options requires the least amount of parking: applicable parking provisions of Section 12.21 A.4. of this Code, or Parking Option 1 or Parking Option 2, below. Required parking in a Housing Development Project that qualifies for a Density Bonus may be sold or rented separately from the dwelling units, so that buyers and tenants have the option of purchasing or renting a unit without a parking space. The separate sale or rental of a dwelling unit and a parking space shall not cause the rent or purchase price of a Restricted Affordable Unit (or the parking space) to be greater than it would otherwise have been.

**(1) Parking Option 1.** Required parking for all residential units in the Housing Development Project (not just the restricted units), inclusive of

handicapped and guest parking, shall be reduced to the following requirements:

- (i) For each Residential Unit of 0-1 bedroom: 1 on-site parking space.
- (ii) For each Residential Unit of 2-3 bedrooms: 2 on-site parking spaces.
- (iii) For each Residential Unit of 4 or more bedrooms: 2-1/2 on-site parking spaces.

(2) **Parking Option 2.** Required parking for the Restricted Affordable Units only shall be reduced as set forth in Subparagraphs (i) and (ii) below. Required parking for all other non-restricted units in the Housing Development Project shall comply with applicable provisions of Section 12.21 of this Code.

- (i) One parking space per Restricted Affordable Unit, except:
  - a. 0.5 parking space for each dwelling unit restricted to Low or Very Low Income Senior Citizens or Disabled Persons; and/or
  - b. 0.25 parking space for each Restricted Affordable Unit in a Residential Hotel.
- (ii) Up to 40% of the required parking for the Restricted Affordable Units may be provided by compact stalls.

(e) **Incentives.**

(1) In addition to the Density Bonus and parking options identified in Paragraphs (c) and (d) of this subdivision, a Housing Development Project that qualifies for a Density Bonus shall be granted the number of Incentives set forth in the table below.

Number of Incentives	Required Percentage* of Units Restricted for Very Low Income Households	Required Percentage* of Units Restricted for Low Income Households	Required Percentage* of Units Restricted for Moderate Income Households (For Sale Only)
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One Incentive	5%	or	10%	or	10%
Two Incentives	10%	or	20%	or	20%
Three Incentives	15%	or	30%	or	30%

\* Excluding Density Bonus units.

(2) To be eligible for any on-menu incentives, a Housing Development Project (other than an Adaptive Reuse project) shall comply with the following:

(i) The facade of any portion of a building that abuts a street shall be articulated with a change of material or with a break in plane, so that the facade is not a flat surface.

(ii) All buildings must be oriented to the street by providing entrances, windows, architectural features and/or balconies on the front and along any street-facing elevations.

(iii) The Housing Development Project shall not be a contributing structure in a designated Historic Preservation Overlay Zone and shall not be on the City of Los Angeles list of Historical-Cultural Monuments.

(iv) The Housing Development Project shall not be located on a substandard street in a Hillside Area or in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone as established in Section 57.25.01 of this Code.

(f) **Menu of Incentives.** Housing Development Projects that meet the qualifications of Paragraph (e) of this subdivision may request one or more of the following Incentives, as applicable:

(1) **Yard/Setback.** Up to 20% decrease in the required width or depth of any individual yard or setback except along any property line that abuts an R1 or more restrictively zoned property provided that the landscaping for the Housing Development Project is sufficient to qualify for the number of landscape points equivalent to 10% more than otherwise required by Section 12.40 of this Code and Landscape Ordinance Guidelines "O."

(2) **Lot Coverage.** Up to 20% increase in lot coverage limits, provided that the landscaping for the Housing Development Project is sufficient to qualify for the number of landscape points equivalent to 10% more than otherwise required by Section 12.40 of this Code and Landscape Ordinance Guidelines "O".

(3) **Lot Width.** Up to 20% decrease from a lot width requirement, provided that the landscaping for the Housing Development Project is sufficient to qualify for the number of landscape points equivalent to 10% more than otherwise required by Section 12.40 of this Code and Landscape Ordinance Guidelines “O”.

(4) **Floor Area Ratio.**

(i) A percentage increase in the allowable Floor Area Ratio equal to the percentage of Density Bonus for which the Housing Development Project is eligible, not to exceed 35%; or

(ii) In lieu of the otherwise applicable Floor Area Ratio, a Floor Area Ratio not to exceed 3:1, provided the parcel is in a commercial zone in Height District 1 (including 1VL, 1L and 1XL), and fronts on a Major Highway as identified in the City’s General Plan, and

a. the Housing Development Project includes the number of Restricted Affordable Units sufficient to qualify for a 35% Density Bonus, and

b. 50% or more of the commercially zoned parcel is located in or within 1,500 feet of a Transit Stop/Major Employment Center.

A Housing Development Project in which at least 80% of the units in a rental project are Restricted Affordable Units or in which 45% of the units in a for-sale project are Restricted Affordable Units shall be exempt from the requirement to front on a Major Highway.

(5) **Height.** A percentage increase in the height requirement in feet equal to the percentage of Density Bonus for which the Housing Development Project is eligible. This percentage increase in height shall be applicable over the entire parcel regardless of the number of underlying height limits. For purposes of this subparagraph, Section 12.21.1 A.10. of this Code shall not apply.

(i) In any zone in which the height or number of stories is limited, this height increase shall permit a maximum of eleven additional feet or one additional story, whichever is lower, to provide the Restricted Affordable Units.

(a) No additional height shall be permitted for that portion of a of a building in a Housing Development Project that is located within fifteen feet of a lot classified in the R2 Zone.

(b) For each foot of additional height the building shall be set back one horizontal foot.

(ii) No additional height shall be permitted for that portion of a building in a Housing Development Project that is located within 50 feet of a lot classified in an R1 or more restrictive residential zone.

(iii) No additional height shall be permitted for any portion of a building in a Housing Development Project located on a lot sharing a common lot line with or across an alley from a lot classified in an R1 or more restrictive zone. This prohibition shall not apply if the lot on which the Housing Development Project is located is within 1,500 feet of a Transit Stop but no additional height shall be permitted for that portion of a building in the Housing Development Project that is located within 50 feet of a lot classified in an R1 or more restrictive residential zone.

(6) **Open Space.** Up to 20% decrease from an open space requirement, provided that the landscaping for the Housing Development Project is sufficient to qualify for the number of landscape points equivalent to 10% more than otherwise required by Section 12.40 of this Code and Landscape Ordinance Guidelines “O”.

(7) **Density Calculation.** The area of any land required to be dedicated for street or alley purposes may be included as lot area for purposes of calculating the maximum density permitted by the underlying zone in which the project is located.

(8) **Averaging of Floor Area Ratio, Density, Parking or Open Space, and permitting Vehicular Access.** A Housing Development Project that is located on two or more contiguous parcels may average the floor area, density, open space and parking over the project site, and permit vehicular access from a less restrictive zone to a more restrictive zone, provided that:

(i) the Housing Development Project includes 11% or more of the units as Restricted Affordable Units for Very Low Income households, or 20% of the units for Low Income households, or 30% of the units for Moderate Income households; and

(ii) the proposed use is permitted by the underlying zone(s) of each parcel; and

(iii) no further lot line adjustment or any other action that may cause the Housing Development Project site to be subdivided subsequent to this grant shall be permitted.

(g) **Procedures.**

(1) **Density Bonus and Parking.** Housing Development Projects requesting a Density Bonus without any Incentives (which includes a Density Bonus with only parking requirements in accordance with Paragraphs (c) and (d) of this subdivision) shall be considered ministerial and follow the Affordable Housing Incentives Guidelines and the Density Bonus Procedures. No application for these projects need be filed with the City Planning Department.

(2) **Requests for Incentives on the Menu.**

(i) The applicant for Housing Development Projects that qualify for a Density Bonus and that request up to three Incentives on the Menu of Incentives in Paragraph (f) of this subdivision, and which require no other discretionary actions, the following procedures shall apply:

a. **Application.** The request shall be made on a form provided by the Department of City Planning, as set forth in Section 11.5.7 B.2.(a) of this Code, accompanied by applicable fees.

b. **Authority. (Amended by Ord. No. 182,106, Eff. 5/20/12.)** The Director shall be the initial decision maker for applications seeking on Menu incentives.

**EXCEPTION:** When the application is filed as part of a project requiring multiple approvals, the initial decision maker shall be as set forth in Section 12.36 of this Code; and when the application is filed in conjunction with a subdivision and no other approval, the Advisory Agency shall be the initial decision-maker.

c. **Action.** The Director shall approve a Density Bonus and requested Incentive(s) unless the Director finds that:

(i) The Incentive is not required in order to provide for affordable housing costs as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 50052.5, or Section 50053 for rents for the affordable units; or

(ii) The Incentive will have a Specific Adverse Impact upon public health and safety or the physical environment or on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the Specific Adverse Impact



without rendering the development unaffordable to Very Low, Low and Moderate Income households. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety.

d. **Transmittal of Written Decision.** Within three business days of making a decision, the Director shall transmit a copy by First Class Mail to the applicant and to all owners of properties abutting, across the street or alley from, or having a common corner with the subject property, and to the local Certified Neighborhood Council.

e. **Effective Date of Initial Decision.** The Director's decision shall become effective after an elapsed period of 15 calendar days from the date of the mailing of the written decision unless an appeal is filed to the City Planning Commission.

f. **Appeals. (Amended by Ord. No. 182,106, Eff. 5/20/12.)** An applicant or any owner or tenant of a property abutting, across the street or alley from, or having a common corner with the subject property aggrieved by the Director's decision may appeal the decision to the City Planning Commission pursuant to applicable procedures set forth in Section 11.5.7 C.6. of this Code that are not in

conflict with the provisions of this paragraph (g)(2)(i). The appeal shall include a filing fee pursuant to Section 19.01 B. of this Code. Before acting on any appeal, the City Planning Commission shall set the matter for hearing, with written notice of the hearing sent by First Class Mail at least ten days prior to the meeting date to: the applicant; the owner(s) of the property involved; and the interested parties who have requested notice in writing. The appeal shall be placed on the agenda for the first available meeting date of the City Planning Commission and acted upon within 60 days from the last day of the appeal period. The City Planning Commission may reverse or modify, in whole or in part, a decision of the Director. The City Planning Commission shall make the same findings required to be made by the Director, supported by facts in the record, and indicate why the Director erred making the determination.

**EXCEPTION:** When the application is filed as part of a project requiring multiple approvals, the appeals procedures set forth in Section 12.36 of this Code shall govern. When the application is filed in conjunction with a Parcel Map and no other approval, the appeals procedures set forth in Section 17.54 of this Code shall govern. When the application is filed in conjunction with a tentative map and no other approval, the appeals procedures set forth in Section 17.06 A.3. of this Code shall govern, provided that such applications shall only be appealable to the Appeal Board, as defined in Section 17.02 of this Code, and shall not be subject to further appeal to the City's legislative body.

(ii) For Housing Development Projects that qualify for a Density Bonus and for which the applicant requests up to three Incentives listed in Paragraph (f), above, and that require other discretionary actions, the applicable procedures set forth in Section 12.36 of this Code shall apply.

a. The decision must include a separate section clearly labeled “Density Bonus/ Affordable Housing Incentives Program Determination”.

b. The decision-maker shall approve a Density Bonus and requested Incentive(s) unless the decision-maker, based upon substantial evidence, makes either of the two findings

set forth in Subparagraph (2)(i)(c), above.

**(3) Requests for Waiver or Modification of any Development Standard(s) Not on the Menu.**

(i) For Housing Development Projects that qualify for a Density Bonus and for which the applicant request a waiver or modification of any development standard(s) that is not included on the Menu of Incentives in Paragraph (f), above, and that are not subject to other discretionary applications, the following shall apply:

a. The request shall be made on a form provided by the Department of City Planning, accompanied by applicable fees, and shall include a pro forma or other documentation to show that the waiver or modification of any development standard(s) are needed in order to make the Restricted Affordable Units economically feasible.

b. **Notice and Hearing.** The application shall follow the procedures for conditional uses set forth in Section 12.24 D. of this Code. A public hearing shall be held by the City Planning Commission or its designee. The decision of the City Planning Commission shall be final.

c. The City Planning Commission shall approve a Density Bonus and requested waiver or modification of any development standard(s) unless the Commission, based upon substantial evidence, makes either of the two findings set forth in Subparagraph (g)(2)(i)c., above.

(ii) For Housing Development Projects requesting waiver or modification of any development standard(s) not included on the Menu of Incentives in Paragraph (f) above, and which include other discretionary applications, the following shall apply:

a. The applicable procedures set forth in Section 12.36 of this Code shall apply.

b. The decision must include a separate section clearly labeled “Density Bonus/ Affordable Housing Incentives Program Determination”.

c. The decision-maker shall approve a Density Bonus and requested waiver or modification of any development standard(s) unless the decision- maker, based upon

substantial evidence, makes either of the two findings set forth in Subparagraph (g)(2)(i)c., above.

(h) **Covenant.** Prior to issuance of a Building Permit, the following shall apply:

(1) For any Housing Development Project qualifying for a Density Bonus and that contains housing for Senior Citizens, a covenant acceptable to the Housing and Community Investment Department shall be recorded with the Los Angeles County Recorder, guaranteeing that the occupancy restriction to Senior Citizens shall be observed for at least 30 years from the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy or a longer period of time if required by the construction or mortgage financing assistance program, mortgage assistance program, or rental subsidy program. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(2) For any Housing Development Project qualifying for a Density Bonus and that contains housing for Low or Very Low Income households, a covenant acceptable to the Housing and Community Investment Department shall be recorded with the Los Angeles County Recorder, guaranteeing that the affordability criteria will be observed for at least 30 years from the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy or a longer period of time if required by the construction or mortgage financing assistance program, mortgage assistance program, or rental subsidy program. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(3) For any Housing Development Project qualifying for a Density Bonus and that contains housing for Moderate Income households for sale, a covenant acceptable to the Housing and Community Investment Department and consistent with the for sale requirements of California Government Code Section 65915(c)(2) shall be recorded with the Los Angeles County Recorder guaranteeing that the affordability criteria will be observed for at least ten years from the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(4) If the duration of affordability covenants provided for in this subdivision conflicts with the duration for any other government requirement, the longest duration shall control.

(5) Any covenant described in this paragraph must provide for a private right of enforcement by the City, any tenant, or owner of any building to which a covenant and agreement applies.

(i) **Fee Deferral.** At the option of the applicant, payment of fees may be deferred pursuant to Sections 19.01 O. and 19.05 A.1. of this Code.

(j) **Applicability.** To the extent permitted under applicable State law, if a conflict arises between the terms of this subdivision and the terms of the City’s Mello Act Settlement Agreement, Interim Administrative Procedures for Complying with the Mello Act or any subsequent permanent Mello Ordinance, Procedures or Regulations (collectively “Mello Terms”), the Mello Terms preempt this subdivision.

**26. Downtown Adaptive Reuse Projects. (Amended by Ord. No. 174,315, Eff. 12/20/01.)**

(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Subdivision is to revitalize the Greater Downtown Los Angeles Area and implement the General Plan by facilitating the conversion of older, economically distressed, or historically significant buildings to apartments, live/work units or visitor-serving facilities. This will help to reduce vacant space as well as preserve Downtown’s architectural and cultural past and encourage the development of a live/work and residential community Downtown, thus creating a more balanced ratio between housing and jobs in the region’s primary employment center. This revitalization will also facilitate the development of a “24-hour city” and encourage mixed commercial and residential uses in order to improve air quality and reduce vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled by locating residents, jobs, hotels and transit services near each other.

(b) **Application.** If the provisions of Subparagraph (2) of Paragraph (h) and of Subparagraphs (1), (2) or (3) of Paragraph (j) of this subdivision conflict with those of any specific plan, supplemental use district, “Q” condition, “D” limitation, or citywide regulation, any of which were adopted or imposed by City action prior to the effective date of this ordinance, then this Subdivision shall prevail.

(c) **Definition of Adaptive Reuse Project.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, for the purposes of this subdivision, an Adaptive Reuse Project is any change of use to dwelling units, guest rooms, or joint living and work quarters in all or any portion of any eligible building.

(d) **Eligible Buildings.** The provisions of this subdivision shall apply to Adaptive Reuse Projects in all or any portion of the following buildings in the CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4, C5, CM and R5 Zones in the Downtown Project Area:

(1) Buildings constructed in accordance with building and zoning codes in effect prior to July 1, 1974. A Certificate of Occupancy, building permit, or other suitable documentation may be submitted as evidence to verify the date of construction.

(2) Buildings constructed in accordance with building and zoning codes

in effect on or after July 1, 1974, if:

(i) Five years have elapsed since the date of issuance of final Certificates of Occupancy; and

(ii) A Zoning Administrator finds that the building is no longer economically viable in its current use or uses, pursuant to Section 12.24 X.1.(c). **(Amended by Ord. No. 175,588, Eff. 12/1/03.)**

(3) Buildings designated on the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the City of Los Angeles List of Historic-Cultural Monuments. Contributing Buildings in National Register Historic Districts or Contributing Structures in Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZ) established pursuant to Section 12.20.3 of this Code are also eligible buildings.

(e) **M Zones.** The Zoning Administrator may, upon application, permit Adaptive Reuse Projects in all or any portion of any eligible building in the MR1, MR2, M1, M2 and M3 Zones in the Downtown Project Area, pursuant to Section 12.24 X.1.(b). **(Amended by Ord. No. 175,588, Eff. 12/1/03.)**

(f) **Floor Area Averaging.** The Zoning Administrator may, upon application, permit floor area averaging in unified Adaptive Reuse Projects, pursuant to Section 12.24 X.1.(d). **(Amended by Ord. No. 175,588, Eff. 12/1/03.)**

(g) **Downtown Project Area.** The Downtown Project Area includes the following areas:

(1) The Central City Community Plan Area as shown on the General Plan of the City of Los Angeles; and

(2) All that real property in the City of Los Angeles, described by the following boundary lines: Bounded northerly by the centerline of Freeway Number 10 (commonly called the Santa Monica Freeway); bounded southerly by the centerline of Vernon Avenue; bounded easterly and southeasterly by the following centerline courses: beginning at the intersection of the Santa Monica Freeway and Grand Avenue, then southerly along Grand Avenue to the most easterly line of Freeway Number 110 (commonly called the Harbor Freeway), then southerly along that right of way to the centerline of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, then easterly along Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to the centerline of Grand Avenue, then southerly along Grand Avenue to the centerline of Vernon Avenue. Bounded westerly and northwesterly by the following centerline courses: beginning at the intersection of Vermont Avenue and Vernon Avenue, then northerly along Vermont Avenue to Jefferson

Boulevard, then easterly along Jefferson Boulevard to University Avenue, then northerly along University Avenue to 28th Street, then westerly along 28th Street to Severance Street, then northerly along Severance Street to Adams Boulevard, then westerly along Adams Boulevard to Scarff Street, then northerly along Scarff Street to 23rd Street, then southerly along 23rd Street to Bonsallo Avenue, then northerly along Bonsallo Avenue to Washington Boulevard, then westerly along Washington Boulevard to Oak Street, then northerly along Oak Street and its northerly prolongation to the Santa Monica Freeway.

(h) **Incentives.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, Adaptive Reuse Projects shall be entitled to the incentives set forth below. Except for the provision concerning mezzanines set forth in Subparagraph (1) below, these incentives shall not apply to any new floor area that is added to an Adaptive Reuse Project.

(1) **Mezzanines.** Loft spaces in joint living and work quarters, dwelling units and guest rooms which do not exceed more than 33 percent of the floor area of the space below shall not be considered new floor area. Mezzanines may be included in the calculation of floor area for the purpose of determining compliance with the standards set forth in Paragraph (i) of this subdivision.

(2) **Density.** Dwelling units, joint living and work quarters and guest rooms shall not be subject to the lot area requirements of the zone or height district.

(3) **Off-Street Automobile Parking.** The required number of parking spaces shall be the same as the number of spaces that existed on the site on June 3, 1999, and shall be maintained and not reduced. Adaptive Reuse Projects shall otherwise be exempt from the provisions of Section 12.21 A.4.(m) of this Code.

(4) **Mini-Shopping Center and Commercial Corner Development Regulations.** Adaptive Reuse Projects shall be exempt from the mini-shopping center and commercial corner development regulations set forth in Section 12.22 A.23.

(5) **Site Plan Review.** Adaptive Reuse Projects shall be exempt from the requirements for Site Plan Review set forth in Section 16.05.

(6) **Loading Space.** Where an existing loading space is provided, the provisions of Section 12.21 C.6.(h) shall apply. If no loading spaces exist, then a loading space shall not be required in conjunction with the development of an Adaptive Reuse Project.

(i) **Standards.** Adaptive Reuse Projects permitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be developed in compliance with the following standards:

(1) **Dwelling Units and Joint Living and Work Quarters.** (Amended by Ord. No. 175,588, Eff. 12/1/03.) The minimum floor area for new dwelling units and joint living and work quarters shall be 450 square feet, provided however, that the average floor area of all such units and quarters in a single eligible building, including those that existed prior to June 3, 1999, shall be at least 750 square feet. That minimum average size shall be maintained and not reduced.

Floor area, as defined in Section 12.03 of the Code, shall also not include hallways or other common areas. The floor area of both the living space and the work space shall be combined to determine the size of joint living and work quarters.

(2) **Guest Rooms.** Guest rooms shall include a toilet and bathing facilities.

(j) **Exceptions.** Notwithstanding the nonconforming provisions of Section 12.23, the following exceptions shall apply to the buildings in which Adaptive Reuse Projects are located. These exceptions shall also apply to any building in which new floor area or height was added or observed yards changed on or after July 1, 1974, as evidenced by a valid Certificate of Occupancy.

(1) **Floor Area.** Existing floor area which exceeds that permitted by the zone, height district, specific plan, supplemental use district, or any other land use regulation shall be permitted.

(2) **Height.** Existing height which exceeds that permitted by the zone, height district, specific plan, supplemental use district, or any other land use regulation shall be permitted.

(3) **Yards.** Existing observed yards which do not meet the yards required by the zone, height district, specific plan, supplemental use district, or any other land use regulation shall be permitted.

(k) **Uses.** Notwithstanding the nonconforming provisions of Section 12.23, dwelling units, guest rooms, and joint living and work quarters shall be permitted in Adaptive Reuse Projects, so long as the use is permitted by the underlying zone.

**27. Reasonable Accommodation - Fair Housing Protections for Individuals with Disabilities.** (Added by Ord. No. 177,325, Eff. 3/18/06.)



(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this provision is to establish a formal procedure for an Individual with a Disability seeking equal access to housing to request a reasonable accommodation as provided by the federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 and California's Fair Employment and Housing Act, and to establish criteria to be used when considering these requests. Reasonable accommodation means providing an Individual with a Disability or developers of housing for an Individual with a Disability, flexibility in the application of land use and zoning regulations or policies (including the modification or waiver of certain requirements), when it is necessary to eliminate barriers to housing opportunities.

(b) **Definitions.**

**Acts** - the Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 and California's Fair Employment and Housing Act.

**Individual with a Disability** - As defined under the Acts, a person who has a physical or mental impairment that limits one or more major life activities, anyone who is regarded as having that type of impairment or, anyone who has a record of that type of impairment.

(c) **Procedures.**

(1) A written request for reasonable accommodation from a land use or zoning regulation or policy shall be made on a form provided by the Department of City Planning by any Individual with a Disability, his or her representative or a developer or provider of housing for an Individual with a Disability.

(2) A request for reasonable accommodation shall state the basis of the request including but not limited to a modification or exception to the regulations, standards and practices for the siting, development and use of housing or housing related facilities that would eliminate regulatory barriers and provide an Individual with a Disability equal opportunity to housing of his or her choice.

(3) The Director may request additional information necessary for making a determination on the request for reasonable accommodation that complies with the fair housing law protections and the privacy rights of the Individual with a Disability to use the specified housing. If additional information is requested, the 45-day time period for making a determination on the request stops running until the additional information is provided.

(4) Prior to the issuance of any permits relative to an approved reasonable accommodation, the Director may require the applicant to

record a covenant in the County Recorder's Office acknowledging and agreeing to comply with the terms and conditions established in the determination. The covenant shall be required only if the Director finds that a covenant is necessary to provide notice to future owners that a reasonable accommodation has been approved.

(d) **Time to Act.**

(1) The Director shall issue a written determination to either grant, grant with modifications, or deny a request for reasonable accommodation within 45 days of the date the application is deemed complete, or within an extended period as mutually agreed upon in writing by the applicant and the Director.

(2) While a request for reasonable accommodation is pending, all laws and regulations otherwise applicable to the property that is the subject of the request shall remain in full force and effect.

(e) **Findings.** The written decision to grant, grant with modifications or deny a request for reasonable accommodation shall include the following findings:

(1) that the housing, which is the subject of the request for reasonable accommodation, will be used by an Individual with a Disability protected under the Acts;

(2) that the requested accommodation is necessary to make housing available to an Individual with a Disability protected under the Acts;

(3) that the requested accommodation would not impose an undue financial or administrative burden on the City; and

(4) that the requested accommodation would not require a fundamental alteration in the nature of the City's land use and zoning program.

(f) **Applicability.** If the Director grants the request, the request shall be granted to an individual and shall not run with the land unless the Director determines that (1) the modification is physically integrated into the residential structure and cannot easily be removed or altered to comply with the Code or (2) the accommodation is to be used by another Individual with a Disability.

(g) **Notice.** Notice of the determination shall be provided to the applicant and to abutting owners of the property, which is the subject of the request for reasonable accommodation. All written decisions shall give notice of the right to appeal and to request reasonable accommodation in the appeals process as set forth in Subsection (h), below.

(h) **Appeal of Determination.**

(1) A determination by the Director shall be final unless appealed to the City Council within 15 calendar days of the date of mailing of the determination.

(2) Only the aggrieved applicant and abutting owners who received notice of the reasonable accommodation determination have a right to appeal the decision.

(3) An appeal shall be made in writing, pursuant to procedures established in Section 12.24 I.2. through 5. of this Code.

(i) **Coastal Zone Properties.** For housing located in the Coastal Zone, a request for reasonable accommodation under this section shall be approved by the City if it is consistent with the requisite findings above, with Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act of 1976, and with the Interpretative Guidelines for Coastal Planning and Permits as established by the California Coastal Commission dated February 11, 1977, and any subsequent amendments, and, within the Venice Community Plan, with the certified Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan.

Where a request for reasonable accommodation is not consistent with the regulations identified in the paragraph above, the City may waive compliance with an otherwise applicable provision of these regulations and approve the request for reasonable accommodation if the City finds:

(1) that the requested reasonable accommodation is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the regulations identified in this subsection; and,

(2) that there are no feasible alternative means for providing an accommodation at the property that would provide greater consistency with the regulations identified in this subsection.

28. **Automotive Use. (Added by Ord. No. 178,382, Eff. 3/24/07.)** In the C2 or less restrictive zones, a new automotive use, change of use or addition of floor area to an existing automotive use may be established without first obtaining an approval pursuant to Section 12.24 W.4. of this Code if the development standards set forth in Paragraph (a) and the operating conditions set forth in Paragraph (b) of this subdivision are met. Notwithstanding the above, new automobile dealership franchises, and their associated activities, are exempt from the requirements of this subdivision.

(a) **Development Standards.**

(1) **Windows.** The exterior walls and doors of any building, excluding bay doors and/or security grills, housing an automotive use, which are parallel to a street, shall consist of at least 50 percent transparent windows, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

(2) **Bay Doors.** Bay doors or vehicle entrances, exits and openings shall not face any school, lot with a Certificate of Occupancy for a one-family dwelling, multiple-family dwelling, or mixed use project containing a residential use, or A or R zone that is within 100-feet from the face of the building containing the bay door, vehicle entrance, exit or opening.

(3) **Wash Rack.** Every wash rack shall be constructed or arranged so that entrances, exits and openings shall not face any school, lot with a Certificate of Occupancy for a one-family dwelling, multiple-family dwelling, or mixed use project containing a residential use, or A or R zone within 100-feet of the side of the building containing the bay door, vehicle entrance, exit or opening.

(4) **Fences.** Fences or walls erected along the front lot line shall not exceed 36-inches in height.

(5) **Automotive hoists.** Automotive hoists of any type or size, shall be located and operated only inside a building enclosed on at least three sides.

(6) **Signs.**

(i) In addition to the requirements set forth in Sections 91.6201 et seq. of this Code, no person shall erect a pole sign or projecting sign, as defined in Section 91.6203 of this Code, on the lot or lots without first obtaining a conditional use permit pursuant to Section 12.24 W.4. of this Code.

(ii) Monument signs and information signs may only be located within the landscape-planted areas of the lot or lots.

(7) **Utilities.** All new utility lines which directly service the lot or lots shall be installed underground. If underground service is not available at the time the application is submitted and fees paid for plan check, then provisions should be made for future underground service to the satisfaction of the Bureau of Engineering, if determined necessary by the Department of Water and Power.

(8) **Walls and Trash Storage.** A solid masonry wall at least six feet in

height shall be erected along the lot lines of the lot or lots where the lot or lots abut or are across an alley from any school, lot with a Certificate of Occupancy for a one-family dwelling, multiple-family dwelling, or mixed use project containing a residential use, or A or R zone, except for that portion of the lot line where an access driveway is required by the City as determined by the Department of Building and Safety. Trash storage bins shall be located within a gated enclosure constructed of solid masonry and finished to match the exterior wall materials of the main building.

(9) **Landscaping.** All landscaping shall comply with Sections 12.41, 12.42 and 12.43 of this Code and the following requirements:

(i) **Landscaping - Setback.** A landscaped, planted area having a minimum width of five feet shall be required along all street frontages of the lot or lots, except for that portion of the lot line where an access driveway is required by the City as determined by the Department of Building and Safety, and on the perimeters of all parking areas of the lot or lots that abut a residential zone or use.

(ii) **Irrigation System.** An automatic irrigation system shall be provided for all landscaped, planted areas. The system shall be installed and operational prior to the issuance of any certificate of occupancy.

(10) **Lighting.** All exterior and flood lighting shall be directed onto the lot or lots and shall be designed to eliminate any glare to adjoining properties.

(b) **Operating Conditions.**

(1) Spray painting shall not be conducted.

(2) Junkyard or automobile dismantling activities shall not be conducted.

(3) Public address system shall not be permitted.

(4) Site cleaning, sweeping, trash collection, and deliveries to the site shall be limited to the following hours: Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Saturday and Sunday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Notwithstanding the above, trash collection shall not be allowed on Sundays or legal holidays.

(5) Hours of operation shall be limited to: Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM; Saturday, 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM; and Sunday, 11:00

AM to 8:00 PM.

- (6) All loading, including those of vehicles, shall occur on-site.
- (7) Vehicles being repaired shall be stored on-site. Any off-site parking shall comply with Section 12.21 A.6. of this Code.
- (8) Accessory sales activities shall not occur outside a fully enclosed building.
- (9) Trailers and/or temporary modular buildings shall not be permitted as a work area.
- (10) Arcades or game machines shall not be permitted.
- (11) Temporary canopy tents shall not be permitted when the tents are visible from the street.
- (12) The site where the automotive use is located shall be kept clear of weeds, rubbish, and all types of litter and combustible materials at all times. One trash receptacles shall be located for every 200 square feet of open space and shall be uniformly distributed throughout the open areas of the site.
- (13) Any automotive laundry or wash rack, in which power driven or steam cleaning machinery is used, shall maintain noise levels below the levels provided in Table II of Section 111.03 of this Code. The comparison between the noise emanating from the automotive laundry or wash rack and from Table II shall be made in the manner set forth in Section 111.02(a) of this Code.
- (14) Any automotive sound shop or automotive alarm shop shall be wholly conducted within a fully enclosed building. No portion of the building or its associated parking area shall be within 50 feet of any school, lot with a Certificate of Occupancy for a one-family dwelling, multiple-family dwelling, or mixed use project containing a residential use, A or R zoned lot.
- (15) All operational conditions imposed by the Department of Building and Safety in its annual inspections of automotive repair and used vehicle sales area pursuant to Section 12.26 I. of this Code shall be followed.
- (16) On-site pennants, banners, ribbons, streamers, spinners, balloons and supergraphic signs are prohibited.

(17) All windows and glass doors shall be maintained free of any signs.

(18) **Covenant.** Prior to the issuance of a building permit or land use permit, the owner of the lot or lots shall execute and record a covenant and agreement in a form satisfactory to the Director of Planning, acknowledging that the owner shall implement each of the conditions set forth in this paragraph, and shall not permit the establishment of any uses enumerated in Section 12.24 W.4. of this Code without first obtaining a conditional use approval. The covenant and agreement shall run with the land and be binding upon the owners, and any assignees, lessees, heirs, and successors of the owners. The City's right to enforce the covenant and agreement is in addition to any other remedy provided by law.

(c) **Existing Building Changed to Automotive Use and/or an Existing Automotive Use Being Expanded or Remodeled.** An existing building or buildings may be converted or an existing automotive use may be expanded without first obtaining a conditional use approval if all of the following requirements are met:

(1) All alterations result in no more than a 20 percent increase in the existing floor area of all of the buildings on a lot or lots cumulatively over the previous five years.

(2) The proposed automotive use complies with all the conditions of operation of Paragraph (b) above.

(3) Any reuse of an existing structure that is required to go through a CUP process shall have all standards established by the Zoning Administrator.

(d) **Specific Plan Compliance.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code to the contrary, if the Director determines that the provisions of this subdivision conflict with those of an adopted Specific Plan, pedestrian oriented, commercial and arcraft, community design overlay, historic preservation overlay or transit-oriented district, area or zone, then the provisions of that Specific Plan, district, area or zone shall prevail.

**29. Floor Area Bonus for the Greater Downtown Housing Incentive Area.  
(Added by Ord. No. 179,076, Eff. 9/23/07.)**

(a) **Definitions.**

**Area Median Income (AMI)** - the median income in the Los Angeles County as determined annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), or any successor agency,

adjusted for household size.

**Floor Area Bonus** - an increase in floor area greater than the otherwise maximum allowable floor area, as set forth in Section 12.21.1 of the Code.

**Income, Very Low, Low or Moderate** - annual income of a household that does not exceed amounts designated for each income category as determined by HUD, or any successor agency.

**Income, Workforce** - the annual income of a household that does not exceed 150% of the Area Median Income as determined by HUD, or any successor agency.

**Restricted Affordable Unit** - a residential unit for which rental or mortgage amounts are restricted so as to be affordable to and occupied by Very Low, Low, Moderate or Workforce Income households, as determined by the Housing and Community Investment Department.  
**(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(b) **Eligibility for Floor Area Bonus.** A residential (including Apartment Hotel and mixed-use) building in the Greater Downtown Housing Incentive Area containing the requisite number of Restricted Affordable Units as determined by the Department of City Planning and as set forth in Subparagraphs (1), (2) and (3) below shall be granted the following incentives in accordance with Paragraph (c) below:

(1) 5% of the total number of dwelling units shall be provided for Very Low Income households; and

(2) One of the following shall be provided:

(i) 10% of the total number of dwelling units for Low Income households; or

(ii) 15% of the total number of dwelling units for Moderate Income households; or

(iii) 20% of the total number of dwelling units for Workforce Income households.

(3) Any dwelling unit or guest room occupied by a household earning less than 50% of the Area Median Income that is demolished or otherwise eliminated shall be replaced on a one-for-one basis within the Community Plan Area in which it is located.



(4) Fractional Units. In calculating Restricted Affordable Units, any number resulting in a fraction shall be rounded up to the next whole number.

(c) **Incentives.**

(1) A 35% increase in total floor area. In computing the total floor area of a residential building or residential portion of a building, any public area accessible to all residents, including public common areas that serve both residential and commercial uses, and any unenclosed architectural features and areas of a building shall not be considered part of the total floor area of a residential or residential portion of a building. The floor area shall be measured to the center line of partitions separating public and non-public common areas.

(2) The open space required pursuant to Section 12.21 G. of this chapter for all dwelling units shall be reduced by one-half, provided that a fee equivalent to the amount of the relevant Quimby park and recreation fee shall be paid for all dwelling units in a project regardless of whether a park and recreation fee is otherwise required. This in-lieu fee shall be placed in a trust fund with the Department of Recreation and Parks for the purpose of acquisition, development and maintenance of open space and/or streetscape amenities within the Greater Downtown Housing Incentive Area, and within the Community Plan Area in which the project is located.

(3) No parking space shall be required for dwelling units or guest rooms dedicated to or set-aside for households that earn less than 50% of the Area Median Income as determined by the Housing and Community Investment Department. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(4) No more than one parking space (including spaces allocated for guest parking) shall be required for each dwelling unit.

(d) **Covenant.** Prior to issuance of a building permit to create a residential or mixed-use building or an Apartment Hotel, the following shall apply:

(1) For any project qualifying for a Floor Area Bonus that contains rental housing for Low, Very Low, Moderate or Workforce Income households, a covenant acceptable to the Housing and Community Investment Department shall be recorded with the Los Angeles County Recorder, guaranteeing that the affordability criteria will be observed for at least 30 years from the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy or a longer period of time if required by the construction or mortgage financing assistance program, mortgage assistance program, or rental subsidy

program. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(2) For any project qualifying for a Floor Area Bonus that contains for-sale housing for Moderate or Workforce Income households, a covenant acceptable to the Housing and Community Investment Department and consistent with the for-sale requirements of California Government Code Section 65915(c)(2) shall be recorded with the Los Angeles County Recorder. **(Amended by Ord. No. 182,718, Eff. 10/30/13.)**

(3) If the duration of affordability covenants provided for in this subdivision conflicts with the duration for any other government requirement, the longest duration shall control.

**30. Downtown Design Guide. (Added by Ord. No. 181,557, Eff. 3/15/11.)**

(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Subdivision is to implement the standards and guidelines in the Downtown Design Guide (the "Design Guide"), adopted by the City Planning Commission and incorporated as part of the Central City Community Plan, an element of the General Plan of the City of Los Angeles. Given the importance of Downtown Los Angeles as the civic, cultural, institutional, governmental, social and economic center of the region, the urban form is critical to its continued vitality and economic viability and the preservation and enhancement of its historic fabric. The Downtown Design Guide regulates projects that have the potential to affect the urban form, pedestrian orientation and street-level activity, and its implementation will ensure a quality built environment.

(b) **Definition of Project.** For the purposes of this Subdivision, a Project is the construction, erection, addition to or alteration, of any building or structure, or a use of land or change of use on a lot located in whole or in part within the areas described in Subparagraph (b) of this Subdivision and shown on the adopted ordinance map, which requires the issuance of a grading permit, foundation permit, building permit, sign permit or use of land permit.

A Project does not include any of the following: (1) demolition; (2) adaptive reuse of an existing building which conforms to Section 12.22.A.26. of this Code; (3) remodeling of designated historic resources; (4) alterations of or additions to any existing building or structure in which the aggregate value of the work, in any one 24-month period, is less than 50% of the building or structure's replacement value before the alterations or additions, as determined by the Department of Building and Safety; and (5) interior remodeling of any other existing building, unless the interior alterations are to the ground floor and will result in the alteration of windows, display windows, entrances, storefronts or otherwise minimize ground floor transparency.

(c) **Downtown Design Guide.** Every project within the Project Area must comply with the Downtown Design Guide standards and guidelines. The Director shall have the authority to review projects for compliance with the Downtown Design Guide prior to the issuance of a building permit in the Project Area.

(1) **Exception.** Projects conforming to the Downtown Design Guide shall be exempt from the mini-shopping center and commercial corner development regulations set forth in Section 12.22 A.23. of this Code.

(d) **Administrative Clearance - Authority of the Director for Sign Off.**

(1) **Application, Form and Contents.** To apply for an Administrative Clearance, an applicant shall file an application with the Department of City Planning, on a form provided by the Department, and include all information required by the instructions on the application and any additional submission requirements. The Director shall determine if the application qualifies for Administrative Clearance and whether the Project complies with all applicable District regulations.

(2) **Application Fees.** The application fee for an Administrative Clearance shall be as set forth in Section 19.01 E. or 19.01 I. of this Code. The fee in Section 19.01 E. shall be charged for administrative clearance of new construction permits only. The fee in Section 19.01 I. shall be charged for all other building permit sign-offs.

(3) **Procedures.** Applicants for Projects that comply with the provisions of the Downtown Design Guide shall submit plans to the Director for conformance review and administrative sign off. The Director or his/her designee shall review the Project for compliance with the standards and guidelines in the Downtown Design Guide. Projects that fail to demonstrate compliance with the Downtown Design Guide shall follow relief procedures set forth below.

(e) **Adjustment - Authority of the Director with Appeals to the Area Planning Commission.** If an application fails to conform to the provisions of the Downtown Design Guide, the Director or the Director's designee shall have initial decision-making authority to grant an Adjustment in accordance with Section 11.5.7 E.1.(a) and with the procedures set forth in Section 11.5.7 C.4. - 6. of this Code.

(1) **Limitations.** An Adjustment shall be limited to deviations from regulations which do not substantially alter the execution or intent of those regulations as applicable to a proposed Project.

(2) **Findings.** The determination by the Director shall include written findings in support of the determination. In order to approve a proposed project pursuant to this subsection, the Director must find that:

(a) There are special circumstances applicable to the project or project site which make the strict application of the Design Guide regulations impractical;

(b) In granting the adjustment, the Director has imposed project requirements and/or decided that the proposed project will substantially comply with the purpose and intent of all Design Guide regulations;

(c) In granting the adjustment, the Director has considered and found no detrimental effects of the adjustment on surrounding properties and public rights-of-way;

(d) The project incorporates mitigation measures, monitoring of measures when necessary, or alternatives identified in the environmental review which would mitigate the negative environmental effects of the project, to the extent physically feasible; and

(e) The project is compatible with the neighborhood character of the surrounding district.

**B. (None)**

**C. AREA.**

1. **Building Lines** – Where a Building Line or Setback Line has been established by ordinance, the space between such Building or Setback Line and the front or side lot line may be used as the front or side yard, as the case may be, in lieu of the front or side yard required by this article.

2. **Side Yard Waived for First Story Garage** – Where a residential building is more than two stories or 28 feet in height and the first story is designed and used solely for automobile parking or other accessory purpose, the required side yard need not be increased in width for said first story; provided that the floor surface above such story is not more than seven feet above the adjacent ground elevation at any point, except that the floor surface may be eight feet above the adjacent ground elevation at the exits and entrances to the automobile parking area. **(Added by Ord. No. 109,714, Eff. 8/26/57.)**

3. **Incentives to Produce Housing in the Greater Downtown Housing Incentive Area.** **(Amended by Ord. No. 179,076, Eff. 9/23/07.)** Notwithstanding any other

provision of this chapter to the contrary, for lots in the R4, RAS4, R5, CR, C2, C4, and C5 zones in the Greater Downtown Housing Incentive Area, the following shall apply:

(a) No yard requirements shall apply except as required by the Urban Design Standards and Guidelines, prepared by the Community Redevelopment Agency and approved by the City Planning Commission. The Director of Planning or his/her designee shall stamp and sign the plans showing the required yards. The applicant shall submit the stamped and signed plans to the Department of Building and Safety along with the plans submitted for a building permit.

(b) For the purpose of calculating the buildable area for residential (including Apartment Hotel or mixed-use) buildings, the buildable area shall be the same as the lot area.

(c) The maximum number of dwelling units or guest rooms permitted shall not be limited by the lot area provisions of this chapter so long as the total floor area utilized by guest rooms does not exceed the total floor area utilized by dwelling units.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12.21 G.2. of this Code to the contrary, there shall be no prescribed percentage of the required open space that must be provided as either common open space or private open space.

4. **(Repealed by Ord. No. 181,076, Eff. 3/28/10.)**

5. **(Repealed by Ord. No. 181,076, Eff. 3/28/10.)**

6. **Front Yard – Sloping Lot** – Where the elevation of the ground at a point fifty (50) feet from the front lot line of a lot and midway between the side lot lines differs ten (10) feet or more from the curb level, the front yard need not exceed fifty (50) percent of that required in the zone.

7. **(None)**

8. **Front Yard – Unit Development** – Where all the lots in a frontage in an “R” Zone are developed as a unit with one-family dwellings, the required front yard may be reduced by not more than five feet on part of the lots, provided the average of the front yard depth for the entire frontage is not less than the minimum front yard required in the zone in which the property is located.

9. **Side Yards Reduced** – Where all the lots in a frontage are developed as a unit with residential buildings, the required side yard may be reduced on one side of each lot, provided that:

(a) The total combined width of the side yards on each lot is not less than the

sum of the widths of the side yards required in the zone in which the property is located; and

(b) The buildings are so located that the narrow side yard on one lot adjoins the wide side yard on the adjoining lot; and

(c) No side yard is less than three feet in width for buildings two stories or less in height, nor less than three feet in width, plus the increased width for additional stories above two stories where required by the area regulations of the zone in which the property is located. **(Amended by Ord. No. 138,685, Eff. 7/10/69.)**

Where lots comprising 50% or more of a frontage are developed with buildings having varying side yards conforming to the above regulations, or where all the lots in a frontage have deed restrictions requiring such varying side yards, all the lots in such frontage may be developed in the same manner.

**10. Rear Yard – Includes One-Half Alley.** Except in the RS, R1, RU, RZ, RMP, and R2 Zones, in computing the depth of a rear yard where the rear yard opens onto an alley or in the RW Zone onto a court of not more than 30 feet in width, one-half the width of the alley or court may be assumed to be a portion of the required rear yard. **(Amended by Ord. No. 177,103, Eff. 12/18/05.)**

**11. Rear Yard – Includes Loading Space** – Loading space provided in accordance with this article may occupy a required rear yard or portion thereof but in no case shall any portion of a street or alley be counted as part of the required loading space.

**12. Accessory Buildings in Yards.** Accessory buildings may be located in a required yard in conformance with the provisions of Section 12.21 C.5. **(Amended by Ord. No. 125,278, Eff. 9/16/63.)**

**13. Lots Affected by Acquisitions for Public Use. (Amended by Ord. No. 144,536, Eff. 5/3/73.)** Where a building or structure is located upon a lot portion of which is acquired for any public use, (by condemnation, purchase, dedication, or otherwise) by any governmental entity, or if all or a part of a separate off-street automobile parking area serving such building or structure is acquired for public use, such building or structure may be maintained, and may thereafter be used, maintained or repaired without relocating or altering the same to comply with the area regulations or off-street automobile parking requirements of this article. Further, if such building or structure is partially located upon the area being acquired for public use, it may be relocated upon the same lot or premises or remodeled or reconstructed without observing the required yard space adjacent to the new lot line created by such acquisition, and without reducing the number of dwelling units to conform to the area regulations of the zone in which it is located and without observing the off-street automobile parking requirements of this article. The exemptions provided in this paragraph permit compliance only to the extent that such non-compliance is caused by an acquisition for public use.

If only a portion of an existing building or structure is acquired for public use, the repair, remodeling or reconstruction of the remainder of said building or structure which was made necessary by said acquisition, shall conform to the provisions of the building code. Any portion of the building or structure which is not required to be repaired, remodeled or reconstructed by reason of said acquisition shall not be required to be made to conform to the provisions of the building code, unless it would otherwise be required to conform thereto independently of and in the absence of said acquisition of only a portion of the building or structure.

If a lot resulting from the acquisition of all or a portion of a parcel for public use does not comply with the area requirements of the zone in which it is located, or if a legally existing nonconforming lot is further reduced in size because of such acquisition, said lot may be utilized and a building permit shall be issued for any purpose permitted in the zone, so long as the lot is not smaller in size or width than one-half (1/2) of the minimum area or width required for the zone. **(Amended by Ord. No. 150,362, Eff. 1/13/78.)**

14. **(None)**

15. **(None)**

16. **Lot Area – Includes One-Half Alley.** In computing the number of dwelling units allowed by the minimum lot area per dwelling unit requirements of this article on a lot abutting upon one or more alleys, one-half the width of such alley or alleys may be assumed to be a portion of the lot. **(Added by Ord. No. 121,925, Eff. 6/4/62.)**

17. **Lot Area Acreage – Includes One-Half Street.** In computing the lot area of a lot in the A1 and A2 Zones, that portion of the width of all abutting streets or highways, which would normally revert to the lot if the street were vacated, may be assumed to be a portion of the lot. **(Amended By Ord. No. 133,218, Eff. 11/19/66.)**

18. **Lot Area in Hillside Subdivisions** – On land located within an RA or RE Zone and also within the “H” Hillside or mountainous area, there may be lots having less than the minimum lot area specified within said zones and there may be a single-family dwelling on each lot if the lot is shown with a separate letter or lot number on a recorded Subdivision Tract Map or Parcel Map. **(Amended By Ord. No. 139,736, Eff. 1/31/70.)**

19. **Through Lot – May Be Two Building Site** – Where a through lot has a depth of 150 feet or more, each half of the lot may be improved as though it is a separate lot, with the rear line of each approximately equidistant from the front lot lines. The location of all buildings and the number of dwelling units therein shall comply with the requirements of the zone in which the through lot is located, except that in any case there may be at least one single-family dwelling on each half. **(Amended By Ord. No 116,389, Eff. 6/29/60.)**

The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to lots in the RE Zone, or to lots in

any zone that are also within the “H” Hillside or Mountainous Area. **(Amended by Ord. No. 127,777, Eff. 8/1/64.)**

## 20. Projections Into Yards.

(a) A canopy above an entrance and extending over a driveway which leads to a detached garage or a parking space not abutting a dwelling, for the temporary shelter of automobiles, commonly referred to as a porte-cochere, may project into a required side yard, but not nearer than 30 in to any lot line, provided such structure is not more than one story in height and 20 feet in length, and is entirely open on at least three sides except for the necessary supporting columns and customary architectural features. **(Amended by Ord. No. 138,685, Eff. 7/10/69.)**

(b) Cornices, belt courses, sills, or other similar architectural features (not including bay windows or vertical projections), may project into a required side yard, other than the side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot, not more than two inches for each one foot of width of such yard, and may project into a required front yard, rear yard, side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot, passageway, or other open space not more than 30 inches, except as provided in Section 12.08.5 C1.(c), provided the width of a side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot is not reduced to less than three feet. Eaves may project into a required side yard, other than the side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot, not more than four inches for each one foot of width of such side yard, provided the width of such side yard is not reduced to less than two and one-half feet. Eaves may also project into a required front yard, rear yard, side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot, passageway, or other open space not more than 30 inches, provided the width of a side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot is not reduced to less than two and one-half feet. Chimneys may project into a required passageway not more than one foot and may project into a required front yard, rear yard, side yard, or other required open space, except as provided in Section 12.08.5 C.1.(c), not more than two feet, provided the width of any required side yard is not reduced to less than three feet. **(Amended by Ord. No. 138,685, Eff. 7/10/69.)**

(c) Fire escapes may extend or project into any front, side or rear yard not more than four (4) feet.

(d) **(Amended by Ord. No. 138,685, Eff. 7/10/69.)** Except in an RW Zone, where a required passage may not be reduced in any manner, open, unenclosed stairways or balconies, not covered by a roof or canopy, may extend or project into a required rear yard not more than four feet, and such balconies may extend into a required front yard, passageway, other open space, or the side yard adjoining the street lot line of a corner lot, not more than 30 inches, provided the width of a side yard adjoining the street lot line or a corner lot is not reduced to less than 30 inches.



(e) Open, unenclosed porches, platforms, or landing places (including access stairways thereto) not covered by a roof or canopy, which do not extend above the level of the first floor of the building, may extend or project into the required front yard, side yard, rear yard, passageway, or other open space, not more than six feet, provided that in no event shall any such porch, platform or landing space be more than six feet above the natural ground level adjacent thereto. **(Amended by Ord. No. 138,685, Eff. 7/10/69.)**

(f) **Fences and Walls in the A and R Zones. (Amended by Ord. No. 154,798, Eff. 2/20/81.)**

(1) **Fences and Walls.** For the purposes of Article 2 through 6 of this chapter, the terms “**fence**” and “**wall**” shall include latticework, ornamental fences, screen walls, hedges or thick growths of shrubs or trees. Fence and wall height shall be measured from the natural ground level adjacent thereto.

(2) **Front Yards. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,754, Eff. 3/5/01.)** In the R Zones, fences, walls, and landscape architectural features of guard railing around depressed ramps, not more than three and one-half feet in height above the natural ground level adjacent to the feature, railing or ramp, may be located and maintained in any required front yard. In the A Zones (including the RA Zone), a fence or wall not more than six feet in height may be located and maintained in the required front yard. In both the A and R Zones, a fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located and maintained in the required front yard when authorized by a Zoning Administrator pursuant to Section 12.24 X.7.

In both the A and R zones, an unobstructed chainlink fence not more than ten feet in height may be located and maintained in all yards when required by the Department of Building and Safety pursuant to the provisions of Sections 91.3303 and 91.6103 and Division 89 of Article 1 of Chapter IX of this Code.

(3) **Side Yards, Rear Yards and Other Spaces. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** A fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located and maintained within the required side yard, rear yard or other open space of any lot in an RW Zone and within the required side yard, rear yard or other open space of a lot within any other A or R zone which is 40 feet or more in width, provided the lot is not located within the boundary of a “**Hillside Area**”, as defined in Section 91.7003 of this Code.

A fence or wall not more than six feet in height may be located and

maintained within the required side yard, rear yard or other open space of any lot in an A or R Zone, other than an RW Zone, which is less than 40 feet in width or which is located within the boundary of a “**Hillside Area**”, as defined in Section 91.7003 of this Code, except that in either case a fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located in the yards or other open space when authorized by a Zoning Administrator pursuant to Section 12.21A2.

In the A Zones (including the RA Zone), a fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located on the side street lot line of any reversed corner lot; provided, however, that if the lot is located within the boundary of a “Hillside Area”, as defined in Section 91.7003, the fence or wall shall not exceed six feet in height.

In the R Zones, other than the RW Zones, a fence or wall located within five feet of the side street lot line of a reversed corner lot may not exceed three and one-half feet in height. In the RW Zones, a fence or wall located within three feet of the side street lot line of either a corner lot or a reversed corner lot may not exceed three and one-half feet in height.

(4) **Access Ways.** Access ways shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 12.22C20(1).

(5) **Maintenance of Fences and Walls.** Fences shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 12.21A9.

(6) **Masonry and Concrete Walls. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** A masonry or concrete fence or wall over three and one-half feet in height shall be built in accordance with the provisions of Section 91.106.1 of this Code.

(7) **Fences and Walls Enclosing Parking Areas.** Fences and walls enclosing parking areas shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 12.21A6.

(8) **Fences and Walls Around Pools. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** A fence or wall not exceeding four and one-half feet in height, as required by Section 91.6109 of this Code, may be erected and maintained to enclose a swimming pool, fish pond or other body of water existing in a required yard prior to June 1, 1956.

(9) **Fences and Walls Around Schools.** An open mesh type fence to enclose an elementary or high school site may be located and maintained in any required yard.

(10) **Fences and Walls Around Tennis Courts.** The provisions of Section 12.20 C 20(m) shall control with respect to tennis court fences.

(11) **Fences and Walls at Street Intersections.** Fences and Walls at street intersections shall comply with the provisions of 62.200 of this Code.

(g) **(None)**

(h) A one-story covered passageway, commonly referred to as a breezeway, not over five feet in width, extending from a main residential building to a private garage or other accessory building may be erected and maintained in a required rear yard. Such passageway shall be located not less than five feet from all lot lines and shall be unenclosed, except that on a corner lot there may be a wall or fence not over six feet in height along the street side of such passageway.

(i) Landscape features such as trees, shrubs, flowers or plants, shall be permitted in any required front, side, or rear yard, passageway or other open space, provided that they do not produce a hedge effect contrary to the provisions of Paragraphs (f) and (g) above. **(Amended by Ord. No. 107,884, Eff. 9/23/56.)**

(j) Name plates, signs, and advertising matter, as permitted by this article, may be located in any required front yard, side yard, rear yard, passageway or other open space; provided that the total area of all identification signs in any required yard, shall not exceed 12 square feet, and any sign appertaining to the sale of farm products raised or produced on the premises shall be located at least ten feet from any side lot line. **(Amended by Ord. No. 107,884, Eff. 9/23/56.)**

(k) Awnings or canopies without enclosing walls or screening may be attached to the exterior walls of a Group R or Group H Occupancy, provided that: such awnings or canopies do not extend more than four feet into a required front yard or building line space at the front of a lot, and have no vertical support within said yard or space; such awnings or canopies do not extend more than 30 inches into a required side yard, rear yard, building line space at the side of a lot, passageway or other open space, but in no event nearer than 30 inches to an interior lot line; and where such awnings or canopies project into a required front or side yard, passageway or other open space, they may extend only over the windows or doors to be protected and for 12 inches on each side thereof. **(Amended by Ord. No. 121,925, Eff. 6/4/62.)**

(l) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, no architectural feature, fire escape, porch, balcony, or other projection permitted in a yard, passageway or other open space, shall be located and maintained so as to preclude complete access about and on each side of and in close proximity to main buildings and accessory living quarters at all times. Where a fence or wall is provided or

maintained, a gate or other suitable opening at least two and one-half feet in width shall be deemed adequate for access through said fence or wall; provided further that where such fence or wall is located adjacent to an alley and is over six feet in height, adequate access shall be provided through such wall or fence onto the adjacent alley. At least five feet of clear and open space shall be maintained between any two main buildings, including the projections, on any one lot. **(Amended by Ord. No. 154,798, Eff. 2/20/81.)**

(m) **(Added by Ord. No. 151,466, Eff. 10/27/78.)** Tennis or paddle tennis courts, including fences and light which are accessory to a primary residential use on the same lot in the A or R Zones may extend into a portion of the required rear yard of such lot if such court and its appurtenances meet all of the following conditions:

(i) The court surface is not more than 2 feet above the natural adjacent grade at any point.

(ii) The court is enclosed with a fence no higher than 10 feet above the court surface and all portions of such fence above a height of six feet are an open chain link type fence.

(iii) Any light standards and fixtures are no higher than 20 feet above the court surface.

(iv) The court is located a distance from the rear lot line at least equal to the width of the side yard required for a one-story main building in the zone but in no event less than 5 feet.

21. **Lot Widths and Yard Requirements for RE15–H Zones.** Lot widths and yard area requirements for the R1 Zone shall apply to lots in the RE15–H Zone if said lots are shown as numbered lots on a tentative subdivision tract map or parcel map approved by the Advisory Agency or the Director of Planning for the City of Los Angeles prior to January 1, 1967 and recorded in the Office of the Los Angeles County Recorder prior to July 1, 1967. **(Added by Ord. No. 134,673, Eff. 7/31/67.)**

22. **Width and Area Flag Lots in Mountainous Areas.** Where a flag lot is situated in the "H" Hillside or the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone pursuant to Section 57.25.01 of the Municipal Code, the lot width may be calculated by measuring the width of the main buildable portion of said flag lot on a straight line parallel to the general direction of the frontage street and midway between the rear and front lines of the main buildable portion of the flag lot provided, however, that the main buildable portion contains the lot width and not less than 90% of the lot area required for lots in the zone classification in which the flag lot is situated, said lot area to be calculated exclusive of the area contained within the access strip portion of the flag lot. **(Amended by Ord. No. 176,943, Eff. 10/5/05.)**

23. **(Repealed by Ord. No. 164,145, Eff. 12/8/88.)**

24. **Zero Side Yard Lots – Remain Separate Lots.** If several lots are developed with building crossing lot lines, as permitted by Section 12.08.3 B.1. of this Code, they shall remain separate lots, notwithstanding such construction across the lot lines. **(Added by Ord. No. 159,532, Eff. 1/3/85.)**

25. **Zero Side and Rear Yard Development in Multiple Residential Zones.** In the R2, RD, R3, RAS3, R4, RAS4, and R5 Zones, lots may be developed with either attached dwellings crossing lot lines or detached dwellings not crossing lot lines. These dwellings may contain one dwelling unit on a lot and may observe the lot width, yard, passageway and other requirements for development in the RZ Zone. Every lot so developed shall have a minimum lot area of 2,500 square feet. No lots may be developed in accordance with this subdivision unless the lots and uses are approved in connection with a preliminary parcel map, tentative tract map or modification approved subsequent to January 1, 1985. Development so approved shall meet the density requirement of the zone in which the lots are located. **(Amended by Ord. No. 174,999, Eff. 1/15/03.)**

26. **Yards Required for Historically Significant Buildings.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to the contrary, in connection with any change of use in an historically significant building, the yards required shall be the same as the yards observed by the existing structures on the site. An historically significant building is defined as a structure that is designated on the National Register of Historic Places, including Contributing Buildings in National Register Historic Districts, the California Register of Historical Resources, the City of Los Angeles List of Historic-Cultural Monuments, or a Contributing Structure in an Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) established pursuant to Section 12.20.3 of this Code. **(Added by Ord. No. 172,792, Eff. 10/4/99.)**

27. **(Added by Ord. No. 176,354, Eff. 1/31/05.)** Small Lot Subdivision in the R2, RD, R3, R4, R5, RAS and the P and C zones pursuant to an approved subdivision tract or parcel map.

Notwithstanding any provisions of this Code relating to minimum lot area to the contrary, in the R2, RD, R3, R4, R5, RAS and the P and C zones, parcels of land may be subdivided into lots which may contain one, two or three dwelling units, provided that the density of the subdivision complies with the minimum lot area per dwelling unit requirement established for each zone, or in the case of a P zone, the density of the subdivision shall comply with the minimum lot area per dwelling unit of the least restrictive abutting commercial or multi-family residential zone(s).

(a) A parcel map or tract map, pursuant to Section 17.00 et seq. of this Code shall be required for the creation of a small lot subdivision.

(b) The minimum lot width shall be 16 feet and the minimum lot area shall be 600 square feet. The Advisory Agency shall designate the location of front yards in the subdivision tract or parcel map approval.

(c) Vehicular access may be provided to either a lot containing a dwelling unit or to its required parking spaces by way of street or alley frontage, driveway access or similar access to a street.

(d) All structures on a lot which includes one or more dwelling units, may, taken together, occupy no more than 80% of the lot area, unless the tract or parcel map provides common open space equivalent to 20% of the lot area of each lot not meeting this provision.

(e) No front, side, or rear yard shall be required between lots within an approved small lot subdivision. However, a five-foot setback shall be provided where a lot abuts a lot that is not created pursuant to this subdivision.

(f) No passageway pursuant to Section 12.21 C.2. of this Code shall be required.

(g) In a P zone, lots may be developed as a small lot subdivision, provided that the General Plan land use designation of the lot is "commercial" or "multiple family residential".

(h) In an R2 zone, a lot may be developed as a small lot subdivision provided that the lot meets the requirements of Section 12.09 A.3. of the Code.

(i) A dwelling unit in a small lot subdivision shall not be required to comply with Paragraphs (a), (b), (f) and (g) of Section 12.21 A.17. of this Code.

(j) Fences and walls within five feet of the front lot line shall be no more than three and one-half feet in height. Fences and walls within five feet of the side and rear lot lines shall be no more than six feet in height.