ARTICLE 13. RULES OF MEASUREMENT & DEFINITIONS
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**ARTICLE 13. RULES OF MEASUREMENT & DEFINITIONS**

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DIVISION 13.1 RULES OF MEASUREMENT

SECTION 13.1.1 INTRODUCTION
This Division provides explanations of how to make determinations and measurements for standards contained within this Code.

SECTION 13.1.2 HEIGHT FOR ALL SU, TU, RH, E-MU-2.5, MU-3, AND RO-3 ZONE DISTRICTS

13.1.2.1 Applicability
This Section 13.1.2 applies to all SU, TU, TH, RH (excluding M-RH), E-MU-2.5, MU-3 and RO-3 zone districts.

13.1.2.2 Base Plane
A. Intent
The purpose of a dual base plane associated with a front and rear percentage of lot depth is to accommodate changes in slope from the front to rear across a zone lot.

B. Rule
Two base planes or a building specific base plane are used for measuring overall height for all primary and accessory structures:

1. Two Base Planes
   a. A Front Base Plane shall be the area described below:
      i. The front 65% of the Zone Lot Depth for all S-SU, S-RH, S-MU-3, E-SU, E-TU, E-RH, E-MU, U-SU, U-TU and U-RH zone districts
      ii. The front 80% of the Zone Lot Depth in the G-RH, G-MU-3 and G-RO-3 zone districts

   b. The Front Base Plane is a horizontal plane established at the average elevation of original grade of two Side Interior Zone Lot Lines, or the elevation of original grade of one Side Interior Zone Lot Line when two are not present, measured at the minimum primary street setback line. See Figure 13.1-1. In any case where a Side Interior Zone Lot Line does not intersect with a Primary Street Zone Lot Line, the Zoning Administrator shall determine the points where the Front Base Plane shall originate based on the criteria for determining zone lot lines in Section 13.1.5.2.A.3, Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determination.

Figure 13.1-1
c. A Rear Base Plane will be the base for measuring overall building height in the rear 35% (or the rear 20% in the General Urban (G-) Residential Zone Districts).

d. The Rear Base Plane is a horizontal plane established at the average elevation of the original grade of the two Side Interior Zone Lot Lines, or the elevation of original grade of one side interior zone lot line when two are not present, measured at the Rear Zone Lot Line. See Figure 13.1-2.

Figure 13.1-2

2. **Building Specific Base Plane**
   
a. **Applicability:**
      For development of multiple primary buildings on a single zone lot that is 18,000 square feet or more, a building specific base plane may be used.

b. **Base Plane:**
      A building-specific base plane shall be a horizontal plane established at the average elevation of the original grade or finished grade, whichever is lower, of the corners of each building. With this approach, a building-specific base plane is established for each building sited on the same zone lot. See Figure 13.1-3
C. Measurements for purposes of establishing a primary base plane shall be rounded to the closest whole number.

13.1.2.3 Height in Stories

A. Intent
To provide an easy reference for visualizing building height, to provide an appropriate consistency of building scale and to shape and/or maintain neighborhood character.

B. Stories (max) Rule of Measurement

1. Overall height in stories shall be measured as the total number of stories. See Figure 13.1-4.

2. A Story shall count towards the total number of stories when:
   a. The Story has its finished floor surface entirely above the Front Base Plane or the Building Specific Base Plane, where applicable; or
   b. The Story is located below a story which has its finished floor surface more than 6 feet above the Front base plane or the Building Specific Base Plane, where applicable; or
   c. The Story is located below a story which has its finished floor surface more than 6 feet above the finished grade for more than 50% of the total building perimeter; or
   d. The Story is located below a story which has its finished floor surface more than 12 feet above finished grade at any point.
3. **Half Story**

   a. **Intent**
      To allow for additional floor area while minimizing additional bulk.

   b. **Rule of Measurement**
      Where a half story is permitted, it shall meet the following:
      
      i. The space meets the definition of Story, Habitable stated in this Article 13.
      
      ii. The total Gross Floor Area of the half story, not counting floor area with a net floor-to-ceiling distance less than 5 feet, shall be no greater than 75 percent of the floor below.
      
      iii. All half stories, except for the Accessory Dwelling Unit building form, are calculated based on the Gross Floor Area of the floor below contained within the same Dwelling Unit.
      
      iv. For the Accessory Dwelling Unit building form, a half story is calculated based on the Gross Floor Area of the floor below.

      See Figure 13.1-5
4. Overall Height in Stories for Sloping Lots
For Primary Structures only, where a lot slopes downward from the Primary Street zone lot line, one story that is additional to the specified maximum number of stories may be built entirely below the rear base plane on the lower, rear portion of the lot. This section shall not apply to zone lots that do not have a rear zone lot line, or when the rear zone lot line intersects the Primary Street zone lot line. See Figure 13.1-6.

C. Exceptions From Stories (Max)
Exceptions from overall height in stories are found in each of Articles 3-9 of this Code.

13.1.2.4 Height in Feet
A. Feet (max) Rule of Measurement
Overall height in feet shall be measured as the vertical distance in feet from a base plane to the highest point of a building or structure, including parapet walls or safety railings. See Figure 13.1-7 and 13.1-8.

B. Exceptions From Feet (max)
Exceptions from overall building height in feet are found in each of Articles 3-9 of this Code.
13.1.2.5 Feet, Permitted height increase

A. Feet, Front Percentage of Zone Lot Depth, permitted height increase

The overall height of a structure may increase in feet in the front percentage of the zone lot depth, as specified in the building form tables, when the overall zone lot width increases. See Zone Lot Width for how to measure. See Figure 13.1-9.

![Figure 13.1-9](image)

B. Feet, Rear Percentage of Zone Lot Depth, permitted height increase

The overall height of a structure may increase in feet in the rear percentage of the zone lot depth, as specified in the building form tables, when one side interior setback is increased in the rear percentage of the zone lot depth, in excess of the required minimum side interior setback. See Figure 13.1-10.

![Figure 13.1-10](image)
SECTION 13.1.3 HEIGHT FOR ALL OTHER ZONE DISTRICTS

13.1.3.1 Applicability
This Section 13.1.3 shall apply to all zone districts except SU, TU, TH, RH (excluding M-RH), E-MU-2.5, MU-3, and RO-3 zone districts.

13.1.3.2 Base Plane
Overall height for all buildings and structures on the zone lot shall be measured from a base plane. The applicant shall apply either a single base plane for the entire zone lot or a building-specific base plane:

A. Single Base Plane
A single base plane shall be a horizontal plane established at the average elevation of the original grade of the two side interior zone lot lines, or the elevation of original grade of one side interior zone lot line when two are not present, measured at the minimum primary street setback line. See Figure 13.1-11. In any case where a Side Interior Zone Lot Line does not intersect with a Primary Street Zone Lot Line, the Zoning Administrator shall determine the points where the Front Base Plane shall originate based on the criteria for determining zone lot lines in Section 13.1.5.2.A.3, Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determination.

Figure 13.1-11
B. **Building-Specific Base Plane**
   A building-specific base plane shall be a horizontal plane established at the average elevation of the original grade or finished grade, whichever is lower, of the corners of each building. With this approach, a building-specific base plane is established for each building sited on the same zone lot. See Figure 13.1-12

C. Measurements for purposes of establishing a base plane shall be rounded to the closest whole number.

![Figure 13.1-12](image_url)

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13.1.3.3 **Height in Stories**

A. **Intent**
   To provide an easy reference for visualizing building height and to provide an appropriate consistency of building scale.

B. **Stories (max) Rule of Measurement**
   1. Overall height in stories shall be measured as the total number of stories.
   2. A Story shall count towards the total number of stories when:
      a. The Story has its finished floor surface entirely above the Base Plane; or
      b. The Story is located below a story which has its finished floor surface more than 6 feet above the base plane (See Figure 13.1-13); or
      c. The Story is located below a story which has its finished floor surface more than 6 feet above the finished grade for more than 50% of the total building perimeter; or
      d. The Story is located below a story which has its finished floor surface more than 12 feet above finished grade at any point. (See Figure 13.1-14)
3. **Overall Height in Stories for Sloping Lots**

Where a lot slopes downward from the primary street zone lot line, one story that is additional to the specified maximum number of stories may be built entirely below the rear base plane on the lower, rear portion of the zone lot. This section shall not apply to zone lots that do not have a rear zone lot line, or when the rear zone lot line intersects the Primary Street or Side Street Zone Lot Line.

*Graphic is illustrative of a 5-Story Zone District.*
4. **Mezzanine**
   a. **Intent**
   Interior building mezzanines are accommodated only when the mezzanine reads as a single story as viewed from the primary street building elevation, and when the mezzanine space physically protrudes over the space below.
   b. A mezzanine is floor space within a building that has all of the following features:
      i. The space meets the definition of Story, Habitable stated in this Article 13; and
      ii. The total gross floor area of the mezzanine story, not counting floor area with a net floor-to-ceiling distance less than 5 feet, shall be no greater than 33% of the floor area of the room below to which the mezzanine opens.
      iii. The mezzanine shall be open and unobstructed to the room in which such mezzanine is located except for walls not more than 42 inches high, columns, or posts.
      iv. Such floor space shall not count as a story or towards F.A.R. See Figure 13.1-16.

![Figure 13.1-16](image)

5. **Parking Structure Stories**
   a. **Intent**
   To promote a high-quality pedestrian experience along the Street Level of a structure containing vehicle parking by providing an exception to the allowed height in stories, but not to height in feet.
   b. **Applicability**
   This section 13.1.3.3.B.5 shall apply to multi-story structures that contain both vehicle parking and at least one primary Street Level active use other than Garage Parking.
   c. **Standards**
      i. If no design standard alternatives are used to meet any of the required Building Form Standards, and a structure meets the Street Level active use requirements of the Shopfront building form in the C-MS zone districts, then the structure may exceed the maximum height in stories allowed by the applicable Building Form by one additional story at such locations as:
         a) The structure contains vehicle parking and at least one other use, or
         b) The structure contains vehicle parking.
For example, in a 5-story zone district, a structure meeting the Street Level active use requirements may have 6 stories of vehicle parking, or 6 stories of a combination of vehicle parking and office uses. However, a structure may only have 5 stories at such locations as all of the stories contain office uses with no vehicle parking. Stories containing vehicle parking may be sandwiched between stories containing other uses.

**Figure 13.1-17**

*Graphic is illustrative of a 5-Story Zone District.*

1. If a structure meets the Street Level active use requirements of the Shopfront building form in the C-MS zone districts and such Street Level active uses are provided on all stories along each street-facing building façade, then the structure shall have no maximum height in stories at such locations as:
   a) The structure contains vehicle parking and at least one other use, or
   b) The structure contains vehicle parking.

A building façade is “street-facing” if it faces a named or numbered street, which shall be determined by extending a line the width of the façade and perpendicular to it to the zone lot boundary. If any portion of said line touches the right-of-way of a named or numbered street at the zone lot boundary, then said façade is “street-facing.” See Figure 13.1-101

For example, in a 5-story district, a structure meeting the Street Level active use requirements on all stories along all street-facing building facades may have an unlimited number of stories containing vehicle parking, or the structure may have an unlimited number of stories containing both vehicle parking and office uses. However, the structure may have only 5 stories at such locations as all of the stories contain office uses with no vehicle parking.
iii. In addition to the standards in Sections 13.1.2.3.B.5.c.i and ii, the following additional standards apply:

a) An additional story in height is allowed only at such locations within the structure where vehicle parking and another non-parking use both occur and are vertically aligned; and

b) Except as detailed in the building form standard tables in each of Articles 3-9, a structure shall not be exempt from the maximum height in feet allowed by the applicable Building Form.

C. Exceptions From Stories (Max)

Exceptions from overall height in stories are found in each of Articles 3-9 of this Code.

13.1.3.4 Height in Feet

A. Feet (max)

1. Rule of Measurement

a. Overall height in feet shall be measured as the vertical distance in feet from a base plane to the highest point of a building or structure. See Figures 13.1-19 and -20.

b. Exceptions From Feet (max)

Exceptions from overall height in feet are found in each of Articles 3-9 of this Code.
B. Feet, within 175 feet of Protected District (max)

1. Rule of Measurement
   Height of a building on the subject property shall not exceed the standard contained within the building form table if the subject building is within a certain distance from any Protected District zone district boundary line.

C. Feet (min)

1. Intent
   To provide a minimum street wall.

2. Rule of Measurement
   Minimum building height shall be measured as the vertical distance in feet from a base plane to the highest point of a roof or to the top of a parapet wall which runs along the street facing sides of the building. See Figure 13.1-21.
SECTION 13.1.4 OTHER HEIGHT RULES

13.1.4.1 Percentage of Zone Lot Depth, Front and Rear

A. Intent
To reduce height and bulk in the rear yard to provide a privacy, access to sunlight, and sense of openness.

B. Rule of Measurement
See Figure 13.1-22.

1. Determine the rear percentage of zone lot depth:
   a. Multiply the required rear percentage found in the building form table (e.g. 35%) by the total length of one of the side zone lot lines intersecting the rear zone lot line (e.g. 100 feet).
   b. Starting from the rear zone lot line, measure a distance equal to the product calculated in Paragraph 1.a. above along each of the intersecting side zone lot lines.
   c. The area between the rear zone lot line and a straight line connecting the two points defined in Paragraph 1.b. above shall be the rear percentage of the zone lot depth.

2. The remaining area of the zone lot shall be the front percentage of the zone lot depth.

3. For irregularly shaped zone lots, the Zoning Administrator may establish the front and rear for purposes of applying the percentage required by the building form.
13.1.4.2 Bulk Plane

A. **Intent**
   To shape building forms to reduce effect of massing on adjoining properties.

B. **Rule of Measurement**
   The bulk plane is measured starting from the Base Plane(s) established in Section 13.1.2.2, then rising vertically to a point (A) above the Base Plane(s) at the side zone lot lines for a distance established by the applicable building form standards. From this point above the Primary Base Plane, the bulk plane slopes (B) inward toward the center of the zone lot at an angle with respect to the horizontal established by the applicable building form standards. See Figure 13.1-23.

C. **Rule of Measurement**
   Side wall height is measured from the Base Plane, as established in Section 13.1.2.2, to the top framing member of the side wall, as described below:

   1. For any portion of a structure with a Pitched Roof, the top framing member of the wall is the point where the outside plane of the wall framing intersects with the outside plane of the roof sheathing. See Figure 13.1-24.

   2. For any portion of a structure with a Low-Slope Roof, the top framing member of the side wall is the point where the outside plane of the wall framing intersects with the outside plane of the roof sheathing. No part of a building with a Low-Slope Roof, including a parapet, railing, or similar structural element, shall exceed the maximum side wall height. See Figure 13.1-25.
13.1.4.3 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane

A. Intent
To shape building form to reduce the effect of massing and shadow on the pedestrian environment along 3rd Avenue in the Cherry Creek North mixed use shopping district. The bulk plane is intended to allow sunlight on the sidewalk on the north side of 3rd Avenue.

B. Applicability
This Section 13.1.4.4 shall apply to zone lots located south of 3rd Avenue in a C-CCN zone district. This includes zone lots south of 3rd Avenue that do not abut the 3rd Avenue right-of-way.

C. Rule of Measurement
No part of any structure shall project through the 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane where established by the applicable building form standards, measured as follows:

1. For each zone lot, a 3rd Avenue CCN Base Line is established and starts at the average elevation of the original grade at the two points where the nearest right-of-way boundaries of the two nearest named streets intersect the southernmost right-of-way line of 3rd Avenue. See Figure 13.1-26

2. The 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane is measured from the applicable 3rd Avenue CCN Base Line, rising vertically for a distance of 28.5 feet above the 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane Base Line to a horizontal line that is co-directional to the southern right-of-way line of 3rd Avenue, shown as “A” in Figure 13.1-27.
13.1.4.4 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane Exception

A. Intent
To encourage small lot reinvestment by enabling certain small zone lots on the south side of 3rd Avenue in the Cherry Creek North mixed use shopping district to be partially exempt from the 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane.

B. Applicability
This section 13.1.4.5 shall apply to zone lots with a total gross area of 6,250 SF or less, as of October 27, 2014, and located to the south of 3rd Avenue in a C-CCN zone district, where this exemption is permitted in the applicable building form standards.

C. Rule of Measurement
The 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane Exception defines a non-fixed portion or portions of a zone lot that are exempt from the 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane. It is measured along the zone lot line abutting the south side of the 3rd Avenue right-of-way and extends for the full depth of the zone.
lot measured perpendicular to 3rd Avenue. The exempt area extends from the finished grade to the sky. See Figure 13.1-29. One or more portions of the zone lot may be included in the 3rd Avenue CCN Bulk Plane Exception provided the total width of the zone lot area exempted shall not exceed the maximum established in the building form standards. See Figure 13.1-30.

SECTION 13.1.5 SITING FORM STANDARDS

13.1.5.1 Zone Lot Size and Width

A. Zone Lot Size (Min)

1. Rule of Measurement
   Zone lot size is the total area within a property’s zone lot lines, excluding adjacent or abutting right-of-way. See Figure 13.1-31.

B. Zone Lot Width

1. Rule of Measurement
   Zone lot width is the distance between the zone lot lines intersecting the Primary Street zone lot line, measured along the required minimum primary street setback line. See Figures 13.1-32 and -33.
C. **Zone Lot Width in the DO-7 Overlay District**

1. **Rule of Measurement**
   
   In lieu of the rule of measurement set forth in Section 13.1.5.1.B, Zone Lot Width in the DO-7 district shall be the distance between the Zone Lot Lines intersecting the Primary Street Zone Lot Line measured along the Primary Street Zone Lot Line. For Zone Lots with multiple Primary Street Zone Lot Lines, the Primary Street Zone Lot Line with the greatest length will be used to determine Zone Lot Width.

D. **Basis of Zone Lot Size and Width**

1. **Intent**
   
   To recognize historic development patterns by allowing Zone Lot size and width to be measured based on recorded documents.

2. **Rule of Measurement**
   
   a. For Building Form standards that are based on Zone Lot size or width, such as setbacks, the Zoning Administrator shall make a final determination of the applicable Zone Lot size or width based on the Record Document, where available. For the purposes of this provision, a "Record Document" shall mean a recorded Plat or Subdivision that specifies historic platted lot measurements applicable to the subject property.

   b. Where a Record Document is not available, an applicant shall submit a certified survey to determine all Zone Lot measurements. When a Zone Lot measurement is within one-tenth of a foot per 25 feet of the applicable standard, it shall be determined to meet that standard.

   i. For example: The required minimum side interior setback for an Urban House building form in an U-SU zone district varies depending on the Zone lot width. According to this rule of measurement, for example, as long as the certified survey shows a Zone Lot width of between 74.7’ and 75.3’, the setback standard applicable to a 75-foot wide Zone Lot will apply. The formula applied in this example is broken down below:

   a) The zone lot dimensional threshold at issue for determining the applicable setback is 75 feet (of width). Using the results of a certified survey, an applicant needs to know whether to apply the setback standard for a less-than-75-feet wide zone lot (5 feet) or the setback standard for a 75 feet or more wide zone lot (7.5 feet).
One-tenth of 1 foot = 0.10

For a 75-foot width threshold at issue, 25 feet goes into 75 feet 3 times (75 divided by 25 = 3)

\[ 0.10 \times 3 = 0.30 \]

75 feet minus 0.30 feet = 74.7 feet, which is the minimum end-point of a survey measurement that will get applied as equivalent to 75 feet.

75 feet plus 0.30 feet = 75.3 feet, which is the maximum end-point of a survey measurement that will get applied as equivalent to 75 feet.

13.1.5.2 Determination of Primary Street Zone Lot Line, Side Street Zone Lot Line, Side Interior Zone Lot Line, and Rear Zone Lot Line for All Zone Districts EXCEPT CC, MX, MS, C-CCN, D-AS-12+, D-AS-20+, D-CPV-T, D-CPV-R, and D-CPV-C Zone Districts

A. General Provisions

1. Intent
   To provide a reference of measurement for standards related to form and building placement (e.g. Build-to, Setback).

2. General Requirements
   a. A primary street zone lot line or a side street zone lot line may abut a zone lot line abutting a private street if approved by the Zoning Administrator.
   b. Once designated for a zone lot, zone lot line designations cannot be changed after development (e.g., a primary street cannot, for purposes of subsequent development, be re-designated a side street) unless all requirements of the zone district can be met.

3. Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determinations
   a. Where identified in the following sections, the Zoning Administrator shall designate a zone lot's Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, based on an analysis, at a minimum, of:
      i. The prevailing building orientation and setback patterns of buildings located on the same face block(s) as the subject zone lot;
      ii. Block and lot shape;
      iii. The functional street classification of all abutting streets as adopted by the Public Works Department;
      iv. The future street classification of all abutting streets as adopted in Blueprint Denver;
      v. Guidance provided in any applicable Infrastructure Master Plan, Site Development Plan, General Development Plan or regulating neighborhood plan, such as designation of pedestrian priority streets in such plan; and
      vi. In a Campus zone district, guidance provided in any applicable Campus Master Plan or similar document formally adopted by the primary campus user (e.g., a university or college) to guide land development within the campus, such as designation of pedestrian priority streets in such plan.
   b. The Zoning Administrator shall have authority to designate a Zone Lot's Primary Street Zone Lot Line(s) contrary to the results in Section 13.1.5.2 when:
      i. The Zone Lot contains a Historic Structure, and
      ii. The Zone Lot is located within a Residential Zone District, and
iii. The strict application of Section 13.1.5.2 will result in adverse impacts on the established development pattern within the subject property’s Existing Neighborhood (as defined in Section 12.4.7.5.D), and

iv. The resulting Primary Street Zone Lot Line(s) will be more compatible with an established pattern of setbacks for buildings on the same face block(s) containing the subject property.

B. Determination of Zone Lot Lines

1. **Interior Zone Lots: Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines**

   On an interior zone lot, the following figures shall be used to determine the Primary Street or Block Sensitive Primary Street ("P"), Side Street ("SS"), Side Interior zone lot line ("SI"), and Rear zone lot line ("R") . See Figure 13.1-34.

   a. The Primary Street shall be the zone lot line abutting the name or numbered street.

   b. The Rear shall be the zone lot line opposite the Primary Street.

   c. The remaining zone lot lines shall be Side Interior.

   d. There shall be no Side Street designation.

   e. For zone lots which have unique conditions such as, but not limited to, more than four zone lot lines, two or more abutting alleys, or irregular shaped lots, the Zoning Administrator may designate the zone lot lines, following criteria listed above. See Figure 13.1-35.

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**Figure 13.1-34**

![Diagram of interior zone lots with labels: P, SI, R, STREETS, ALLEYS]

**Figure 13.1-35**

![Diagram of complex zone lot with labels: P, SI, R, ZA, PRIMARY STREET, ALLEY, Zoning Administrator]
2. **Corner Lots: Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior, and Rear Zone Lot Lines**

   a. **Corner Zone Lots of Oblong Blocks**
      
      i. The zone lot line abutting the “long side of an oblong block” shall be the Primary Street and the zone lot line abutting the “short side of an oblong block” shall be the Side Street, with the following exceptions:
         
         a) The zone lot line abutting the “short side of the oblong block” may be the Primary Street if:
            
            a. Three or more existing zone lots, including the subject property, are present along the short side of the oblong block; and
            
            b. The zone lot line abutting the short side of the oblong block is 50% or less of the length of the other zone lot line abutting the long side of the block
            
            b) The applicant may request an Administrative Adjustment to designate the zone lot line abutting the “long side of the block” as the Side Street. See Article 12, Section 12.4.5.3, Permitted Types of Administrative Adjustments.
            
            c) On a Zone Lot containing a Historic Structure, the Zoning Administrator may designate the Primary Street Zone Lot Line and may designate more than one Primary Street Zone Lot Line in accordance with Sec. 13.1.5.2.A.3.b.
            
      ii. The Rear shall be the zone lot line opposite the shorter of the two zone lot lines parallel and abutting a street.
         
         a) If they are of equal length, the Zoning Administrator shall designate the rear zone lot line.
         
         b) The applicant may request the Zoning Administrator designate a different zone lot line as the Rear, following criteria in Section 13.1.5.2.A.3.a.
         
         c) In no case shall a zone lot line parallel and abutting a street be determined as the Rear.
         
      iii. The remaining zone lot lines shall be designated Side Interior.
         
         See Figure 13.1-36
b. **Corner Zone Lots of Square Blocks**

i. The Primary Street shall be the zone lot line abutting the street frontage, between any intervening rights-of-way (including alleys), on which a greater number of primary buildings face. If they have equal number of primary structures, the Zoning Administrator shall designate the Primary Street. The Side Street shall be the zone lot line abutting the other street.

   a) The applicant may request an Administrative Adjustment to designate a different zone lot line as the Primary Street zone lot line. See Article 12, Section 12.4.5.3, Permitted Types of Administrative Adjustments.

   b) On a Zone Lot containing a Historic Structure, the Zoning Administrator may designate the Primary Street Zone Lot Line and may designate more than one Primary Street Zone Lot Line in accordance with Sec. 13.1.5.2.b.

ii. The Rear shall be the zone lot line opposite the shorter of the two zone lot lines parallel and abutting a street.

   a) If they are of equal length, the Zoning Administrator shall designate the rear zone lot line.

   b) The applicant may request the Zoning Administrator designate a different zone lot line as the Rear, following criteria in Section 13.1.5.2.C

   c) In no case shall a zone lot line parallel and abutting a street be determined as the Rear.

iii. The remaining zone lot lines shall be designated as Side Interior. See Figure 13.1-37.
c. **Corner Zone Lots of Curvilinear Blocks**

The following Figure 13.1-38 shall be used to determine the Block Sensitive Primary Street(s) ("P"), Side Street ("SS"), Side Interior ("SI"), and Rear ("R") of a corner lot on a curvilinear block. "ZA" means the Zoning Administrator shall make the determination of which frontage on the corner lot is the Primary Street in accordance with Sec. 13.1.5.2.A.3 For purposes of this provision, a "corner lot" is a zone lot that abuts only two intersecting streets. See Figure 13.1-38.

3. **Double Frontage: Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior, and Rear Zone Lot Lines**

For zone lots with double frontage, the Zoning Administrator shall determine which frontage is the Primary Street ("P") and Side Street ("SS"), and which is a Side Interior ("SI")/Rear ("R") Zone Lot Line, or if both frontages qualify as Primary Streets. See Figure 13.1-39.
4. **Zone Lots with Frontage on 3 or More Streets/Full Blocks: Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines**

For corner lots with frontage on 3 or more streets, including zone lots with full block frontage, the Zoning Administrator shall determine which frontage is the Primary Street, if one or more frontages qualify as Primary Streets, and the classification of the remaining frontages, as applicable, as either Side Interior Zone Lot Lines and/or Rear Zone Lot Lines. See Figure 13.1-40.

![Figure 13.1-40](image)

**Figure 13.1-40**

13.1.5.3 **Primary Street, Block Sensitive Setback**

**A. Intent**

To provide a contextual setback appropriate to existing conditions.

**B. Applicability of Primary Street, Block Sensitive Setback**

Where required by this Code’s building form standards, a Block Sensitive Setback standard shall apply to development on a zone lot in the following circumstances only:

1. There are at least 3 zone lots, including the subject zone lot, (a) containing primary residential structures, (b) located on the same Face Block as the subject zone lot and (c) abutting the same Primary Street as the subject zone lot. All such primary residential structures shall be completely constructed, which means the City has issued a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Occupancy for residential occupancy. See Figure 13.1-41 (Note: The Primary Street is determined according to Section 13.1.5.2)

2. If the rule in paragraph 1 does not apply, the applicant may request to be subject to a Primary Street, Block Sensitive Setback and shall follow the Administrative Adjustment process to determine the Primary Street, Block Sensitive Setback, rather than this Section 13.1.5.3. See Article 12, Section 12.4.5.3, Permitted Types of Administrative Adjustments.

3. Where the rules in paragraphs 1 or 2 do not apply, the “Primary street setback, where block sensitive setback does not apply” standard stated in the applicable building form table shall apply.
C. Determining the Primary Street, Block Sensitive Setback

1. Identify the Reference Zone Lots

   Identify the two closest zone lots to the subject property. For the purposes of this subsection, "closest" is measured as the shortest linear distance in feet between the two nearest zone lot lines of the subject property and a possible reference zone lot, which:

   a. Contain primary residential structures that have been completely constructed, which means the City has issued either a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Occupancy for residential occupancy; and

   b. Are located along the same Face Block as the subject zone lot; and

   c. Are not corner zone lots; and

   d. Are zoned in a zone district that has a Block Sensitive Setback.

   e. Where two reference zone lots cannot be identified using a-d, the Zoning Administrator shall identify one or more reference zone lots based on the criteria in Section 13.1.5.2.A.3 and considering the intent of the block sensitive setback stated in Section 13.1.5.3.A. (See Figure 13.1-42)
2. **Determine the Minimum Setback**

a. The reference zone lots identified in subsection 13.1.5.3.C.1 above shall be evaluated to establish the minimum setback for the subject property, unless either of the following conditions exist:

b. **One (not both) Reference Zone Lot Setback Less Than 20 Feet**

   If the Facade of the Primary Structure on only one of the reference zone lots is less than 20 feet from the Primary Street zone lot line, then the next two closest zone lots to the subject property shall be added into the evaluation. For the purposes of this subsection, "closest" is measured as the shortest linear distance in feet between the two nearest zone lot lines of the subject property and a possible reference zone lot.

   In addition, the subject property shall be added to the evaluation to determine the minimum setback, but only if the subject property contains a Primary Structure that will not be demolished, as evidenced in submitted plans, issued permits, or otherwise determined by the Zoning Administrator. The rules for determining the reference zone lots follow, and only one rule from the three possible rules below shall apply:

   i. If none of the other zone lots in the evaluation have a Primary Street setback less than 20 feet, the original reference zone lot with the less than 20 feet setback shall be considered an outlier and removed from consideration of establishing the minimum setback. The next two closest reference zone lots (not including the subject property or the outlier zone lot) shall be evaluated to establish the minimum setback. See Figure 13.1-43

   ii. If a majority of the zone lots in the evaluation have a Primary Street setback of less than 20 feet, the two closest reference zone lots (not including the subject property) shall be evaluated to establish the minimum setback. See Figure 13.1-44
iii. If there is not a majority of zone lots in the evaluation with a Primary Street setback of less than 20 feet, the Zoning Administrator shall establish the minimum setback based on an analysis of the predominant pattern of the reference zone lots (not including the subject property). See Figure 13.1-45

![Figure 13.1-43](image1)
![Figure 13.1-44](image2)
![Figure 13.1-45](image3)

**SP** = Subject Property  
**RZL** = Reference Zone Lot  
**ZA** = Zoning Administrator

### c. Reference Zone Lot Front Facade Setback 50% of the Zone Lot Depth or Greater

If the facade of only one of the structures on a reference zone lot, identified in subsection 13.1.5.3.C1. above, is setback 50% of the Zone Lot Depth or more from the Primary Street zone lot line, then the next two closest reference zone lots shall be added into the evaluation. For purposes of this subsection, "closest" is measured as the shortest linear distance in feet between the two nearest zone lot lines of the subject property and a possible reference zone lot.

The subject property shall be added to the evaluation if it contains a structure that will not be demolished, as evidenced in submitted plans, issued permits, or otherwise determined by the Zoning Administrator. The rules for determining the reference zone lots follow, and only one rule from the possible rules below shall apply:

1. If none of the other zone lots in the evaluation has a Primary Street setback of 50% of the Zone Lot Depth or more, the next two closest reference zone lots (not including the subject property) shall be evaluated to establish the minimum setback. See Figure 13.1-46

2. If there are other zone lots in the evaluation which have a 50% or deeper setbacks, the Zoning Administrator shall establish the minimum setback based on an analysis of the predominant pattern of the reference zone lots (not including the subject property). See Figure 13.1-47
iii. Block Sensitive Setback in a MU or RO zone district
   a) Where the Primary Street Setback is required in a MU or RO zone district and the Block Sensitive Setback is determined to be greater than 20 feet, the minimum Primary Street Setback shall be 20 feet instead.

3. Administrative Adjustment to Consider Entire Block Face
   An Applicant may request an administrative adjustment to consider the entire block face in the determination of the block sensitive primary street setback. See Article 12, Section 12.4.5.3, Permitted Types of Administrative Adjustments.

4. Rule of Measurement
   a. The Block Sensitive Setback is a minimum setback based on the location of the front Facades of the Primary Structures on the reference zone lots identified in subsections C.1. and C.2. above.
   b. The Façade of a Primary Structure on the subject zone lot shall be located no closer to its primary street zone lot line than the shortest distance between a Primary Structure Façade located on an identified reference zone lot(s) and its respective primary street zone lot line.

13.1.5.4 Determination of Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior, and Rear Zone Lot Lines for all CC, MX, and MS Zone Districts

A. Intent
   To provide a reference of measurement for standards related to form and building placement (e.g. Build-to, Setbacks)

B. General Requirements
   1. Each zone lot line shall have a designation of Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior or Rear.
   2. Each zone lot shall have at least one Primary Street.
   3. A primary street zone lot line or a side street zone lot line may abut a private street if approved by the Zoning Administrator.
4. Once designated for a zone lot, a Primary Street designation cannot be changed after development (e.g., a primary street cannot, for purposes of subsequent development, be re-designated a side street) unless all requirements of the zone district can be met.

C. Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determinations

The Zoning Administrator shall designate a zone lot’s Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable, based on an analysis of:

1. Guidance provided in any applicable Site Development Plan, Infrastructure Master Plan, General Development Plan, regulating plan, and/or Urban Design Standards and Guidelines, such as designation of pedestrian priority streets in such plan.

2. If criteria 1 does not apply or does not provide guidance for all zone lot lines, then the following criteria shall be used:
   a. The Zoning Administrator may designate no more than:
      i. One Primary Street in the S-CC, S-MX, E-CC, and E-MX zone districts.
      ii. Two Primary Streets in the U-MX and G-MX zone districts.
      iii. Two Primary Streets in the C-MX zone districts, and any additional Primary Streets being designated Primary Street B.
   b. The Blueprint Denver Street Classification of all abutting streets, per the following table:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Classification</th>
<th>All Main Street</th>
<th>C-MX</th>
<th>G-MX</th>
<th>U-MX</th>
<th>E-MX</th>
<th>E-CC, S-MX, S-CC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main (all types)</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>May be Primary or Side Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use (all types)</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>*May be Primary or Side Street</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial (all types)</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>*May be Primary or Side Street</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial (all types)</td>
<td>Primary Street</td>
<td>*May be Primary or Side Street</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Arterial</td>
<td>*May be Primary or Side Street</td>
<td>*May be Primary or Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Collector</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td>**Side Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Local and Undesignated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

*The Zoning Administrator shall use Criteria 2c to determine the Primary and/or Side Street(s) Zone Lot Lines
**If all streets meet this Classification, the Zoning Administrator shall designate no more than one Primary Street per Criteria 2c

c. Existing Conditions
   i. The same or similar use, building form and/or zone district occurring on the same and opposing face block frontage;
   ii. Frontage facing a public park;
   iii. Frontage facing a Parkway designated under D.R.M.C, Chapter 49; and
   iv. The functional street classification of all abutting streets as adopted by the Public Works Department.

D. Interior Zone Lots

1. The Zoning Administrator shall determine the Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear zone lot lines for all zone lots in the MS zone districts; See Figure 13.1-48.
2. For CC and MX zone districts:
   a. The Primary Street shall be the zone lot line abutting the name or numbered street.
   b. The Rear shall be the zone lot line opposite the Primary Street.
   c. The Side Interior shall be the remaining two zone lot lines.
   d. There shall be no Side Street designation.
      See Figure 13.1-49

E. Corner Zone Lots

1. In the CC and MX zone districts
   a. The applicant shall designate a Primary Street and Side Street
   b. The Zoning Administrator shall designate the Side Interior and/or Rear Zone Lot Lines. See Figure 13.1-50

2. In the MS zone districts:
   The Zoning Administrator shall determine the Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines. See Figure 13.1-51
F. **Double Frontage Zone Lots**

The Zoning Administrator shall determine the Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear for all double frontage zone lots. See Figure 13.1-52.

G. **Zone Lots with Frontage on 3 or More Streets/Full Block**

The Zoning Administrator shall determine the Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear for all zone lots with frontage on three or more streets/full blocks. See Figure 13.1-53
13.1.5.5 Determination of Primary Street, Side Interior, and Rear Zone Lot Lines for all C-CCN, D-AS-12+, D-AS-20+, D-CPV-T, D-CPV-R, and D-CPV-C Zone Districts

A. Intent
To provide a reference of measurement for standards related to form, building placement, and design elements (e.g., Build-to, Setbacks, Transparency) in Cherry Creek North (C-CCN), Downtown Arapahoe Square 12+ (D-AS-12+), Downtown Arapahoe Square 20+ (D-AS-20+), Downtown Central Platte Valley - Auraria Transition (D-CPV-T), Downtown Central Platte Valley - Auraria River (D-CPV-R), and Downtown Central Platte Valley - Auraria Center (D-CPV-C) zone districts.

B. General Requirements
1. Each Zone Lot Line shall have a designation of Primary Street, Side Interior or Rear.

C. Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determinations
The Zoning Administrator shall designate a zone lot’s Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable, based on an analysis of:

1. Guidance provided in any applicable Infrastructure Master Plan, General Development Plan, regulating plan, and/or Urban Design Standards and Guidelines.

2. If criterion C.1 does not apply, then the following criteria shall be used:
   a. The prevailing building orientation and setback patterns of buildings located on the same face block(s) as the subject zone lot; and
   b. Block and lot shape.
D. Determining Zone Lot Lines

1. All Zone Lots - Primary Street Zone Lot Lines
   a. The Zoning Administrator shall designate all Zone Lot Lines abutting a street to be Primary Street zone lot lines.
   b. In D-CPV-R zone districts only, any Zone Lot Line that abuts, and is roughly parallel to, the South Platte River, or a Street that is adjacent to the South Platte River shall be designated as a Primary Street Zone Lot Line.
   c. In D-CPV-T, D-CPV-R, and D-CPV-C zone districts only, any Zone Lot Line that abuts a Public Park shall be designated as a Primary Street Zone Lot Line.

2. Interior Zone Lots
   For interior zone lots in all C-CCN, D-AS-12+, D-AS-20+, D-CPV-T, D-CPV-R, and D-CPV-C zone districts:
   a. The Primary Street Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line abutting the named or numbered street.
   b. The Rear Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line(s) opposite the Primary Street.
   c. The Side Interior Zone Lot Line shall be the remaining Zone Lot Lines.

See Figure 13.1-54.

Figure 13.1-54
3. **Corner Zone Lots, Double Frontage Zone Lots, and Zone Lots with Frontage on 3 or More Streets/Full Block**

For all corner zone lots, double frontage zone lots, and zone lots with frontage on 3 or more streets or a full block in all C-CCN, D-AS-12+, D-AS-20+, D-CPV-T, D-CPV-R, and D-CPV-C zone districts:

a. All Zone Lot Lines abutting a named or numbered street shall be Primary Street Zone Lot Lines.

b. The Zoning Administrator shall determine the Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable. See Figure 13.1-55

Figure 13.1-55

- **P** - Primary Street
- **SI** - Side Interior
- **R** - Rear
- **ZA** - Zoning Administrator
13.1.5.6 Determination of Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior, and Rear Zone Lot Lines in the DO-7 Overlay District

A. Intent
To provide a reference of measurement for standards related to form and building placement while promoting pedestrian-oriented frontages and an active riverfront experience with visual interest and variety in the DO-7 district.

B. General Requirements
The general requirements set forth for all CC, MX, and MS Zone Districts in Section 13.1.5.4.B General Requirements shall apply in addition to the requirements set forth in this Section 13.1.5.6.

C. Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determinations
For all Underlying Zone Districts, the Zoning Administrator shall designate a Zone Lot’s Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable, based on an analysis of the provisions set forth in Section 13.1.5.4.C Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determinations, except that:

1. In lieu of the provisions set forth in Section 13.1.5.4.C.2.a, the Zoning Administrator may designate more than one Primary Street Zone Lot Line in any Underlying Zone District where:
   a. Guidance provided in any applicable Infrastructure Master Plan, Site Development Plan, and/or Urban Design Standards and Guidelines, such as designation of pedestrian priority streets in such plan, indicates the need for designation of multiple Primary Streets.
   b. The Blueprint Denver Street Classification of all Abutting streets, per the table in Section 13.1.5.4.C.2.b indicates Primary Street designation for more than one Abutting street.

2. The Zoning Administrator shall designate Zone Lot Lines that Abut named streets (such as Wynkoop and Larimer streets) as Primary Street Zone Lot Lines, except that:
   a. Any Zone Lot Line that is Adjacent to 35th Street shall also be designated as a Primary Street Zone Lot Line in addition to the named street.
   b. Where a corner Zone Lot Abuts more than one named street, the Zoning Administrator may elect to designate only one of the named streets as a Primary Street based on an analysis of the Blueprint Denver Street Classification of each named street.

3. Any Zone Lot Line that Abuts, and is roughly parallel to, the South Platte River, or a Street that is Adjacent to the South Platte River, shall be designated as a Primary Street Zone Lot Line. See Figure 13.1-56.

4. Any Zone Lot Line that Abuts a Public Park shall be designated as a Side Street Zone Lot Line.

D. Corner Zone Lot, Double Frontage Zone Lot, or Zone Lot with Frontage 3 or More Streets
In lieu of the provisions set forth in Sections 13.1.5.4.E-G, the Zoning Administrator shall designate a Zone Lot’s Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable according to the criteria set forth in Section 13.1.5.6.C. See Figure 13.1-56.
13.1.5.7 Determination of Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior, and Rear Zone Lot Lines in the CMP-NWC-C, CMP-NWC-G, CMP-NWC-F and CMP-NWC-R Zone Districts

A. Intent
   To provide a reference of measurement for standards related to form and building placement while promoting pedestrian-oriented frontages and an active riverfront experience with visual interest and variety (e.g. Build-to, Setbacks).

B. General Requirements
   1. Each Zone Lot Line shall have a designation of Primary Street, Side Interior or Rear.
   2. Once designated for a zone lot, zone lot line designations cannot be changed after development (e.g., a primary street cannot, for purposes of subsequent development, be re-designated a side street) unless all requirements of the zone district can be met.
C. **Criteria for Zoning Administrator Determinations**
Where Section 13.1.5.7.D does not apply, the Zoning Administrator shall designate a zone lot’s Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable, based on an analysis of:

1. Guidance provided in any applicable General Development Plan, regulating plan, and/or Urban Design Standards and Guidelines, such as designation of pedestrian priority streets in such plan.

2. If criterion C.1 does not apply, then the following criteria shall be used:
   a. The prevailing building orientation and setback patterns of buildings located on the same face block(s) as the subject zone lot; and
   b. Block and lot shape.

D. **Determining Zone Lot Lines**

1. **All Zone Lots - Primary Street Zone Lot Lines**
   a. In CMP-NWC-C, CMP-NWC-F, and CMP-NWC-R zone districts only, any Zone Lot Line that Abuts, and is roughly parallel to, the South Platte River; or a Street that is Adjacent to the South Platte River; shall be designated as a Primary Street Zone Lot Line.
   b. In the CMP-NWC-C zone district only, the Primary Street Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line abutting Bettie Cram Drive.
   c. In the CMP-NWC-G zone district only, the Primary Street Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line abutting National Western Drive.
   d. In the CMP-NWC-F zone district only, the Primary Street Zone Lot Lines shall be Zone Lot Lines abutting National Western Drive and Race Court.
   e. In the CMP-NWC-R zone district only, the Primary Street Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line abutting National Western Drive.
   f. Where a Zone Lot does not Abut any of the streets identified as a Primary Street in this Section 13.1.5.7.D, the Zoning Administrator shall designate a Zone Lot’s Primary Street, Side Street, Side Interior and Rear Zone Lot Lines, as applicable, based on an analysis of the provisions set forth in Section 13.1.5.7.C.

2. **Interior Zone Lots - Primary Street Zone Lot Lines**
   For interior zone lots in the CMP-NWC-C, CMP-NWC-G, CMP-NWC-F and CMP-NWC-R zone districts:
   a. The Primary Street Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line abutting the named or numbered street.
   b. The Rear Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line(s) opposite the Primary Street.
   c. The Side Interior Zone Lot Line shall be the remaining Zone Lot Lines.

3. **Corner Zone Lot, Double Frontage Zone Lot or Zone Lot with Frontage on 3 or More Streets**
   For all corner zone lots in the CMP-NWC-C, CMP-NWC-G, CMP-NWC-F and CMP-NWC-R zone districts:
   a. The Primary Street Zone Lot Line shall be as specified in Section 13.1.5.7.D.1.
   b. The Side Street Zone Lot Line shall be the remaining Zone Lot Line abutting a named or numbered street.
   c. The Rear Zone Lot Line shall be the Zone Lot Line(s) opposite the Primary Street.
   d. The Side Interior Zone Lot Line shall be the remaining Zone Lot Lines.
13.1.5.8 Required Build-To

A. Intent
   To clearly define the public realm through consistent building placement, massing and orientation.

B. Applicability
   The Primary Building Form Standards in Articles 3 through 9 specify required build-to standards for many Primary Building Forms. Rules of measurement, general requirements, and build-to alternative requirements are provided in this Section 13.1.5.8.

C. Rule of Measurement
   See Figure 13.1-57

1. Min/Max Range:
   a. Required build-to standards are measured from and perpendicular to the zone lot line abutting a named or numbered street.
   b. Where a zone lot includes an easement for public access or for the benefit of a public utility, and such easement abuts the public street right-of-way, a required build-to shall be measured from the easement rather than from the zone lot line. See Figure 13.1-58
   c. Where a Zone Lot includes open space meeting the requirements of 12.4.12.5 abutting the public street right-of-way, a required Build-to shall be measured from the open space rather than the zone lot line.
2. **Minimum Percentage:**
   a. Required build-to is calculated as a percentage (%) using the length of the primary building front or side wall, and/or the length of a permitted build-to alternative such as a garden wall, located at or within the range of the Build-To requirement, divided by the total zone lot width at the zone lot line abutting the street right-of-way.
   b. For a Zone Lot including an easement for public access or the benefit of a public utility, the required Build-To is calculated as a percentage (%) using the length of the primary building front or side wall, and/or the length of a permitted build-to alternative located at or within the range of the Build-To requirement, divided by the total zone lot width at the zone lot line abutting the street right of way less the dimension of the easement.

c. The width in linear feet of recessed pedestrian entries, used to meet a required entrance standard and recessed no deeper than 15 feet from the maximum build-to line, may be added to the length of the applicable wall for purposes of meeting a minimum percentage build-to requirement, not to exceed the width of the doors and typical sidelights, as applicable.

d. For recessed vehicle garage doors that provide direct entrance to an integrated parking structure, but which are setback farther than the max of the build-to range due to city standards, rules or regulations, the width in linear feet may be added to the length of the applicable building wall for purposes of meeting the minimum percentage build-to requirement.

D. **General Requirements**

1. Required build-to standards shall apply only to the Street Level of the primary structure(s) on a zone lot.

2. Buildings, or a permitted alternative, shall be built at or within the Build-To requirement for at least the minimum percentage (%) required along the Primary and/or Side Street frontage.

3. Build-to requirements are calculated separately for each separately owned zone lot frontage comprising a development site.
E. **Build-to Alternative Requirements**

Where permitted, the following alternatives may be used singularly or in combination as alternatives to a required build-to minimum percentage standard:

1. **Permanent Outdoor Patio Seating**

   Permanent outdoor patio seating shall be placed between the building and the Primary Street zone lot line. Street Level activation standards shall still apply for portions of the facade behind permanent outdoor patio seating.

   ![Figure 13.1-60](image)

   *Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.*

2. **Private Open Space**

   Private Open Space shall comply with the following standards:
   
   a. Private Open Space used as a build-to alternative in any zone district:
      
      i. Shall be open to the sky
      
      ii. Shall not be covered by an Off-Street Parking Area or a Completely or Partially Enclosed Structure, but may include Open Structures excluding Exterior Balconies
      
      iii. May include tables, chairs, benches, sculptures and similar elements
      
      iv. May include the operation of any unenclosed primary, accessory, or temporary uses permitted in the zone district
      
      v. Shall be fully visible from a primary street
      
      vi. Shall not be permanently enclosed by railings, fences, gates, or walls that do not allow public access during business hours.
   
   b. Private Open Space used as a build-to alternative in a C-CCN zone district shall contain at least one Minimum Contiguous Area meeting the requirements of Section 13.1.6.1.B.3.b.vi

3. **Garden Wall**

   A garden wall shall comply with all of the following standards:

   a. Garden Walls must be between 30 inches and 42 inches in height with the following exceptions:
i. Decorative and/or structural piers may exceed 42 inches in height.

ii. Seating incorporated into the wall may be a minimum of 18 inches in height and may be accessed from both sides of the wall without an intervening division.

iii. Pergola, awning and trellis structures must maintain clear visual sight lines between the public right of way and the property between the heights of 42 inches and 84 inches.

b. Allowed materials are limited to masonry or an ornamental metal fence with masonry piers spaced at not more than 25 feet with landscaping.

i. An Administrative Adjustment to the allowed material is permitted to better match the primary building. See Article 12.

c. Garden walls used as a Required Build-To Alternative may also be counted toward Perimeter Landscaping Requirements in Article 10.

Figure 13.1-61

Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.

4. **Pergola**

A pergola shall comply with all of the following standards:

a. Pergola structure shall consist of an arbor or passageway of columns that is at least 50% open to the sky.

b. Pergola structure shall be no less than 5 feet deep as measured perpendicular to the Primary or Side Street zone lot line.

c. Pergola structure shall not be erected over a Drive or Driveway, or over any part of an Off-Street Parking Area.

d. Pergola structure shall maintain at least 8 feet clearance between the structure and grade where erected over any public rights-of-way or pedestrian walkways.

e. Pergola structure shall be made of metal, masonry, treated wood, or other materials that are durable in an exterior urban environment.

f. Pergola structure shall be supported by vertical columns, posts, or piers not less than 15 feet on center, which means the center of each column, post, or pier is a minimum of 15 feet from the center of the next column, post, or pier, and then the next, and so on.

g. Garden walls, seating and/or landscaping may be incorporated between the pergola’s vertical supports, provided that the pergola maintains at least 75% open area for clear visual sight lines between the public rights-of-way and the interior of the property between the heights of 42 inches and 84 inches above grade.
5. **Arcade**

An arcade shall comply with all of the following standards:

a. An arcade shall be located below an occupied building area,

b. The arcade column line shall generally align with, and run parallel to, the wall plane of the building above,

c. An arcade shall extend no more than 2 stories in height,

d. The exterior face of the arcade column line shall be within the required build-to range,

e. The average depth of the arcade shall be no less than 6 feet clear, as measured from the interior face of the columns (benches, trash receptacles and other non-permanent features may be located in the clear area),

f. The average depth of the arcade shall be no more than 2/3 of the average height of unobstructed arcade openings, as measured from the front face of the columns

g. The interior wall of the arcade shall meet the required Street Level activation standards or alternatives.

h. An Arcade may contribute to the Street Level Active use requirement for a maximum of 6 feet of the required 15 foot depth.
6. **Courtyard**

A courtyard shall comply with all of the following standards:

a. **Minimum Courtyard Design:**
   i. Shall face the Primary Street;
   ii. Shall have a width of at least 15 feet, measured as the distance between the two closest edges of the exterior walls facing each other across the courtyard; and
   iii. Shall have a depth of at least 30 feet measured as the horizontal distance between the primary street-facing exterior building wall nearest to the primary street zone lot line and the closest facade of the exterior building wall facing the primary street behind the courtyard, measured perpendicular to the zone lot line.

b. The Courtyard is intended primarily for pedestrian use and shall include all of the following physical characteristics:
   i. Shall be no more than one-half story above or below grade at the zone lot line adjoining the primary street;
   ii. Shall be physically accessible from the primary street, but may be secured for private use;
   iii. Shall be visible from the primary street zone lot line;
   iv. Shall be open to the sky; and
   v. Shall be bounded on not less than 3 sides with connected building facades.

c. The Courtyard area may be used for any of the following:
   i. Single or multiple entries to uses within the building;
   ii. Public or private landscaped area;
   iii. Outdoor seating area; or
   iv. Motor Court, which is intended primarily for pedestrian activity but may include shared space for limited vehicular circulation for loading/unloading and access to parking areas outside the courtyard area. Driveways, Internal Drives, and Off-street Parking Areas are not permitted in the Motor Court. The vehicular circulation areas must meet enhanced or upgraded paving standards, including but not limited to unit pavers, porous pavers, or integrally colored concrete with a module of not more than 4 feet.
7. **Drive Way Access**
   a. The build-to alternative Drive Way Access may only be used when vehicular access is required from the street.
   b. Rule of Measurement
      i. The Build-To Alternative shall be calculated by subtracting the alternative from the Build-To requirement. For example, on a 100 foot wide Zone Lot where the Build-To percentage is 70 percent, 70 feet of the building must be within the build-to range. When using the Drive Way Access Build-To Alternative, a maximum of 12 feet is subtracted from 70 foot required build-to, resulting in a required build-to of 58 feet.
13.1.5.9 Setbacks

A. Intent
To provide adequate separation for privacy and access to sunlight.

B. Rules of Measurement
Setbacks provide a minimum horizontal distance between a zone lot line and the location of uses and structures on a zone lot, measured as follows: See Figure 13.1-67

1. Primary and Side Street setbacks are measured perpendicular to the zone lot line at the edge of the right-of-way abutting a name or numbered street or an easement for public access Abutting the right-of-way of a named or numbered street.

2. Side Interior and Rear setbacks are measured perpendicular to the side interior or rear zone lot line abutting another zone lot, a public alley, or an easement for public access Abutting an Alley.

3. Where a Side Interior setback standard is stated as “min one side/min combined:”
   a. One side interior setback shall meet the standard meeting the “min one side” and the total of both side interior setbacks shall be equal to or greater than the standard of the “min combined.”
   b. If zone lot has only one Side Interior Zone Lot Line, the “min one side” standard shall apply.

4. Primary street and rear setbacks extend across the full width of the zone lot, overlapping with the side interior and side street setbacks as applicable.
   a. Where a minimum percentage of Zone Lot Width is specified for a Primary Street Setback, the minimum percentage of Zone Lot Width at the Primary Street Zone Lot Line specified in the building form table shall be required to meet the minimum Primary Street Setback.

5. Side interior and side street setbacks extend the full length of the side zone lot lines, overlapping with both the primary street and rear setbacks.

6. Side interior setbacks in the Town House building form for Dwelling Units Oriented to the Street shall apply only to the length of the side interior Zone Lot lines where a line extended perpendicular from the side interior Zone Lot line intersects any exterior building facade of a Side-by-Side Dwelling Unit Oriented to the Primary Street. See Figure 13.1-66

Figure 13.1-66
13.1.5.10 Residential Setbacks

A. Intent
To provide transitional space between the edge of a public sidewalk and dwelling units located at the Street Level

B. Applicability
Residential setback standards apply to the portion of a Structure that contains street-facing dwelling units at the Street Level.

C. Rules of Measurement

1. Residential Setbacks are measured perpendicular to the Zone Lot Line at the edge of the right-of-way Abutting a named or numbered street or an easement for public access Abutting the right-of-way of a named or numbered street.

2. Residential Setbacks are measured from the Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line to the outside wall of any street-facing dwelling unit. See Figure 13.1-68.

3. Portions of a Structure containing residential lobbies, rental offices, amenity areas or nonresidential uses shall not be subject to a Residential Setback.

4. Residential Setbacks shall be considered to be a Primary Street setback for purposes of allowed encroachments.
13.1.5.11 **Primary Street Parking Setbacks**

A. **Intent**
   To promote a pedestrian-oriented, active streetscape by prohibiting parking near the street.

B. **Rules of Measurement**
   Primary Street Parking Setbacks provide a minimum horizontal distance between a Primary Street zone lot line and the location of an Off-Street Parking Area, measured as follows:
   
   1. Primary Street Parking Setbacks are measured perpendicular to the zone lot line at the edge of the right-of-way abutting a named or numbered street.
   
   2. Primary Street Parking Setbacks extend across the full width of the zone lot, overlapping with the side interior and side street setbacks as applicable.
13.1.5.12 Setback Encroachments

A. Rule of Measurement

1. Each setback encroachment shall be measured from the required minimum setback line.
2. Setback encroachments are not cumulative in that they are always measured from the same point.
3. The entirety of the element permitted as an encroachment shall be within the permitted encroachment distance. See Figure 13.1-69

Figure 13.1-69
13.1.5.13 Building Coverage

A. Intent
To provide openness on a lot by limiting the amount of area buildings can cover.

B. Rule of Measurement
Building coverage shall be measured as the “gross area of a footprint” on the zone lot according to C below, divided by the total gross square foot area of the Zone Lot and multiplied times 100, as building coverage is expressed as a percentage.

C. Gross Area of Footprint
For purposes of building coverage, “gross area of a footprint” shall include: See Figure 13.1-70

1. The gross area of the actual footprint measured to the exterior faces of the structure and any enclosed projections beyond the footprint of all Primary and/or Accessory:
   a. Structure, Completely Enclosed;
   b. Structure, Partially Enclosed;
   c. Deck, Raised; and
   d. Balcony, Exterior.

D. Building Coverage Exceptions
Exceptions to building coverage are permitted by Neighborhood Context. See Articles 3-9, Design Standard Exceptions section.

13.1.5.14 Building Separation

A. Intent
To provide openness between buildings located on the same Zone Lot.

B. Rule of Measurement

1. For purposes of determining a building coverage exception contained within Articles 3-9, Design Standard Exceptions, and separation in the Tandem House building form, the following rule of measurement applies (See Figure 13.1-71):

   a. Building separation shall be measured as the horizontal distance between the two closest above-grade portions of each subject structure (for example, between a detached garage building form and the primary residential building form), provided each subject structure meets one of the following definitions (see Article 13 for definitions):
Article 13. Rules of Measurement & Definitions
Division 13.1 Rules of Measurement

1. Structures, Completely Enclosed
2. Structures, Partially Enclosed
3. Raised Decks
4. Balconies

b. Where another structure interrupts the separation between the two subject structures, building separation shall still be considered met.

2. For all other purposes, building separation shall be measured as the horizontal distance between the two closest portions of each building’s exterior walls.

Figure 13.1-71

13.1.5.15 Parking and Drive Lot Coverage in Primary Street Setback

A. Rule of Measurement
Parking and drive lot coverage in the primary street setback is measured as the total amount of material used for vehicle access or vehicle storage within the primary street setback area of a zone lot. See Figure 13.1-72
13.1.5.16  **Surface Parking Between Building and Primary Street/Side Street**

A. **Rule of Measurement**

For the purposes of determining if an area is between a Building and a Primary Street/Side Street, extend a line perpendicular from the Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line. If any portion of said line touches the Building Facade, then said line is between the Building and such Street. See Figure 13.1-73.

![Figure 13.1-73](image)

13.1.5.17  **Floor Area Ratio (FAR)**

A. **Rule of Measurement - FAR**

Floor area ratio (FAR) is the ratio of gross floor area of a building to the area of the zone lot on which the building is located. For example, 43,560 square feet of building on one acre of land (43,560 sq. ft.) would equal a 1:1 floor area ratio. See Figure 13.1-74

B. **Calculation of Gross Floor Area**

For purposes of calculating FAR, "gross floor area" means the sum of the gross horizontal areas of the several floors of a building, including interior balconies and mezzanines, but excluding exterior balconies. All horizontal dimensions of each floor are to be measured by the exterior faces of walls of each such floor. The floor area of a building shall include the floor area of accessory buildings on the same zone lot, measured the same way. In computing gross floor area the following exclusions shall apply:

1. Any floor area devoted to mechanical equipment serving the building, provided that the floor area of such use occupies not less than 75 percent of the floor area of the story in which such mechanical equipment is located.

2. Any floor area in a story in which the floor above is less than 6 feet above the finished grade for more than 50% of the total building perimeter.
3. Any floor area used exclusively as parking space for vehicles and/or bicycles. This exclusion shall not apply in the D-CPV-C zone district where any floor area used exclusively as parking space for vehicles and/or bicycles shall be included in the calculation of gross floor area.

4. Any floor area that serves as a pedestrian mall or public access way to shops and stores.

5. For purposes of calculating parking amounts, see rule provided in Article 10, Division 10.4 Parking and Loading.

**Figure 13.1-74**

**SECTION 13.1.6 DESIGN ELEMENT FORM STANDARDS**

The design element form standards of this Code are defined and measured as set forth below.

**13.1.6.1 Building Configuration**

A. **Front or Side Wall Length / Overall Structure Length or Width**

1. The length of the front or side wall of a structure, or the overall structure length, shall be measured parallel to the primary street, side street, or side interior zone lot line and includes the length of a Completely Enclosed structure plus the length of any portion of any attached Partially Enclosed structure(s), as shown in Figure 13.1-75 below.

2. The overall structure width includes the length of a Completely Enclosed structure plus the length of any portion of any attached Partially Enclosed structure(s) and shall be measured parallel to the primary street zone lot line or the side street/side interior zone lot line, whichever zone lot line is shorter.

3. The Zoning Administrator shall determine the zone lot line corresponding with the overall structure width in cases where the length of the primary street zone lot line and side street/side interior zone lot line are equal.
B. Private Open Space

1. Intent
To create quality privately owned open spaces that are adjacent and physically open to the street. Private open space should provide visual interest and activate the pedestrian realm.

2. Applicability
This section applies where Primary Building Form Standards or Overlay District Standards specify a minimum percentage of Private Open Space.

3. Rules of Measurement
   a. Private Open Space shall be calculated as a percentage (%) using the total area open to the sky, subject to the below requirements, divided by the total gross square footage of the Zone Lot and multiplied by 100.
   b. For purposes of Private Open Space measurement, the total area open to the sky:
      i. Shall not be covered by Off-Street Parking Area or a Completely or Partially Enclosed Structure, but may include Open Structures excluding Exterior Balconies. Private Open Space may also include tables, chairs, benches, sculptures and similar elements.
      ii. May include the operation of any unenclosed primary, accessory, or temporary uses permitted in the zone district.
      iii. Shall Abut a Primary Street or Side Street Zone Lot Line.
      iv. Shall be fully visible from a Primary Street or Side Street.
      v. Shall not be permanently enclosed by railings, fences, gates, or walls that do not allow public access during business hours.
      vi. Shall contain at least one Minimum Contiguous Area, subject to the minimum dimensions below. The width of the Minimum Contiguous Area shall be measured parallel to the Primary Street or Side Street Zone Lot Line, shown as 'A' in Figure 13.1-76. The depth of the Minimum Contiguous Area shall be measured as the horizontal distance between the Primary Street or Side Street Zone Lot Line and the closest facade of the exterior building wall facing the Primary Street or Side Street, measured perpendicular to the Zone Lot Line, shown as "B" in Figure 13.1-76.
a) For Zone Lots 9,375 square feet or less, as of October 27, 2014, the Minimum Contiguous Area shall be at least 15 feet wide and 15 feet deep.

b) For Zone Lots 9,375 square feet or less as of October 27, 2014, in the C-CCN zone districts, where the Zone Lots Abuts the southern boundary of the 3rd Avenue right-of-way, the Minimum Contiguous Area shall be at least 15 feet wide and 15 feet deep and shall Abut, be fully visible from, and fully accessible from the 3rd Avenue right-of-way.

c) For all other Zone Lots the Minimum Contiguous Area shall be at least 15 feet wide and 30 feet deep.

C. Mass Reduction

1. Intent
   To sculpt building mass above the base of a building, to reduce the horizontal scale of taller buildings, to provide sun and light exposure through taller buildings, and to encourage architectural variety.

2. Rule of Measurement
   a. The Mass Reduction is calculated as a percentage (%) using the “gross area without building coverage” at a height of 31 feet or the highest point of the second story, whichever is less, divided by the total gross square foot area of the zone lot and multiplied times 100. For purposes of Mass Reduction, “gross area without building coverage” shall be calculated as the gross area from all zone lot lines to the exterior faces of the following structures: see Figure 13.1-77
      i. Structure, Completely Enclosed;
      ii. Structure, Partially Enclosed; and
      iii. Balcony, Exterior.
b. For purposes of measuring the Mass Reduction:
   i. The Mass Reduction shall be open to the sky from above a height of 31 feet or the highest point of the second story, whichever is less, except the following shall be permitted:
      a. Safety Railings and Parapet Walls no taller than 4 feet; and
      b. Open Structures, excluding Exterior Balconies. See Figure 13.1-78

ii. All portions of the Mass Reduction shall have an uninterrupted perpendicular connection to the public right-of-way. See Figure 13.1-79
iii. Off Street Parking Area is not permitted in the Mass Reduction.
iv. A Zone Lot may have one or more Mass Reductions which may not be contiguous. The areas of multiple Mass Reductions may be summed to meet the minimum Mass Reduction requirement, provided that each Mass Reduction shall comply with all other standards in this Section 13.1.6.1.C Mass Reduction rule of measurement. See Figure 13.1-80.

D. Incremental Mass Reduction

1. **Intent**
   To reduce the perceived mass and scale of buildings and promote creative building designs.

2. **Applicability**
   Where specified in a building form table or applicable Overlay District, Incremental Mass Reduction standards apply to all Structures on a Zone Lot.
3. **Rules of Measurement for Incremental Mass Reduction**

Incremental Mass Reduction creates a reduction in the gross floor area of Structures on a Zone Lot by requiring a minimum "gross area of mass reduction" within a specified range of Stories based on the percentage of Zone Lot Size specified in a building form table or applicable Overlay Zone District. See Figure 13.1-81.

![Figure 13.1-81](image-url)

**a. Calculation of Incremental Mass Reduction**

i. **Method of Calculation**

For each specified range of Stories, Incremental Mass Reduction is calculated using a percentage (%) of the Zone Lot Size multiplied by the number of Stories in the specified range, which yields the minimum "gross area of mass reduction" that must occur within the specified range of Stories.

ii. **Measurement of Stories**

For purposes of Incremental Mass Reduction, specified ranges of Stories shall be measured according to the method set forth in Section 13.1.2.3 Height in Stories.

iii. **Measurement of "Gross Area of Mass Reduction"**

a) For purposes of Incremental Mass Reduction, "gross area of mass reduction" is any unbuilt area that would not be measured as gross floor area using the method set forth in Section 13.1.5.16.B Calculation of Gross Floor Area except as set forth in b) below.

b) In lieu of the exception set forth in Section 13.1.5.16.B.3, any enclosed floor area used exclusively as parking space for motor vehicles shall be included when calculating gross floor area for purposes of this Section 13.1.6.1.D.3 and shall not count toward "gross area of mass reduction".

iv. **Calculation Example: Incremental Mass Reduction in One Range of Stories**

a) Minimum "Gross Area of Mass Reduction" Example: On a 25,000 square foot Zone Lot, where the specified Incremental Mass Reduction is 10% for Stories 3-5 (a 3 Story range), application of the method of calculation specified in Section 13.1.6.1.D.3.a.i would yield a minimum 7,500 square foot "gross area of mass reduction" 

\[ (25,000 \times 3) \times 0.10 = 7,500 \]
b) Remaining Gross Floor Area Example: The 7,500 square foot minimum "gross area of mass reduction" calculated in a) above would leave a remaining maximum gross floor area of 67,500 square feet for Stories 3-5 (25,000 x 3 - 7,500 = 67,500) absent other standards, such as minimum Setbacks, which could reduce gross floor area.

v. Illustrated Examples: Incremental Mass Reduction in Four Ranges of Stories
   See Figure 13.1-82 for examples of combined mass reduction on a 16-Story Structure with four specified ranges of Stories requiring increased Incremental Mass Reduction as the Structure increases in height.

b. Location of Incremental Mass Reduction
   The "gross area of mass reduction" that meets a specified percentage of Incremental Mass Reduction shall have an uninterrupted perpendicular connection with one or more of the following frontages. See Figure 13.1-83.
   i. Primary Street(s), including the South Platte River
   ii. Side Street(s)
   iii. Public Park(s)

c. Minimum Dimensions of Areas Counting Towards Incremental Mass Reduction
   i. Incremental Mass Reduction may be provided in one or more areas that are not contiguous with each other.
   ii. Any single area of Incremental Mass Reduction shall be a minimum of 15 feet wide as measured along a frontage specified in Section 13.1.6.1.D.3.b Location of Incremental Mass Reduction, and a minimum of 7 feet deep as measured perpendicular to the Zone Lot Line parallel to that frontage. See Figure 13.1-84.
Figure 13.1-82

GROSS FLOOR AREA

COMBINED INCREMENTAL MASS REDUCTION

STORIES 13 - 16
Gross Floor Area

STORIES 9 - 12
Gross Floor Area

STORIES 6 - 8
Gross Floor Area

STORIES 3 - 5
Gross Floor Area

Gross Floor Area

Incremental Mass Reduction

Gross Floor Area

Incremental Mass Reduction

Gross Floor Area

Incremental Mass Reduction

Gross Floor Area

Incremental Mass Reduction

Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.
E. Tower Floor Plate

1. **Intent**
   To preserve sky exposure and encourage architectural variety by reducing the horizontal scale and ensuring appropriate spacing of the tower portion(s) of Standard Tower and Point Tower building forms.

2. **Applicability**
   Tower Floor Plate standards required by the building form table shall apply to all Structures built under the Standard Tower and Point Tower building forms.

3. **Rules of Measurement**
   a. **Tower Floor Plate Area**
      Tower Floor Plate Area shall be measured as the area of the Floor Plate of the largest Story located above the specified height in the building form table. See Figure 13.1-85.
   
   b. **Tower Floor Plate Linear Dimension**
      Tower Floor Plate Linear Dimension shall be measured as the longest horizontal linear distance between two points on the exterior faces of exterior walls of any Story located above the specified height in the building form table. See Figure 13.1-85.
   
   c. **Tower Floor Plate Separation**
      Tower Floor Plate Separation shall be measured as the shortest horizontal linear distance between two or more separate Structures, including Exterior Balconies, regardless of Zone Lot, located above the specified height in the building form table. See Figure 13.1-85.

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**Figure 13.1-85**

Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.
F. Upper Story Side or Rear Setback, adjacent to Protected District

1. Intent
   To provide appropriate height and massing transitions to less intensive adjoining zone districts.

2. Rule of Measurement
   An upper-story side or rear setback is measured from the side or rear zone lot line, extending to the specified height from the Base Plane and then horizontally to the specified setback distance. See Figure 13.1-86.

G. Primary Street Upper Story Setback

1. Intent
   To provide appropriate pedestrian scale, height and massing along a Primary Street.

2. Rules of Measurement
   a. Upper Story Setback
      A minimum Primary Street Upper Story setback shall be measured from the Primary Street zone lot line, extending to the maximum specified height in feet and stories from the Base Plane and then horizontally to the specified setback distance, see Figure 13.1-86.

   b. Percentage of Zone Lot Width for an Upper Story Setback
      Where a minimum percentage of Zone Lot Width is specified for a Primary Street Upper Story Setback, the minimum percentage of Zone Lot Width at the Primary Street Zone Lot Line specified in the building form table shall be required to meet the minimum Upper Story Setback. See Figure 13.1-87.

   c. Upper Story Stepback for Low-Slope Roof
      Where a stepback is required for a structure with a Low-Slope Roof, the stepback shall be required for any portion of the building that has a Low-Slope Roof. See Figure 13.1-88.

Figure 13.1-86

Figure 13.1-87 Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.
d. **Primary Street Wall Length Within the Upper Story Setback**
   
i. Where a maximum Primary Street Wall Length within the Upper Story Setback is specified, it shall be measured as the total length of walls along the Primary Street zone lot line within the specified depth of the Upper Story Setback. For example, if the minimum Primary Street Upper Story Setback is 10 feet, and the maximum Wall Length within the Upper Story Setback is 80 feet, the combined length of all walls above the Upper Story Setback height and within 10 feet of the Primary Street property line may be no more than 80 feet. See Figure 13.1-89.

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**Figure 13.1-88**

Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.
H. Upper Story Stepback

1. Intent
   To shape building forms to reduce effect of massing on adjoining properties or along a street.

2. Rule of Measurement
   Upper Story Stepback is measured as the specified vertical distance starting at the Base Plane, and then extending the specified horizontal distance from the face of the building’s lower portion, as shown in Figure 13.1-90.

![Figure 13.1-90](image)

I. Limitation on Visible Parking Above Street Level

1. Intent
   To minimize the visibility, and impacts of structured parking and promote visual interest on upper story building facades.

2. Rules of Measurement
   a. Depth of Limitation on Visible Parking Above Street Level
      i. The depth of a Limitation on Visible Parking above Street Level shall be measured from the exterior of the street-facing building wall. See Figure 13.1-90. Uses that meet the Limitation on Visible Parking above Street Level shall be located within the specified depth, except as provided below.
      ii. Recessed balcony/terrace areas or insets for building articulation up to 10 feet in depth shall be excluded from the Limitation on Visible Parking above Street Level. The remaining depth after recessed balcony/terrace areas and insets for building articulation are excluded shall be subject to the uses that meet the Limitation on Visible Parking above Street Level. See Figure 13.1-91.
b. **Percentage of Zone Lot Width for a Limitation on Visible Parking Above Street Level**
   At every Story above the Street Level, exterior street-facing building walls within the minimum percentage of Zone Lot Width specified in a building form table shall be required to meet the Limitation on Visible Parking above Street Level. See Figure 13.1-92

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J. **Street-facing Courtyard Width and Depth**

1. The street-facing courtyard width shall be measured as the distance between the two closest edges of the exterior walls facing each other across the courtyard, shown as “A” in Figure 13.1-93.

2. The street-facing courtyard depth shall be measured as the horizontal distance between the primary street zone lot line and the closest facade of the exterior building wall facing the primary street, measured perpendicular to the zone lot line, shown as “B” in Figure 13.1-92.
K. Attached Garage Design Standard

1. Rule of Measurement
   a. Identify the portions of the Primary Street facing facade that shall constitute at least 65% of the total width of the primary structure enclosing the primary use.
   b. Draw a line parallel to the primary street setback line that is not forward at any point of the 65% identified in a. above, thereby determining the maximum permitted attached garage projection. See Figure 13.1-94

L. Street-facing Attached Garage Door Width

1. Rule of Measurement
   a. “Street-facing attached garage door width” is measured as the total width of all street-facing garage doors attached to the primary building form, divided by the total width of the front facade of the primary building, or of the front facade of an individual dwelling unit, as applicable.
   b. For purposes of this rule, the total width of a street-facing garage door(s) shall be measured as the linear distance between the outer edges of the door(s).

2. Determination of “Street-facing”
   A garage door is “street facing” if it faces a named or numbered street, which shall be determined by extending a line the width of the garage door and perpendicular to it to the zone lot boundary. If any portion of said line touches the right-of-way of a named or numbered street at the zone lot boundary then said garage door faces a named or numbered street. See Figure 13.1-95.
13.1.6.2 Dwelling Unit Oriented to the Street

A. Intent
   To ensure that buildings contribute to vibrant pedestrian-oriented street frontages by requiring Dwelling Units near the street to orient to and engage the street while still allowing for design flexibility in Dwelling Unit shape and location.

B. Applicability
   The Primary Building Form Standards in Articles 3 through 9 specify required Dwelling Units Oriented to the Street for the Primary Building Forms of Row House and Town House.

C. General Requirements
   For purposes of this standard, a “Dwelling Unit Oriented to the Street” shall meet the following requirements:

   1. A Dwelling Unit that is Street-Facing and the width of the Dwelling Unit does not exceed the length of the Dwelling Unit as measured below;

   2. A Dwelling Unit where the Street-Facing Dwelling Unit Facade width must be at least 75% of the total width of the same Dwelling Unit as measured below; and
3. The Dwelling Unit required to be oriented to the street must share a wall with at least one additional Dwelling Unit also oriented to the same street.

D. Rules of Measurement

Dwelling Unit Proportions

1. **Dwelling Unit Width**
   Dwelling Unit Width shall be the linear distance of the Dwelling Unit at its widest point at any height. The width is measured parallel to the front Dwelling Unit Façade facing the corresponding Primary Street or Side Street to which the Dwelling Unit is oriented. See Figure 13.1-97

2. **Dwelling Unit Length**
   Dwelling Unit Length shall be the linear distance of the Dwelling Unit at its longest point at any height. The length is measured perpendicular to the front Dwelling Unit Façade facing the corresponding Primary Street or Side Street to which the Dwelling Unit is oriented. See Figure 13.1-97
3. **Street-Facing Dwelling Unit Façade(s)**

   a. For the purposes of this rule, a Dwelling Unit Façade shall be associated with a Dwelling Unit if the same Dwelling Unit is located directly behind the façade.

   b. A Dwelling Unit façade is "street-facing" if it faces a named or numbered street, which shall be determined by extending a line the width of the façade and perpendicular to it to the Zone Lot boundary. If the said line touches the right-of-way of a named or numbered street at the Zone Lot boundary, then said Dwelling Unit façade is "street-facing." See Figure 13.1-99

   c. The Street-facing Dwelling Unit Facade(s) width(s) are measured at the highest point horizontally where the Facade meets the Finished Grade. See Figure 13.1-98
d. The Street-facing Dwelling Unit Façade(s) is the total linear width of the Façade(s) that are associated with a Dwelling Unit and that face the corresponding Primary Street or Side Street to which the same Dwelling Unit is oriented. See Figure 13.1-99

e. Where more than one street-facing Dwelling Unit Façade faces the corresponding Primary Street and/or Side Street, the linear width of each Façade is measured separately and combined to determine the total linear distance.

Figure 13.1-99

13.1.6.3 Street Level Activation

A. Transparency, Primary Street and Side Street

1. **Intent**
   
   To provide visual interest to building facades, to activate the street and sidewalk, and to provide a safe pedestrian realm.

2. **Applicability**

   The Primary Building Form Standards in Articles 3 through 9 specify transparency standards for many Primary Building Forms. Rules of measurement, window requirements, and transparency alternative requirements are provided in this Section 13.1.6.3.A.
3. Rules of Measurement
   a. Zone of Transparency
      The Zone of Transparency is the area between 2 feet and 9 feet above the finished upper surface of the floor of the Street Level across the entire street-facing Street Level building facade. See Figure 13.1-100.
      i. A building facade is “street-facing” if it faces a name or numbered street, which shall be determined by extending a line the width of the facade and perpendicular to it to the zone lot boundary. If any portion of said line touches the right-of-way of a name or numbered street at the zone lot boundary, then said facade is “street-facing.” See Figure 13.1-101.
      ii. The required amount of transparency shall be provided within the zone of transparency for the subject building, unless an exception or alternative is permitted by this Code.
   b. Street Level Transparency
      Street Level transparency, primary or side street, is measured as the total amount of linear feet of windows or permitted alternatives provided within the Zone of Transparency divided by the total length of that same street-facing building facade (including any open parking structure entrances).
Zone of Transparency applies to the Street Level as more above grade at the nearest building line.
4. **Window Requirements**

Windows shall be provided to satisfy the transparency requirement, except where a transparency alternative is permitted. All windows used to satisfy the transparency requirement shall comply with the following:

   a. All windows shall be a minimum of 5 feet in vertical dimension within the zone of transparency; and

   b. Window glazing shall be clear and shall transmit at least 65 percent of the visible daylight (visible transmittance shall be 0.65 or greater); and

   c. No interior or exterior modifications, including temporary and permanent signage, window tinting, furnishings, fixtures, equipment or stored items within 3 feet of the windows will be permitted to reduce the effective minimum transparency standards by more than 25%. Open display of individual merchandise is permitted.
5. **Transparency Alternative Requirements**
Where permitted, the following alternatives may be used singularly or in combination as alternatives to a transparency requirement:

a. **Display Cases**
   i. Display cases shall be permanently recessed, integrated into, or installed on the building wall. They shall be a minimum of 5 feet in height within the Zone of Transparency.
   ii. Display cases are measured as the total linear width (in feet) of display cases provided within the Zone of Transparency, divided by the total length of that same street-facing building façade (including any open parking structure entrances).

![Figure 13.1-103](image)

b. **Automated Teller Machines**
   i. Automated teller machines shall be permanently recessed, integrated into, or installed on the building wall.
   ii. Automated teller machines are measured as the total linear width (in feet) of automated teller machines provided within the Zone of Transparency, divided by the total length of that same street-facing building façade (including any open parking structure entrances).

![Figure 13.1-104](image)
c. Wall Design Elements

i. Wall design elements shall be combined into a unified wall design that provides visual interest, pedestrian scale, and integrates into the architecture of the building.

ii. The unified wall design shall incorporate a minimum of three of the following elements, which shall occur at intervals no greater than 25 feet horizontally:
   a) An offset or other horizontal change in wall plane not less than 3 inches in depth.
   b) A vertical scaling element, such as a pilaster, not less than 4 feet in height and 1 inch in width/depth.
   c) A horizontal scaling element, such as a belt course, string course, or cornice, occurring at an interval no greater than 10 feet vertically.
   d) A green screen or planter wall.
   e) A variation in material, pattern, and/or color (shall not also count as translucent, fritted, patterned or colored windows per f. below).
   f) Translucent, fritted, patterned or colored windows (shall not also count as a variation in material, pattern, and/or color per e. above).
   g) Windows outside the zone of transparency when located at the Street Level and compliant with Sections 13.1.6.3.A.4.b and c.

iii. Wall design elements are measured as the linear width (in feet, measured to the outside design elements) of the unified wall design, divided by the total length of that same street-facing building facade (including any open parking structure entrances).

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*Horizontal Scaling Elements, Vertical Scaling Elements, Change of Material, and Windows Outside of Zone of Transparency create a system of wall design elements.
d. Permanent Outdoor Eating/Serving Areas

i. Permanent accessory outdoor eating/serving areas shall be located between the building and the Primary Street or Side Street zone lot line depending on which transparency standard (Primary or Side Street) the alternative is applied toward.

ii. Outdoor eating/serving areas are measured as the linear width (in feet, measured to the outside posts or railings of an outdoor eating/serving area), divided by the total length of the same street-facing building façade (including any open parking structure entrances).
e. Permanent Art

i. Permanent art shall comply with all of the following standards:
   a) Shall be a “work of public art” as defined by Section 20-86 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code, as determined by the Zoning Administrator, with input from Denver Arts and Venues,
   b) Shall be a minimum of 5 feet in vertical dimension within the Zone of Transparency (permanent art may extend outside the Zone of Transparency),
   c) Shall not be a Sign, unless permitted according to Section 10.10.3.2.J as a Sign which is a work of public art.
   d) Shall be rendered in materials or media that are durable in an exterior, urban environment; and
   e) Shall be permanently integrated into, or installed on, the building wall.

ii. Permanent art is measured as the total linear width (in feet) of rectangles enclosing distinct artworks provided within the Zone of Transparency, divided by the total length of that same street-facing building façade (including any open parking structure entrances). Where more than one piece of art is used, the linear width (in feet) of each piece of art is measured separately and combined to determine the total linear width of permanent art.

Figure 13.1-108

6. Changes to Existing Buildings
No existing building shall be altered in such a way that the total linear feet of windows and permitted alternatives in the zone of transparency is reduced below the required amount. If the total linear feet of windows and permitted alternatives in the zone of transparency is already below the required amount, it shall not be further reduced.
B. Pedestrian Access

1. **Intent**
   To provide clear, obvious connections for pedestrians between Primary Streets and primary uses within buildings.

2. **Applicability**
   The Primary Building Form Standards in Articles 3 through 9 specify which type of Pedestrian Access is required for each Primary Building Form, or Dwelling Unit. Pedestrian access requirements are provided in this Section 13.1.6.3.B.

3. **Pedestrian Access Requirements**
   The following are required supplemental standards for each type of Pedestrian Access:
   a. **Entrance**
      i. Where required by the Primary Building Form Standards, an Entrance shall provide a clear, obvious, publicly accessible connection between the Street defined by the building form (Primary and/or Side) and the primary uses within the building.
      ii. For the Garden Court and Row House building forms, an entrance shall be street-facing according to the standards specific to such building forms in Articles 3 through 9.
      iii. For all other building forms, an entrance shall be located:
           a) On the Primary Street facing facade; or
           b) Located on a Side Street facing facade but entirely within 15 feet of the zone lot line abutting the Primary Street and provided the entrance is clearly visible from the public right-of-way. See Figure 13.1-109.
      iv. An entrance shall be one of the following three types:
           a) Door - An entrance on the same plane as the building facade.
           b) Recessed Entrance - An entrance inset behind the plane of the building facade by no more than 15 feet.
           c) Corner Entrance - An angled street-facing entrance located on the corner of a building at approximately 45 degrees to the intersecting streets.

Figure 13.1-109

Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.
b. **Entry Feature**
   
   i. Where required by the Primary Building Form Standards, an Entry Feature shall signal the connection between the Primary Street and the primary uses within the building.
   
   ii. An entry feature shall be located either on the Primary Street facing facade or be visible from the Primary Street. See Figure 13.1-110.
   
   iii. An entry feature shall be a Door, Gate, Front Porch, Front Stoop, Front Terrace, Canopy, and/or Arcade.

   ![](Image)

   **Figure 13.1-110**

   c. **Dwelling Unit Entrance with Entry Feature**

   i. Where required by Primary Building Form Standards or Overlay District Standards, a Dwelling Unit Entrance with Entry Feature shall provide a clear and obvious publicly accessible connection between the Street and the primary use within the Dwelling Unit.

   ii. Each Dwelling Unit Entrance with Entry Feature shall have an Entrance with a minimum of one of the following Entry Features:

   a) A Front Porch with a minimum depth of 5 feet between the street-facing building facade and Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line, as measured perpendicular to the Zone Lot Line; or

   b) A Canopy with a minimum depth of 3 feet between the street-facing building facade and Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line, as measured perpendicular to the Zone Lot Line.

   iii. A building facade is "street-facing" if it faces a Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line, which shall be determined by extending a line the width of the facade and perpendicular to it to the Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line. If any portion of said line touches the Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line, then said facade is "street-facing." See Figure 13.1-101.
d. Pedestrian Connection

i. Where required by the Primary Building Form Standards, a Pedestrian Connection shall provide a clear, obvious, publicly accessible connection between the Primary Street and the primary uses within the building. See Figure 13.1-112. The Pedestrian Connection shall comply with the following:

a) Fully paved and maintained surface not less than 5 feet in width.
b) Unit pavers or concrete distinct from the surrounding parking and drive lane surface.
c) Located either within a raised median or between wheel stops to protect pedestrians from vehicle overhangs where parking is adjacent.
d) The portions of pedestrian connection that cross driveways or drive aisles shall not exceed 25 feet in length.

4. Pedestrian Access (Entrance) Alternative Requirements

Where permitted, the following design elements may be used as an alternative to a required entrance on all building forms except Row House and Town House:

a. Courtyard or Plaza
This alternative may be used only if the courtyard or plaza complies with all of the following standards:

i. Shall be accessible to public during business hours.

ii. Shall be within 2 feet of grade at edge of public right-of-way.

iii. The Entrance shall not be a distance from the public right-of-way more than 3 times the width of the space measured at the primary street facing facade.

iv. Maximum dimension shall not exceed 3 times the minimum dimension.

v. Required public Entrance shall be visible from the public right-of-way.

vi. Perimeter walls of court or plaza shall meet primary facade transparency standards.

Figure 13.1-113

*Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.*
b. **Covered Walkway**
This alternative may be used only if the covered walkway complies with all of the following standards:

i. Shall take the form of an Arcade, Canopy, or Pergola.

ii. Shall be accessible to the general public during business hours.

iii. Shall provide continuous covered access to a required Entrance from the public right-of-way.

iv. A required public Entrance shall be visible from the Primary Street zone lot line.

Figure 13.1-114

Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.

C. **Street Level Height**

1. **Intent**
Promote Street Level designs that can be adapted to future uses and ensure that Street Level building spaces have an appropriate scale in relationship to the pedestrian realm.

2. **Applicability**
Street Level Height shall apply to any street-facing story meeting the definition of Street Level in Section 13.3.

3. **Rules of Measurement**
   a. Street Level Height is measured from the upper surface of the floor of the Street Level, to the upper surface of the floor or roof next above across the entire street-facing Street Level building facade for a minimum depth of 15 feet from the street-facing building facade. See Figure 13.1-115.

   b. A building facade is “street-facing” if it faces a Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line, which shall be determined by extending a line the width of the facade and perpendicular to it to the Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line. If any portion of said line touches the Primary or Side Street Zone Lot Line, then said facade is “street-facing.” See Figure 13.1-101.
13.1.6.4 Open Space in Large Developments

A. Net Development Area

The required amount of Open Space in Large Developments shall be calculated as the percentage of the gross development area. The Net Development Area shall be the gross land area
within the boundaries of the proposed large development area less the gross area of existing and proposed public rights-of-way and City park land, or land required to be dedicated to the City by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

B. **Contiguous Open Space Area**

1. The width of the minimum contiguous open space requirement for large developments shall be measured parallel to the abutting Street Zone Lot Line or abutting publicly accessible area with direct pedestrian access to a Street Zone Lot Line, shown as “A” in Figure 13.1-116.

2. The depth of the minimum contiguous open space requirement for large developments shall be measured perpendicular to the abutting Street Zone Lot Line or abutting publicly accessible area with direct pedestrian access to a Street Zone Lot Line, shown as “B” in Figure 13.1-116.

Figure 13.1-116
SECTION 13.1.7    FENCE AND WALL HEIGHT MEASUREMENT

Fence and wall height shall be measured from the base of the fence or wall at the higher of the finished grade at the inside or outside of the fence or wall, or from the top-most point of the Retaining Wall on which it is placed, to the topmost point of the fence or wall.

SECTION 13.1.8    RETAINING WALL HEIGHT MEASUREMENT

The height of a Retaining Wall shall be measured as the vertical distance from the lowest grade at the base of the Retaining Wall to the top-most point where the wall no longer retains earth. Any vertical distance of wall more than 6 inches above the top-most point is no longer a Retaining Wall but is a Fence and Wall as defined in Article 13, and shall be measured according to the rule in Section 13.1.7.

Figure 13.1-117
Not to Scale. Illustrative Only.

SECTION 13.1.9    ROOFTOP MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT SCREENING MEASUREMENT

Rooftop mechanical equipment screening shall be measured from the opposite side of the abutting Primary Street’s public right of way at the edge of the right of way, measured 5’-6” above grade, as measured perpendicular to the midpoint of each building. The midpoint is measured at the widest point of the building parallel to the Primary Street Zone Lot Line.
SECTION 13.1.10 MEASUREMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE OR TRAILER LENGTH

When measuring the permitted length of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to recreational vehicles, trailers, buses, or trucks, the following rule of measurement shall apply: The distance measured from the front-most to the rear-most portion of the vehicle (e.g., to the front and rear bumper), except, however, when extensions or projections are added beyond the front-most or rear-most portion of the vehicle, then the measurement shall include such extensions or projections.

SECTION 13.1.11 MEASUREMENT OF SEPARATION OR DISTANCE

13.1.11.1 Measurement of Separation or Distance Between Uses

A. When measuring a required separation between uses, distance shall be determined from the nearest point of a structure or part of a multiple use structure occupied by the use requiring separation to the nearest point of a structure or part of a multiple use structure occupied by a use from which the separation is to be effected or established.

B. Only when a significant part of the use is operated outside of a completely enclosed structure shall a separation be measured from the nearest point of the zone lot occupied by the use requiring separation to the nearest point of a structure or part of a multiple use structure occupied by a use from which the separation is to be effected or established.

13.1.11.2 Measurement of Separation or Distance Between a Use and Zone District

A. When measuring a required separation between a use and a zone district, distance shall be determined from the nearest point of a structure or part of a multiple use structure occupied by the use requiring separation to the nearest point of the zone district boundary from which the separation is to be effected or established.

B. Only when a significant part of the primary use requiring separation is operated outside of a completely enclosed structure shall the separation be measured from the nearest point of the zone lot occupied by the primary use requiring separation to the nearest point of the zone district boundary from which the separation is to be effected or established.

C. In the case of an outdoor accessory use requiring separation from a zone district (for example, an accessory outdoor eating or serving area), distance shall be measured from the nearest point of the outdoor accessory use to the nearest point of the zone district boundary from which the separation is to be effected or established.

13.1.11.3 Measurement of Separation or Distance Between a Rail Transit Station Platform and a Zone Lot

When measuring distance between a Rail Transit Station Platform and uses for which Section 10.4 applies, distance shall be determined from the nearest point of the Rail Transit Station Platform to the nearest point of the Zone Lot.

13.1.11.4 Measurement of Distance from a High Frequency Transit Corridor and a Zone Lot

A. When measuring distance between a High Frequency Transit Corridor and a Zone Lot for which Section 10.4 applies, distance shall be determined from the centerline of the right of way of the High Frequency Transit Corridor to the nearest point of the Zone Lot.
DIVISION 13.2 RULES OF INTERPRETATION

A. Meaning and Intent

1. Words, phrases, terms, and uses defined in this Code shall be given the defined meaning.

2. Words, phrases, terms, and uses not defined in this Code, but defined in the building code of the city, shall be construed as defined in such building code.

3. Words, phrases, terms, and uses neither defined in this Code nor in the building code of the city shall be given their usual and customary meanings except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

B. Lists and Examples

Unless otherwise specifically indicated, lists of items or examples that use terms such as “for example,” “including,” and “such as,” or similar language, are intended to provide examples and shall not be interpreted as exhaustive lists of all possibilities.

C. Text Controls

In case of conflict, the text of this Code shall control over graphics, figures, illustrations, captions, titles and maps; however, the use and parking standards contained in the Use and Parking Tables found in Articles 3 through 9 shall control over any conflict in the text.

D. Fractions

Unless specifically stated otherwise and only where the Zoning Administrator finds the result is not contrary to the intent of the subject standard, where any requirement of this Code results in a fraction of a unit, a fraction of five-tenths or more shall be considered a whole unit and a fraction of less than five-tenths shall be disregarded.

E. Mandatory and Permissive Terms

The words “shall,” “must,” and “will” are mandatory and not permissive; the word “may” or “should” are always permissive and not mandatory.

F. Burden of Proof on Applicant

Whenever this Code places the burden of proof on an applicant, that burden shall be met by, at a minimum, a preponderance of the evidence.

G. Computation of Time

Periods defined by a number of days shall mean a number of consecutive calendar days, including all weekend days, holidays, and other non-business/working days. However, if the last
day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the period extends to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

H. Delegation of Authority
Whenever this Code requires the Manager, Zoning Administrator, or other official to perform an act or duty, the Manager, Zoning Administrator, or other official may delegate the responsibility to subordinates, unless this Code specifies otherwise.

I. Conjunctions
Unless the context clearly suggests the contrary, conjunctions shall be interpreted as follows:

1. “And” indicates that all connected items, conditions, provisions, limitations, or events shall apply; and
2. “Or” indicates that one or more of the connected items, conditions, provisions, limitations, or events shall apply.

J. Cross References
Cross references are provided in this Code for the user’s convenience only and are not intended to be exclusive of other applicable standards in this Code.

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DIVISION 13.3 DEFINITIONS OF WORDS, TERMS & PHRASES

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Code, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them. Definitions of uses are found in Article 11, Division 11.12, Use Definitions.

**Abandonment**: The voluntary relinquishment of an established use with the intent of permanently terminating such use or occupancy.

**Abut or Abutting**: To physically touch at a point or line; or to share a common property line, or zone lot line. Intervening streets and alleys destroy “abutting,” except where specifically allowed by this Code. For example, two zone lots that share a common zone lot line are “abutting” (and also “adjacent”).

**Access**: A way or means of approach to provide physical entrance to a property.

**Accessory Structure**: See definition of “Structure, Accessory”.

**Accessory Use**: See definition of “Use, Accessory”.

**Adjacent**: Sharing a zone lot line or being separated only by an alley. Named or numbered streets destroy adjacency, except where specifically allowed by this Code.

**Alley**: A public way that is less in size than a street, and which is not designed for general travel, which is used primarily as a means of access to the rear of residences and business establishments.

**Alter**: Any structural change in the supporting or load-bearing members of a building, including but not limited to bearing walls, columns, beams, girders, floor joints.

**Antenna**: Any exterior transmitting or receiving devices mounted on a tower, building or structure and used in communications that radiate or capture electromagnetic waves, digital signals, analog signals, radio frequencies (excluding radar signals), wireless telecommunications signals or other communication signals.

**Applicant**: The owner or any other person with a recognized interest in the land for which development is proposed, or an authorized agent. The City may also be considered an applicant.

**Application, Complete**: See definition of “Complete Application” below.

**Arcade**: A covered passage, open on at least one side and accessible to the public at all times, extending along the outside wall of a building, and supported by arches or columns. “Arcade” shall not include off-street loading areas, driveways, off-street parking areas.

**Articulation**: Variation in the depth of the building plane, roof line, or height of a structure that breaks up plain, monotonous areas and creates patterns of light and shadow.

**Assembly, Without Fabrication**: The joining together of completely fabricated parts.
**Atrium:** A ground level area which is designed for pedestrians and which meets the following conditions:

1. Has at least one entrance connecting to a public street, plaza or arcade;
2. Is open to the top of the building by means of a vertical open space or light well and is covered by a transparent or translucent material;
3. Is open to the public during business hours;
4. Has at least 25 percent of its periphery utilized by retail sales, personal services or entertainment activities; and
5. Contains facilities for the public, such as benches, flower beds, fountains, etc.

**Automobile:** Any motor vehicle.

**Automobile Trailer:** A non-motorized transport vehicle designed to be towed by an automobile for hauling heavy loads, examples include a horse, boat or snowmobile trailer. This use does not include tractor trailers.
**Backhaul or Backhaul Network:** The lines that connect a provider’s tower/cell sites to one or more cellular telephone switching offices, and/or long distance providers, or the public switched telephone network.

**Balcony, Exterior:** A projecting cantilevered platform on a building that is not supported on the ground by posts, columns, or similar supporting structural members. Generally, an exterior balcony is intended to be used for outdoor living, gardening, or other actively used outdoor space. An exterior balcony shall not include a landing abutting an entry to habitable space, provided such landing does not exceed the minimum required dimensions for a landing as defined in the Building Code.

**Base Height:** the maximum Building Height established in the Underlying Zone District, including any Building Height limits associated with proximity to a Protected District, to which Structures can be constructed without meeting the additional requirements set forth in the Underlying Zone District or an Incentive Overlay District.

**Berm:** A mound of earth, or the act of pushing earth into a mound, usually for the purpose of shielding or buffering uses, or to control the direction of water flow.

**Billboard:** See “Outdoor General Advertising Device”.

**Block:** A tract of land bounded by platted streets, public parks, cemeteries, railroad rights-of-way, shore lines, or corporate boundaries of the city.

**Block, Square:** A block with contiguous sides, where the difference in length between the sides of the block is no greater than 50 feet.

**Block, Oblong:** A block with contiguous long and short sides, where the long side of the block is 50 feet or more greater in length than the short side of the block.

**Block Face:** See definition of “Face Block.”

**Breezeway:** See definition of “Tunnel/Breezeway”

**Build-to:** An alignment at the primary street or side street setback line of a zone lot, or within a range of setback from the zone lot line abutting a street, along which a street-facing, primary building wall must be built.

**Building:** Any covered structure intended for the shelter, housing or enclosure of any person, animal or chattel

**Building, Principal or Primary:** A building in which is conducted the principal or primary use of the zone lot on which it is situated.

**Building Form Standards:** Standards applicable to the development of buildings and structures in this Code which, taken together, regulate building height (Building Height Standards), building siting (Siting Standards), building design elements (Design Element Standards), and the permitted use of buildings (Use Building Form Standards).

**Building Front or Frontage:** That exterior wall of a building facing a front line of the zone lot.

**Building Height:** The height of a building, measured in accordance with the Rules of Measurement (see Division 13.1 of this Article.)
Building Height Standards or Height Standards: Standards in this Code that address how tall a building and its component parts may be. Building height standards include, but are not limited to, standards addressing overall building height in feet or stories, side wall height, and bulk plane requirements.

Camper Units, Detached: A shell designed to be mounted on a pickup or truck chassis for use as a temporary shelter for travel, recreation and vacation use.

Campus: A large tract of contiguous land that is planned, developed, and operated as an integrated facility for a number of individual uses, with special attention to coordinated circulation, parking, utility needs, aesthetics, and compatibility. For purpose of this definition, the contiguity of any land area involved shall not be deemed to be destroyed by the presence of public rights-of-way. Examples of campuses may include, but are not limited to: hospitals, educational facilities, industrial or business parks, and performing arts complexes.

Canopy: A structure, fully supported by the building wall, providing shade and cover to an Entrance to protect from the weather.

Carport: An accessory structure space used for the housing or storage of motor vehicles and enclosed on not more than two sides by walls.

Carriage House: A Structure of more than one Habitable Story originally constructed as an Accessory Structure prior to November 8th, 1956 and located on the same Zone Lot as an existing Primary Structure.

Carriage Lot: A parcel of land completely surrounded by alleys in the center of a block and which has no public street frontage on a named or numbered street. A “carriage lot,” by definition, is a nonconforming zone lot for failure to comply with this Code’s requirement that all zone lots have frontage on a named or numbered public street. See “Zone Lot, Nonconforming.”

Change of Use: Any use that substantially differs from the previous use of a building or land, as determined by the Zoning Administrator.

City: The City and County of Denver.


Collocation: The mounting or installation of transmission equipment on an eligible support structure for the purpose of transmitting and/or receiving radio frequency signals for communications purposes.

Commercial: Pertaining to the buying and selling of commodities and services for a profit.

Common Area: Areas within a building or within a residential development that are available for common use by all owners or tenants. Examples of common areas include, but are not limited to: a clubhouse, courtyard or other shared recreation area; building lobbies, corridors, and stairways; parking areas; laundry room; roof; or storage rooms.

Compatibility or Compatible: The characteristics of different uses or activities or designs that allow them to be located near or adjacent to each other without adverse effect. Some elements affecting compatibility include height, scale, mass and bulk of structures. Other characteristics include pedestrian or vehicular traffic, circulation, access, and parking impacts. Other important characteristics that affect compatibility are landscaping, lighting, noise, odor, build-
ing materials, and building architecture. Compatibility does not mean “the same as.” Rather, compatibility refers to the sensitivity of development proposals in maintaining the character and context of existing development.

**Complete Application:** An application in the form required by this Code, including all information necessary to decide whether the application will comply with the requirements of this Code, including all items or exhibits specified during a pre-application conference or concept plan review, and accompanied by the applicable fee or fees.

**Completely Enclosed Structure:** See “Structure, Completely Enclosed.”

**Concealed Light Source:** An artificial light intended to illuminate a building, the face of a sign, or landscaping, which light is shielded from public view and from adjoining zone lots.

**Conforming Structure:** See “Structure, Conforming.”

**Conforming Use:** See “Use, Conforming.”

**Continuously Maintained** means to continue a condition uninterrupted without cessation in space, time, or sequence. When applied to demolition of a structure containing a legally established use, Continuously Maintained means that the legally established use is presumed to have continued uninterrupted and that a different intervening use was not established on the same Zone Lot, regardless of any length of time that the Zone Lot is vacant.

**Corner Lot or Corner Zone Lot:** See “Zone lot, corner.”

**Corner Triangle:** A triangular-shaped portion of land established at street intersections in which nothing is erected, placed, planted, or permitted to grow in such a manner as to limit or obstruct the sight distance of motorists entering or leaving the intersection.

**Court or Courtyard:** An area open from the ground to the sky that is partly or wholly enclosed by buildings or walls.

Deck: A platform 12 inches or more above finished grade, and supported on the ground.

Deck, Raised: A platform more than 2.5 feet above original grade, and supported on the ground.

Dedicated or Dedication: The conveyance or setting aside of land to the City Council or its designee.

Demolished or Destruction, Involuntary: See “Involuntary Demolition or Involuntary Destruction.”

Demolished or Demolition, Voluntary: See “Voluntary Demolition or Demolished.”

Denver Zoning Code: This Code.

Design Element Form Standards or Design Element Standards: Those standards in this Code that regulate building configuration (massing or sculpting of the building form), transparency, and building entrances

Development: Any of the following activities:

1. Any construction activity, grading and/or ongoing operation that changes the basic character or the use of the environment in which the construction activity, grading, or operation occurs; or any use or extension of the use of land; but not including total demolition of any structure.

2. A new parking area; expansion of an existing parking area; a change in the use of a structure that changes the off-street parking requirement; or a change in the gross floor area of a structure that changes the off-street parking requirement.


DIA Airport Influence Area: An area within the City of Denver proximate to Denver International Airport (DIA), which is recognized by the City Council as containing lands that are expected to be significantly affected by noise and/or safety hazards associated with aircraft operations associated with DIA.

Disability: With respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual; a record of such impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment.

Disabled Person: A person so severely handicapped that he or she is unable to move from place to place without the aid of a mechanical device or who has a physical impairment verified, in writing, by the director of the state division of rehabilitation or a physician licensed to practice medicine in this state that such impairment limits substantially his or her ability to move from place to place.

Display Surface or Face: The area made available by the sign structure for the purpose of displaying the message.
**Dormer**: A framed window unit projecting through the sloping plane of a roof.

**Drive Aisle**: An improved and maintained way providing vehicular access within an Off-Street Parking Area.

**Drive or Driveway**: An improved and maintained way providing vehicular access from the public right-of-way to an Off-Street Parking Area, to a Garage structure, to dwellings, or to other uses. Does not include areas providing direct access to parking stalls or attached Garages for more than one dwelling unit - See Off-Street Parking Area.

**Downtown Ground Floor Active Use**: Shall include retail sale; banking facility open to the public with at least one employee on site; eating place; personal and business service; hotel lobby; indoor and outdoor entertainment or recreation facility; dedicated public park or open space; arts and cultural facility; and the frontage of entry ways or stairways through which such uses are principally accessed, provided, however, that the following types of retail sales shall not be considered Downtown Ground Floor Active Use: amusement center; sale of automobiles; sale of auto trailers; sale of house trailers; sale of trucks; sale of auto and truck parts, accessories, tires and tubes; automobile gasoline filling station; boat sales; home building materials store; koshering of poultry sold at retail on the premises; motorcycle store; monument and tombstone sales; pawnshop; retail sale of medical and hospital equipment and supplies; and retail sale of packaged coal and wood for household use; and provided, further, that no adult use shall be considered a Downtown Ground Floor Active Use.

**Dwarf Goat**: See Denver Revised Municipal Code section 8-4(4.5).

**Dwelling**: Any building or portion of building that is used as the residence of one or more households, but not including hotels and other lodging accommodation uses, hospitals, tents, or similar uses or structures providing transient or temporary accommodation with the exception of an accessory Short-term Rental.

**Dwelling Unit**: See definition of Dwelling Unit in Article 11, Division 11.12.2.1.B Definitions of Related Terms for the Household Living Use Category.

**Dwelling Units, Side-by-Side**: Two or more Dwelling Units that are attached along common walls and where each Dwelling Unit occupies space from the Structure’s Street Level to the Structure’s Roof. This does not include Dwelling Units that are stacked vertically.
Eave: The underpart of a sloping roof overhanging a wall.

Enclosed Bicycle Parking Facility: A stand-alone, secure enclosure or a device or delineated space located within a building or parking garage, and used to park and/or store bicycles. Examples include, but are not limited to, bicycle lockers or bicycle storage rooms located inside a building.

Entrance, Required: An operable opening to a building that provides direct public access from the Primary Street to the primary uses within the building.

Entry Feature: An entrance to a building, a structure, or an architectural building feature, which signals to a person how to travel from the Primary Street to the primary uses within a building.

Established Tree: (1) Any live, self-supporting woody perennial plant which has a trunk diameter of 6 inches or more measured at a point four and one half (4 1/2) feet above ground level and which normally obtains a height of at least ten (10) feet at maturity, usually with one main stem or trunk and many branches.

Existing Use: The use of a zone lot or structure at the time of the enactment of this Code.

Exterior Balcony: See “Balcony, Exterior.”

Exterior Wall Surface: The most exterior part of a wall, sun screen or any screening or material covering a building.

Extraction, Food-Based: The means of producing marijuana concentrate by extracting cannabinoids from marijuana through the use of propylene glycol, glycerin, butter, olive oil or other typical cooking fats. Food-based extraction does not include the use of any type of alcohol.

Extraction, Solvent-Based: The means of producing marijuana concentrate by extracting cannabinoids from marijuana through the use of a solvent approved by the State of Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division regulations for medical marijuana and retail marijuana, as may be modified from time to time, and which shall include the use of any type of alcohol.

Extraction, Water-Based: The means of producing marijuana concentrate by extracting cannabinoids from marijuana through the use of only water, ice or dry ice.
**FAA:** Federal Aviation Administration.

**FCC:** Federal Communications Commission.

**Facade:** Any exterior wall surface located at the ground level of a building that encloses the interior of the building.

**Face Block:** A zone lot or lots Abutting one side of the block. The “same” block face indicates only those zone lots Abutting the same side of the block as the subject property. The “opposite face block” includes those zone lots located on a different block than the subject property, but located directly across the street from and Abutting the same street as the subject property, and bounded by the same intersecting streets as the subject property’s block. See Figure 13.3-1.

**Fence and Wall:** An artificially constructed barrier of wood, masonry, stone, wire, metal, or other manufactured material or combination of materials erected to enclose, screen, or separate areas. For a retaining wall, see definition of “Retaining Wall.”

**Fine Arts:** Individual art pieces not mass produced.

**Finished Grade:** See definition of Grade, finished.

**Fixed Rack Bicycle Parking Facility:** An unenclosed device used for the parking of bicycles that is affixed permanently to the ground. Examples include, but are not limited to, an inverted “U”-style bicycle rack.

**Fixture:** A small structure or part of a structure used by the occupants of the premises for the purpose of containing or holding containers of garbage, trash recycling and similar waste products, or for landscaping such as bird baths, ornamental statuary, arbors, rock gardens, monuments, flagpoles, ornamental lampposts and similar decorative features but not including enclosed buildings.

**Flag Lot:** See “Zone Lot, Flag.”

**Flatwork:** Improved areas constructed of Impervious Material providing pedestrian access to entrances and buildings, including walkways, stairs, and ramps. Shall be located at original grade. Shall not include areas meeting the definition of Patio.
**Floor Area, Habitable:** The aggregate of the horizontal area of all rooms used for habitation, such as living room, dining room, kitchen, and bedroom(s), but not including hallways, stairways, cellars, service rooms, utility rooms, bathrooms, closets, unheated areas such as enclosed porches.

**Floor Area Ratio (FAR):** See the Rule of Measurement within this Article 13.

**Floor Plate:** The sum of the gross horizontal area of a single floor of a building structure, including interior balconies, but excluding exterior balconies; all horizontal floor dimensions are measured from the exterior faces of the exterior walls.


**Food:** Any raw, cooked or processed edible substance, ice, beverage, or ingredient used or intended for use or for sale in whole or in part for human consumption. For purposes of this Code, “Food” shall not include “Marijuana Concentrate” as defined in this Division 13.3.

**Footcandle (F.C.):** A unit of illuminance equivalent to one lumen per square foot.

**Former Chapter 59:** Chapter 59 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code as filed with the Denver City Clerk at City Clerk Filing No. 10-512-A on May 20, 2010. Former Chapter 59 remains in full force and effect for any land not re-zoned to zone districts in the Denver Zoning Code.

**Freeways:** Those streets designed to carry large volumes of through traffic at high speeds by restriction of abutting private property from rights of direct access by vehicles and pedestrians.

**Front Porch:** See “Porch, Front.”

**Frontage:** All of the zone lot fronting on one side of an intersecting or intercepting street, or between a street and right-of-way, end of dead-end street, waterway, or City boundary measured along the street line. An intercepting street shall determine only the boundary of the frontage on the side of the street that it intercepts.

**Full Cutoff Lighting Fixture:** A light fixture that has a light distribution pattern that results in no light being permitted at or above a horizontal plane located at the bottom of the luminaire.

**Fully Shielded Lighting Fixture:** A light fixture that provides internal or external shields and louvers that prevents light emitted by the light fixture from causing glare or light trespass.
GFA: Gross Floor Area. See definition of “Gross Floor Area” below.

Gable: The upper portion of a sidewall that comes to a triangular point at the ridge of a sloping roof.

Gallery: See definition of “Arcade.”

Garage: A building or part of a building wherein motor vehicles are housed or stored.

Garage, Private: A garage that is not operated for gain and in which no business is conducted.

Glare: The sensation produced when a source of light in excess of 1650 lumens is directly visible or light that is so bright that it causes annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance.

Grade, Finished: The final elevation of the ground surface after development.

Grade, Original: The grade of the zone lot before development begins. If there was a structure on the zone lot that was demolished, the grade prior to demolition of the structure. If there is no structure on the property, the natural grade of the property prior to any modification, except that in new developments, original grade shall mean the approved and recorded grade.

Grading: The act of excavation or filling or combination thereof or any leveling to a smooth horizontal or sloping surface on a property, but not including normal cultivation associates with a permitted agricultural use or operation.

Gross Floor Area: The sum of the gross horizontal areas of the several floors of a Completely Enclosed Structure, including interior balconies and mezzanines, but excluding exterior balconies; all horizontal dimensions of each floor are measured from the exterior faces of the exterior walls of each such floor. In lieu of this definition, “Gross Floor Area” for purposes of calculating required parking and off-street loading amounts is set forth in Section 10.4.4, Vehicle Parking Required.

Ground Cover: Low plantings used instead of turf where space does not allow turf, where xeriscaping is desired, or where a more decorative affect is desirable. Ground covers are typically lower than 6 inches in height.

Guideline: An indication of policy or preferences; compliance is not mandatory like a standard, but rather compliance is encouraged to further the City's land use goals and policies. A zoning application may not be denied solely for failure to comply with a guideline.
Habitable Room: A room in a dwelling unit designed to be used for living, sleeping, eating or cooking, excluding bathrooms, toilet compartments, closets, halls, storage and similar space.

Habitable Space: A story that has at least 4 feet between the ground level and the ceiling joists and which has enough area to provide a room with net floor-to-ceiling distance of 7 feet over half the area of the room. A “habitable space” may or may not constitute a habitable room.

Habitable Story: See definition of “Story, Habitable,” below.

Hazardous Materials: See definition of “Toxic and/or Hazardous Materials” below.

High-Frequency Transit Corridor: Corridors with high-frequency bus service defined by the centerline of the right of way for named or numbered Streets specified below. For purposes of this Code, the lengths of High-Frequency Transit Corridors terminate at the point of intersection with the centerline of the right of way of the intersecting named or numbered Streets defined below, the City boundary, or a City Park, as applicable. See Figure 13.3-2

1. North and South Sheridan Boulevard from the intersection of West 44th Avenue (northernmost point) to the intersection of West Dartmouth Avenue (southernmost point)
2. North and South Federal Boulevard from the intersection of the City boundary at North Columbine Road (northernmost point) to the intersection of West Evans Avenue (southernmost point)
3. East and West Colfax Avenue from the intersection of the City boundary (westernmost point) to the intersection of the City boundary (easternmost point)
4. North and South Broadway from the intersection of East 20th Avenue (northernmost point) to the intersection of the City boundary (southernmost point)
5. North and South Lincoln Street from the intersection of East Colfax Avenue (northernmost point) to the intersection of East Ohio Avenue (southernmost point)
6. North and South Colorado Boulevard from the intersection of East 40th Avenue (northernmost point) to the intersection of East Evans Avenue (southernmost point)
7. Westbound East Martin Luther King Boulevard from the intersection of North Downing Street (westernmost point) to the intersection of northbound North Quebec Street (easternmost point)
8. East 12th Avenue from the intersection of North Broadway (westernmost point) to the intersection of the westernmost boundary of Cheesman Park (easternmost point) and East 12th Avenue from the intersection of the easternmost boundary of Cheesman Park to North Colorado Boulevard (easternmost point)
**High-Rise Building**: Any building or structure having any portion of a story used for human occupancy more than 75 feet above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

**Historic Structure**: Designated structures for preservation or contributing structures in districts designated for preservation under the provisions of D.R.M.C., Chapter 30 (Landmark Preservation).
**Impervious Material:** A surface that has been compacted or covered with a layer of materials that is highly resistant to infiltration by water. Impervious materials include, but are not limited to, surfaces such as compacted sand, lime rock, or clay; asphalt concrete, driveways, retaining walls, stairwells, stairways, walkways, decks and patios at grade level, and other similar structures.

**Incentive Height:** Additional Building Height permitted above the Base Height for development meeting the additional requirements set forth in the Underlying Zone District or an Incentive Overlay District.

**Industrial Zone District:** The Industrial A (“I-A”) and the Industrial B (“I-B”) Zone Districts, but not including the Industrial Mixed Use (“I-X” or “M-IMX”) Zone Districts established by this Code.

**Involuntary Demolition or Involuntarily Destruction:** The destruction or demolition of a structure caused by natural forces (e.g., accidental fire; flood; tornado) and not by man-made forces.
Junk: Scrap iron, scrap tin, scrap brass, scrap copper, scrap lead or scrap zinc and all other scrap metals and their alloys, and bones, rags, used cloth, used rubber, used rope, used tinfoil, used bottles, old or used machinery, used tools, used appliances, used fixtures, used utensils, used lumber, used boxes or crates, used pipe or pipe fittings, used automobiles or airplane tires, and other manufactured goods that are so worn, deteriorated or obsolete as to make them unusable in their existing condition, but are subject to being dismantled.
**Kitchen**: Any Room or portion of a Room used, intended to be used, or designed to be used either wholly or partly for preparing and cooking food.

**Kitchen, Full**: A Kitchen that contains either (1) a stove/cook top, range, or oven, or (2) one or more 220-volt or greater electrical outlets or a gas line connection.

**Kitchen, Partial**: A Kitchen that does not contain either (1) a stove/cook top, range or oven, or (2) one or more 220-volt electrical outlets or a gas line connection. A Partial Kitchen may contain a collection of individual countertop food cooking equipment and appliances (e.g., a microwave, toaster-oven, or plug-in hot plate). A Partial Kitchen may also include a sink and refrigerator.
Land Use: See definition of “Use.”

Landscaping: The treatment of pervious surfaces with organic/inorganic plant materials such as grass, ground cover, trees, shrubs, vines and other horticultural materials. Landscaping may also include other decorative surfacing such as wood chips, crushed stone or other mulch materials.

Large-Scale Motor Vehicles and Trailers: Motor vehicles including but not limited to trucks, recreational vehicles, buses, boats and heavy equipment and similar size vehicles which have gross vehicle weights greater than 10,000 pounds. This definition shall not include Recreational Vehicles.

Light Fixture: The complete lighting unit consisting of some or all of the following: the lamp, ballast, housing, and the parts designed to distribute the light, to position and protect the lamps, and to connect the lamp to the power supply.

Livestock-Animal: Shall be animals of any kind kept or raised for sale, resale, agricultural field production or pleasure, excluding fur-bearing animals.

Living Plant Material or Plant:
   a. A tree, shrub, or herb;
   b. A slip, cutting, or sapling; or
   c. Any of a group of living organisms that typically do not exhibit voluntary motion or possess sensory or nervous organs.

Loading Space: An off-street space or berth on the same site with a building, or contiguous to a group of buildings, for the temporary parking of a commercial vehicle while loading or unloading merchandise or materials, and which abuts upon a street, alley, or other means of access.

Low Level Light Area: An open area at ground level which is open and unobstructed to the sky, but which is not eligible to be a plaza, or a horizontal open area above ground level which is open and unobstructed to the sky.

Luminaire: Luminares contain the lamp light source of lights, and sit on poles or mount on walls.

Lumens: The amount of overall light output or quantity of light.
Manager: The manager of the Department of Community Planning and Development.

Manufature: All operations required to produce the material named.

Marijuana: All parts of the plant of the genus cannabis whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the plant, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or its resin, including marijuana concentrate. "Marijuana" includes industrial hemp, fiber produced from the stalks, oil, or cake made from the seeds of the plant, and sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination. "Marijuana" does not include the weight of any other ingredient combined with marijuana to prepare topical or oral administrations, food, drink, or other product.

Marijuana Concentrate: The hashish, cannabinoids, or any alkaloid, salt, derivative, preparation, compound, or mixture, whether natural or synthesized, of cannabinoids.

Marijuana-Infused Product: A product infused with marijuana that is intended for use or consumption other than by smoking, including but not limited to, edible product, ointments and tinctures.

Marquee: A roof like structure of a permanent nature that projects from the wall of a building or its supports and may overhang the public way.

Mass Transit: The general term used to identify bus, fixed rail, or other types of transportation service available to the general public that move relatively large numbers of people at one time.

Mass Transit Railway System: A system of conveyance available to the public which may include, but not be limited to, rail tracks and guideways, terminals, stations, passenger shelters, electrical power lines, maintenance and storage facilities, parking facilities, and transportation control features or fixtures.

Mechanized Parking: Parking of vehicles using mechanized equipment that replaces the need for a driver. Mechanized parking spaces may be narrower due to the lack of a need to enter or exit the vehicle.

Midpoint: A point of a boundary line equally distant from the two lot lines intersecting it at right angles or within 45 degrees of a right angle.

Mitigation: An action that will have one or more of the following effects:

1. Avoiding an impact by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
2. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action or its implementation;
3. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impact area, facility or service;
4. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations;
5. Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing suitable biological and physical conditions; and by replacing or providing suitable services and facilities.
Mixed Use Development: The development of a site or building with two or more different principal or primary uses including, but not limited to residential, office, manufacturing, retail, public or entertainment uses.

Mixed Use Commercial Zone District: All of the following zone districts:

1. All CC Zone Districts
2. All MX Zone Districts
3. All MS Zone Districts
4. All C-CCN Zone Districts
5. All Downtown Neighborhood Context Zone Districts
6. I-MX
7. All Campus Context Zone Districts
8. DIA
9. M-CC
10. M-MX
11. M-IMX
12. M-GMX

Mode (Of Transportation): A particular form or method of travel, for example, walking, automobile, bicycling, public transit, bus or train.

Motor Vehicle: Any vehicle that is self-propelled and can be legally operated upon streets and highways. For purposes of this definition, the term motor vehicle shall also include vehicles or implements used in farming or construction.

Motor Vehicle, Inoperable: Any motor vehicle that meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. Vehicle is partially dismantled or wrecked; or
2. Vehicle cannot be self-propelled or move in the manner in which it originally was intended to move.

Multi-modal: The issues or activities that involve or affect more than one mode of transportation or a path that can be traversed through different forms of travel. Includes transportation connections, choices, cooperation and coordination of various modes. Also known as “intermodal.”

Multi-phase or Phased Development: A development project that is constructed in stages, each stage being capable of existing and operating independently of the other stages.

Municipal Solid Waste: The solid waste from community, commercial and industrial sources that does not contain hazardous waste as determined by the fire department and the department of environmental health.
“na”: Not applicable.

**NAICS**: North American Industry Classification System as published by the U.S. Census Bureau.

**New Construction or Development**: Structures for which the “start of construction,” as defined in this Article 13, commenced on or after June 25, 2010.

**Nonconforming Structure**: See “Structure, Nonconforming.”

**Nonconforming Lot or Zone Lot**: See “Zone Lot, Nonconforming.”

**Nonconforming Use**: See “Use, Nonconforming.”

**Nonconformity**: Generally, a nonconforming use, sign, lot, structure, or building.
Occupancy: The purpose for which a building is used or intended to be used.

Off-Street Parking Area: A storage area for motor vehicles, including parking spaces, Drive Aisles, and access routes. Includes areas providing direct access to parking stalls or attached Garages for more than one dwelling unit.

Off-Street Parking Space: See “Parking Space.”

Official Map or Official Zone Map: A map of the city that depicts the zone districts of all land within the City of Denver, adopted by City Council, and incorporated by reference as part of this Code.

On-Street Parking Space: A temporary storage area for a motor vehicle that is located on a dedicated street right-of-way.

Open Space, Publicly Accessible: Space that is clearly intended to be usable, publicly accessible, and a visual amenity, but not including parking lots or vestigial landscaped areas left over after the placement of buildings and parking on a zone lot. Publicly accessible open space may be publicly or privately owned, managed or maintained.

Open Space Zone District: All Open Space (“OS”) Zone Districts.

Original Grade: See definition of “Grade, original.”

Outdoor General Advertising Device: A sign relating to products, services or uses not on the same zone lot. Also commonly known as a “billboard.”

Overlay Zone District: A set of zoning requirements in a zone district that is described in this Code, which is mapped and imposed in addition to those of the underlying zone district. Development within an overlay zone must conform to the requirements of both zones, or the more restrictive of the two.

Owner: Any person with a legal or equitable interest in property, with or without accompanying actual possession thereof; a person who is under contract to purchase property by land installment contract or by a purchase contract; or a person who is acquiring property, or a legal or equitable interest in it, through foreclosure.
Parapet Wall: That part of any wall that extends entirely above the surface of the adjacent roof.

Parking, Accessory: A specific type of accessory use, comprised of surface or garage (structured) parking located on the same zone lot as the primary use such parking is required or intended to serve.

Parking Aisle: Parking “Aisles” mean the part of the parking lot that directly abut parking stalls and are used for vehicular access to the parking stalls.

Parking, Commercial: An open, hard-surfaced area or structure, other than street or public way, to be used for the storage, for limited periods of time, of operable passenger automobiles and commercial vehicles, and available to the public, whether for compensation, free, or as an accommodation to clients or customers.

Parking, Shared or Shared Parking: Joint or shared use of parking spaces available to multiple land uses with different parking demand patterns throughout the day.

Parking, Tandem: The parking of 2 vehicles either end to end, vertically stacked, or front to back in a parking space, such that if both vehicles are parked, one vehicle must be moved in order for the other vehicle to exit the parking space.

Parking Area, Off-Street: See “Off-Street Parking Area”.

Parking Ratio: A ratio expressing the number of parking spaces per dwelling unit, or per certain amounts of square footage or commercial space, or per number of occupants or employees.

Parking Space: A storage area for a motor vehicle that is directly accessible to an access aisle, street, or alley, and which is not located on a public right-of-way unless specifically permitted by this Code.

Parking, Surface: A storage area for motor vehicles that is not within a completely enclosed structure, including surface parking lot, deck parking and tuck-under parking.

Parkway: A type of boulevard that the city has designated as a “Parkway” according to Chapter 49 of the D.R.M.C.

Patio: A level hard surfaced area at finished grade. (For an above-grade patio, see Deck)

Pedestrian and/or Transit Mall: A public right-of-way and/or public rights-of-way from which general vehicular traffic shall be excluded except that public transportation vehicles, emergency vehicles and other vehicles by special permit may be permitted, and which shall have been specially constructed with amenities to enhance a primarily pedestrian environment.

Pedestrian Connection: A clear, obvious, and publicly accessible route and connection between the Primary Street and the primary uses within the building.

Permanent Occupancy: The use of housing accommodations or rooms on a month-to-month or year-to-year basis with a fixed rent for each period of occupancy.

**Permitted Structure:** See definition of “Structure, Permanent,” below.

**Person:** An individual including any receiver, guardian, personal representative, registered agent, fiduciary, or representative of any kind, and any corporation, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, or other legal entity.

**Planned Unit Development (PUD):** A zone district wherein an area of land, controlled by one or more landowners, to be developed under unified control or unified plan of development for a number of dwelling units, commercial, education, recreational, or industrial uses, or any combination of the foregoing, the plan for which does not correspond in zone lot size, building form, bulk, use, density, lot coverage, open space, or other restriction to the existing zoning regulations of this Code. See Division 9.6, Planned Unit Development District, of this Code.

**Plaza:** An open area at ground level accessible to the public at all times, and which is unobstructed from its lowest level to the sky. Any portion of a plaza occupied by landscaping, statuary, pools and open recreation facilities shall be considered to be a part of the plaza. The term “plaza” shall not include off-street loading areas, driveways, off-street parking areas.

**Porch, Front:** A one or two-story structure providing access to the primary uses within a primary building. Front porch may be covered and must be unenclosed on the primary street-facing façade of the primary building.

**Porch:** A one or two-story structure attached to a building providing access to the building. A porch may be covered and must be at least 50% open on each side, except for sides abutting a facade or required fire wall. If a porch is not covered, it is distinguished from a patio by enclosure of the porch on all open sides by low walls or railings, except where pedestrian access is provided to access the porch.

**Premises:** A general term meaning part or all of any zone lot or part or all of any building or structure or group of buildings or structures located thereon.

**Primary Street:** See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1.

**Private Open Space:** See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1.

**Processing:** Any operation changing the nature of material or materials such as the chemical composition or physical qualities. Does not include operation described as fabrication.

**Professional Studio:** See “Studio, Professional.”

**Projecting Window:** For purposes of a setback encroachment, shall include bay window, box window and bow window.

**Property:** Any land, building, or other structure, or part thereof.

**Protected District:** Any one of the following zone districts:

1. S-SU-A
2. S-SU-D
3. S-SU-F
4. S-SU-Fx
5. S-SU-F1
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40. G-RH-3

41. Any zone district retained from Former Chapter 59, mapped on the Official Map, and considered a “protected Zone District” under Section 59-96 of the Former Chapter 59.

**Public Art:** Any structure or other installation meeting the definition of "Works of Public Art" in Section 20-86 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code (DRMC).
Qualified Professional: A person with experience and training with expertise appropriate for the relevant subject matter. A qualified professional must have obtained a B.S. or B.A. or equivalent degree in the relevant subject matter (e.g., soil science, engineering, environmental studies, geology or related field), must have related work experience, and must be a professional engineer or other professional licensed in the state of Colorado.
Rail Transit Station Platform: The area of a Mass Transit Railway System station that is intended for passenger queuing, loading and unloading from the rail car and runs parallel to and abutting the rail tracks, the boundary of which is only the area intended for passenger access to the rail car.

Railroad Facilities: Terminal related to a freight railway; or a railway yard, maintenance, or fueling facility related to a passenger or freight railway.

Rear of Zone Lot: See “Zone Lot, Rear”.

Recreational Vehicle: A vehicular-type, portable structure without permanent foundation for personal household use, which can be towed, hauled or driven and primarily designed as living accommodation for recreational, camping and travel use and including, but not limited to, travel trailers, truck campers, camping trailers, and self-propelled motor homes.

Recreational Vehicle, Large: A Recreational Vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight greater than 10,000 pounds. For purposes of this Code, the Term "Recreational Vehicle" includes "Large Recreational Vehicle".

Recyclable Material: Reusable materials including, but not limited to, metals, glass, plastic, wood, and paper that are intended for remanufacturing or reconstitution. Recyclable materials do not include junk, rubbish, refuse, or hazardous waste.

Registry Identification Card: That document issued by a state health agency, which identifies a patient authorized to engage in the medical use of marijuana, as required by Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 25-1.5-107(7), as may be amended.

Replacement Cost: The amount it would cost to replace an asset at current market prices.

Required Entrance: See “Entrance, Required,” above.

Residential Accommodations: Any building or part of a building used or intended to be used for sleeping accommodations by a person or group of persons. Other housekeeping facilities may be provided.

Residential Development: See “Development, Residential.”

Residential Occupancy or Residential Use: Any building or part of a building in which a person or group of persons are provided with sleeping accommodations. Other housekeeping accommodations may also be provided.

Residential Structure: See definition of “Structure, Residential,” below.

Residential Use: See definition of “Residential Occupancy,” above.

Residential Zone District or Residential District:
2. Any zone district retained from Former Chapter 59, mapped on the Official Map, and considered a “Residential district” under Section 59-2(235) of the Former Chapter 59.
Retail: Sale to the ultimate consumer for direct consumption or use and not for resale.

Retaining Wall: A wall which is designed to, and in fact does, retain the earth on one side at a higher elevation than the earth on the other side. Only that portion of the wall that actually retains earth shall be considered a retaining wall; the remainder shall be a fence or wall and be measured as set forth in Section 13.1.7.

Rezoning: An amendment to the Official Zoning Map.

Roof: The structure forming the upper covering of a Completely Enclosed Structure or Partially Enclosed Structure.

Roof, Low-Slope: A roof or portion of roof that has no sloping plane greater than 3:12.

Roof, Pitched: A roof or portion of roof that has a sloping plane greater than 3:12.

Roof Line: The highest point on any building or structure where an exterior wall or parapet wall encloses roof or floor area, including floor area provided for housing mechanical equipment.

Rooftop and/or Second Story Deck: For purposes of a Supplemental Design Standard within Articles 3-5: Any unenclosed deck, patio, terrace, porch, exterior balcony, or similar unenclosed building element either located on the roof of a primary or detached accessory structure or projecting from the building above the Street Level.

Roof Overhang: For purposes of setback encroachments: Eaves or the lower edge of the roof which overhang the walls. This includes the eave or edge of the roof which overhangs the gable end walls.

Room: Any enclosed division of a building containing over 70 square feet of floor space and commonly used for living purposes, not including lobbies, halls, closets, storage space, bathrooms, utility rooms and unfinished attics, cellars or basements. An enclosed division is an area in a structure bounded along more than 75 percent of its perimeter by vertical walls or partitions, or by other types of dividers which serve to define the boundaries of the division.

Rotocraft: Any aircraft deriving its principal lift or support in the air from one (1) or more rotors or from the vertical component of the force produced by rotating airfoils.
Screening: A method of visually shielding or obscuring one abutting or nearby structure or use from another by fencing, walls, berms, or densely planted vegetation.

Semi-Trailer: Any vehicle of the trailer type so designed and used in conjunction with a truck-tractor that some part of its own weight and that of its own load rest upon or is carried by a truck-tractor.


Setback Space or Area: The area between a zone lot line and a required minimum setback line.

Shielded: The light emitted from the lighting fixture is projected below a horizontal plain running through the lowest point of the fixture where light is emitted. The lamp is not visible with a shielded light fixture, and no light is emitted from the sides of such a fixture.

SIC: Standard Industrial Classification as published by the U.S. Census Bureau, has been replaced by the NAICS.


Side Zone Lot Line: See "Zone Lot, Side".


Sign: A sign is any object or device or part thereof situated, outdoors or indoors, which is used to advertise or identify an object, person, institution, organization, business, product, service, event, or location by any means, including words, letters, figures, designs, symbols, fixtures, motion illumination, or projected images. Signs do not include the following:

a. Flags of nations, or an organization of nations, states and cities, fraternal, religious and civic organizations;
b. Merchandise, pictures or models of products or services incorporated in a window display;
c. Time and temperature devices not related to a product;
d. National, state, religious, fraternal, professional and civic symbols or crests;
e. Works of art which in no way identify a product.

Sign, Animated: Any sign or part of a sign which changes physical position by any movement or rotation.

Sign, Arcade: A wall or projecting sign attached to the roof or wall of an arcade and totally within the outside limits of the structural surfaces which are delineating the arcade.

Sign, Billboard: See definition of "Outdoor General Advertising Device," above.
Sign, Flashing: Any sign either stationary or animated, which exhibits any change in: natural or artificial light or color effects; text; pictures or any other form of message more frequently than once per hour by any means whatsoever.

Sign, Ground: A sign supported by poles, uprights or braces extending from the ground or an object on the ground but not attached to any part of any building.

Sign, Illuminated: A sign lighted by or exposed to artificial lighting either by lights on the sign or directed towards the sign.

Sign, Individual Letter: Letters or figures individually fashioned from metal or other approved materials and attached to the wall of a building, but not including a sign painted on a wall or other surface.

Sign, Joint Identification: A sign which serves as a common or collective identification for three (3) or more business or industrial uses by right on the same zone lot excluding, however, the identification of products.

Sign, Marquee: A sign attached to, painted on, erected against or extending from a marquee.

Sign, Noncommercial: A sign expressing noncommercial speech generally in the form of an opinion on a particular subject, or support for, or opposition to, a particular cause, political or otherwise.

Sign, Off-Site Commercial: A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, entertainment or attraction sold, offered or existing elsewhere than upon the same zone lot where such sign is displayed. This definition does not include noncommercial signs.

Sign, Outdoor General Advertising Device: See definition of “Outdoor General Advertising Device,” above.

Sign, Political: A sign expressing support for, or opposition to, a political candidate, political party, ballot or other election issue.

Sign, Portable: Any sign that is not permanently affixed to building, structure or the ground.

Sign, Projecting: A sign or graphic, other than a wall sign, that is attached to and projects from the wall, soffit, or eave of a building, is not in the same plane as the wall, soffit, or eave to which it is attached, and identifies a use within that building.

Sign, Roof: (1) A sign attached to the roof of a building which sign projects above the Roof Line of the building, or (2) a sign attached to an exterior wall or Parapet Wall which sign extends above the lowest height of the Parapet Wall.

Sign, Temporary: Any sign or advertising display constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, paper, plywood or other light material intended to be displayed for a short period of time.

Sign, Wall: A sign attached to, painted on or erected against a wall, facia, parapet wall or pitched roof of a building or structure, and no part of which sign projects above the Roof Line and whose display surface is parallel to and extends not more than twenty-four (24) inches from the wall to which it is attached and extends not more than eight (8) inches from the facia to which it is attached or, if attached to a pitched roof, the bottom of its display surface does not extend more than six (6) inches vertically from the roof surface and the top of its display surface does not extend more than forty-eight (48) inches horizontally from the roof surface.
Sign, Wind: Any sign in the nature of a series of two or more banners, flags, pennants or other objects or material which shall call attention to a product or service, fastened in such a manner as to move upon being subjected to pressure by wind or breeze.

Sign, Window: A sign which is applied or attached to, or located within three feet of the interior of a window, which sign can be seen through the window from the exterior of the structure.

Sign Projection Distance: The distance from the exterior wall surface of the building to the display face of a wall sign.

Sign With Backing: Any sign that is displayed upon, against or through any material or color surface or backing that forms an integral part of such display and differentiates the total display from the background against which it is placed.

Sign Without Backing: Any word, letter, emblem, insignia, figure of similar character or group thereof, that is neither backed by, incorporated in or otherwise made part of any larger display area.

Site Development Plan: A specific development plan for a zone lot, use, or building, specifying how the entire site will be developed including, but not limited to, building envelopes, uses, densities, open space, parking/circulation, access, drainage, building area, landscaping, and signs.

Siting Form Standards or Building Siting Standards: Standards in this Code that regulate the size and dimension of a required zone lot, and the placement, orientation, and coverage of a building on a zone lot. Siting standards include, but are not limited to, standards addressing zone lot size and dimensions, setbacks, build-to requirements, and building coverage.

Solar Panel, Flush Mounted: A solar energy collection device mounted to the roof of a structure in such a manner that the device is not more than one foot above the roof surface to which it is attached, and mounted so that the device plane is in a plane which is parallel to the surface of the roof to which it is attached.

Standard: A mandatory regulation. Noncompliance with a standard may be grounds for denial of a proposal for development, and may subject an applicant or a development to the enforcement and penalty provisions of this Code. Mandatory standards are indicated by use of the terms “shall” and “must.”

Start of Construction: Includes substantial improvement, and means the date a building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, placement, or other improvement was within one hundred eighty (180) days of the permit date. The “actual start” means the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure.

Stoop: An uncovered set of steps and a landing providing access to the primary uses within the building.
Storage: The act of depositing goods, wares and merchandise in any structure, part of a structure or warehouse, gratuitous or otherwise, shall be called storage.

Store: A use devoted exclusively to the retail sale of a commodity or commodities.

Story: That portion of a building included between the upper surface of a floor and the upper surface of the floor or roof next above.

Story, Habitable: A story which:
1. Has at least four feet between the ground level and the ceiling joists;
2. Has enough area to provide a habitable room with net floor-to-ceiling distance of 7 feet-6 inches over half the area of the room; and
3. Constitutes a habitable room as defined in the building code.

Story, Half: See Rule of Measurement.

Street: A public thoroughfare, avenue, road, highway, boulevard, parkway, driveway, lane, court or private easement providing, generally, the primary roadway to and egress from the property abutting along its length.

Street Level: Any point on the first story or level in a building or structure in which the ceiling is 4 feet or more above grade at the nearest building line. The "building line" shall be where the street-facing building facade meets finished grade.

Street Level Dwelling Unit: A Dwelling Unit located at the Street Level, where any portion of the Dwelling Unit is within 10 feet of a required Primary or Side Street Setback or Residential Setback. See Figure 13.3-3.
**Street, Private:** Any road or street that is privately developed, owned, and maintained that provides access within a development.

**Street Front or Frontage:** Any boundary line of a zone lot or parcel of land that runs parallel to and within 20 feet of the right-of-way of a street or highway designated and assigned an individual name or number by the legislative action of the City.

**Street Property Line:** A common boundary between private property and a dedicated street or alley.

**Structural Feature:** Any part of a structure which is designed for or indicative of the intent to accommodate any given use.

**Structure:** Anything which is constructed or erected and the use of which requires more or less permanent location on ground or attachment to something having permanent location on ground, not, however, including wheels; an edifice or a building of any kind; any production or piece of work, artificially built up or composed of a parts and joined together in some definite manner. (Entrances not more than 2 feet above grade and vents not more than 3 feet above grade, which are features of bomb or fallout shelters, shall not be considered a structure or structural feature for purposes of setback computations.)

**Structure - Group A:**

**Structure, Completely Enclosed:** A structure enclosed by a permanent roof and by solid exterior walls pierced only by windows and customary entrance and exit doors.

**Structure, Partially Enclosed:** A structure that is:

1. Enclosed by a roof (e.g. carport, gazebo, porch); or
2. Enclosed on three or more sides with Fences or Walls that are greater than 6 feet in height and less than 50% open.

**Structure, Open:** A structure that is:

1. At least 50% open to the sky; and
2. If it has Fences or Walls, there are no more than two sides with Fences or Walls that are greater than 6 feet in height and less than 50% open (e.g., trellis, balcony, deck).

**Structure - Group B:**

**Structure, Conforming:** A structure which, when originally constructed, was in full compliance with all zoning regulations applicable to structures, and which complies with the following current regulations applicable to structures:

1. All building form standards in this Code;
2. Standards for permitted structures in the Downtown, Campus, I-A, and I-B zone districts, as applicable, and
3. Standards established in Division 10.3, Multiple Buildings on a Single Zone Lot, as applicable.
A structure that meets this definition of “conforming structure”, but which does not comply with zoning standards that are inapplicable to structures (e.g., site design standards such as landscaping, parking amount, signage), are still “conforming structures” under this Code.

Structure, Compliant: A legally established structure that meets one of the following conditions:

1. The legally established structure does not comply with one or more of the following Building Form Standards in this Code:
   a. Height Standards
      i. Minimum, feet
      ii. Maximum, feet and stories
      iii. 3rd Avenue CCN bulk plane
   b. Siting Standards
      i. Building setback standards, including Block Sensitive Primary Street setback standards
      ii. Required build-to
      iii. Location of surface parking for vehicles
   c. Design Element Standards
      i. Street Level activation standards
      ii. Upper-story setback standards
      iii. Overall structure length
      iv. Pedestrian access, primary structure
      v. Private open space
      vi. Mass reduction
      vii. Limitation on Visible Parking Above the Street Level
   d. Use Building Form Standards

2. The legally established structure was conforming under Former Chapter 59 on June 24, 2010, but does not currently comply with Denver Zoning Code “building height standards,” “siting form standards,” or “design element form standards,” as those terms are defined in Article 13.

Structure, Nonconforming: A structure or building that was lawful prior to the adoption, revision, or amendment to this Code, but which fails by reason of such adoption, revision, or amendment, to conform to the present requirements for a conforming structure or a compliant structure in the zone district in which such structure or building is located.

Structure - Group C:

Structure, Accessory: A subordinate structure located on the same zone lot with the primary building, structure, or use, and which is incidental and customary to the primary building, structure, or use. Accessory structures include man-made structures with walls and roofs, along with man-made structures with no walls or no roofs, including, but not limited to detached garages, fences, walls, gazebos, decks and patios.

Structure, Detached: Any structure having no party wall or common wall with another structure. Bridges, tunnels, breezeways and other similar means of connecting one (1) structure to another shall not, for the purpose of this Code, be considered to constitute a party wall or common wall.

Structure, Permanent: A structure that is built of such materials and in such a way that it would commonly be expected to last and remain useful for a period of time.
Structure, Permitted: A structure meeting all the requirements established by this Code for the zone district in which the structure is located.

Structure, Primary: The main or primary structure or building in which the primary use of a property is conducted or operated.

Structure, Principal: See “Structure, Primary.”

Structure, Residential: Any building or part of a building constructed with or as sleeping accommodations for a person or group of persons. Other housekeeping accommodations also may be provided.

Structure, Temporary: A structure that is built of such materials and in such a way that it would commonly be expected to have a relatively short life, or is built for a purpose that would commonly be expected to be relatively short, or any structure intended for nonpermanent use or occupancy.

Studio, Professional: A specific type of arts, recreation and entertainment service use. A place where works of art are created, displayed and/or sold, and/or where instruction of the arts to students occurs in the fields of painting, drawing, sculpture, etching, craft work, fine arts, photography, music, or similar fields; but not including health treatment.
Tandem Parking: See “Parking, Tandem.”

Telecommunications Service: The providing or offering for rent, sale or lease, or in exchange for other value received, or for the provision of any emergency telecommunications purposes, or the transmittal of voice, data, image, graphic and video programming information between or among points by wire, cable, fiber optics, laser, microwave, radio, satellite or similar facilities, with or without benefit of any closed transmission medium.

Telecommunications Support Facilities: Support buildings, structures and equipment cabinets containing electrical and mechanical equipment and devices used for the reception of or transmission of voice, data, image, graphic and video programming information between or among points by wire, cable, fiber optics, laser, microwave, radio, satellite or similar facilities.

Telecommunications Tower: Any structure designed and constructed primarily for the purpose of supporting one or more antennas, including self-supporting lattice towers, guy towers, or monopole towers. The term includes radio and television transmission towers, microwave towers, common carrier towers, cellular telephone towers, and other similar structures. This term also includes any antenna or antenna array attached to the tower structure.

Tower Height: The distance measured from the lowest point at grade within ten feet of the tower to the highest point on the tower, including the base pad and any antenna.

Toxic and/or Hazardous Materials: Those chemicals or substances that are physical hazards or health hazards as defined and classified by the Denver Fire Code, whether the materials are in usable or waste condition. Substances that are considered “toxic and/or hazardous materials” include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Cryogenic fluids.
2. Corrosive materials.
3. Explosives and blasting agents.
4. Flammable and combustible liquids.
5. Flammable solids and gases.
7. Oxidizer materials.
8. Pyrophoric materials (Material that ignites spontaneously or emits sparks when scratched or struck especially with steel).
10. Unstable (reactive) materials.

Trailer: Any vehicle without a motor or other means of self-propulsion designed to carry property primarily on its own structure and to be drawn by a motor vehicle. Trailers shall include but shall not be limited to the following: utility trailers, boat trailers, flatbed trailers, camper trailers, home-made trailers, and fifth-wheel trailers not designed to be used in conjunction with a truck-tractor.
**Trailer Camp or Court:** Any premises where one (1) or more trailer coaches are parked for living and sleeping purposes, or any premises used or set apart for the purpose of supplying to the public parking space for one (1) or more trailer coaches for living and sleeping purposes, and which include any buildings, structures, vehicles or enclosure used or intended for use as a part of the equipment of such trailer camp or court. Also commonly known as a mobile home park.

**Travel Demand Management (TDM):** A broad range of strategies intended to reduce peak period vehicle trips.

**Truck Tractor:** A vehicle equipped with a chassis or flat-bed mounted ball or fifth wheel for attaching a trailer, designed to be used for the highway towing trailers and not designed primarily for hauling cargo.

**Tunnel/Breezeway:** An above-ground or below-ground passage that is less than 7 feet in any horizontal dimension and connects two structures. The connected structures may be either a primary and detached accessory structure, or two or more primary structures. A Tunnel/Breezeway is not a "Room" as defined in this Code.
Underlying Zone District: The standard non-overlay zone district providing base building form and use requirements is considered to be the Underlying Zone District when used in combination with an Overlay Zone District. Underlying Zone Districts may include, but are not limited to, Residential Zone Districts and Mixed Use Commercial Zone Districts.

Unobstructed Open Space: Land with no buildings thereon, except fenced or walled trash facilities. The following provisions apply to the specified zone districts:

1. Except as otherwise provided herein, in the Single Unit (SU), Two Unit (TU), or Row House (RH) zone districts, unobstructed open space shall include any areas that are open to the sky including driveways; driving aisles; unenclosed parking spaces; front porches; and patios, decks or exterior balconies the surface of which is two and one half (2 1/2) feet or less above grade; and unenclosed areas covered by a trellis or arbor.

2. In the Single Unit (SU) and Two Unit (TU) zone districts, the following portions of the zone lot shall not be deemed to be unobstructed open space: any area bordered by walls on more than three sides; any porch, patio, or deck enclosed by any railing, wall, or similar structure in excess of three (3) feet in height above the surface of the porch, patio or deck; and any area beneath a projecting architectural or structural element such as balconies, bay windows, or second floor projections, excepting eaves.

Upper Story Setback: The horizontal distance that an upper portion of a building facade is set back from the property or zone lot boundary line.

Upper Story Step-Back: The horizontal distance that an upper portion of a building facade is set back from the face of the building’s lower portion.

Use: The purpose for which land or structures thereon is designed, arranged or intended to be occupied or used, or for which it is occupied, maintained, rented or leased.

Use, Allowed: See “Use, Permitted.”

Use, Accessory: A subordinate use, clearly incidental and related to the primary use of land, and, unless otherwise permitted by this Code, located on the same zone lot as that of the primary use.

Use, By Right: See “Use, Permitted.”

Use, Compliant: A use or activity that was lawful prior to the adoption, revision, or amendment to this Code, but which by reason of such adoption, revision, or amendment, or because other uses are established closer to the legally established use than this Code permits, does not comply with current use limitations applicable to such use or activity.

Use, Conforming: A use or activity that was lawful when originally established and that complies with current use limitations applicable to the use or activity in the zone district in which it is located. A use or activity that was lawful when originally established, but which, by reason of the adoption of or revision to this Code, does not comply with a review procedure (e.g., special exception review), or with a reduceable spacing/distance requirement, or with a site development or design standard (e.g., parking, landscaping, and signage) otherwise applicable to such use, shall be classified as a “conforming use.”
Use, Illegal: Any use, whether of a building or other structure, or of land, in which a violation of any provision of this Code has been committed or shall exist.

Use, Nonconforming: A use or activity that was lawful prior to the adoption, revision, or amendment to this Code, but which by reason of such adoption, revision, or amendment, is no longer permitted in the zone district in which such use or activity is located.

Use, Permitted: Any use listed as a primary use, a temporary use, a home occupation, an accessory use, a use subject to special exception review, or a use subject to limitations, as approved according to the required use review procedure.

Use, Primary or Principal: The main or primary purpose for which land and the structures thereon are used, or for which land and the structures thereon may be maintained or occupied according to this Code.

Use, Prohibited: A use that is not permitted in a zone district (“NP” in the Summary Use and Parking Tables).

Use, Special Exception: A use that is listed in the Summary Use and Parking Table as a use permitted subject to the special exception review by the Board of Adjustment, as set forth in Article 12 (“ZPSE” in use table).

Use, Temporary: A use established for a fixed period of time with the intent to discontinue such use upon the expiration of the time period.

Use and Parking Table: Tables found in Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 of this Code, which list: (a) the principal, accessory, and temporary uses permitted in each zone district, (b) the type of review procedure (e.g., zoning permit, zoning permit review with informational notice, special exception review) required prior to a use’s establishment, and (c) the bicycle and vehicle parking requirements for each use.

Use Category: A category of uses within a “Use Classification.” “Use Categories” are based on common functional, product, or physical characteristics, such as the type and amount of activity, the type of customers or residents, how goods or services are sold or delivered, and site conditions. A “Use Category” may be further subdivided into “Specific Use Types.”

Use Classification: The broadest grouping of land uses in this Code, based on generally accepted industry groupings, similar descriptions of planning goals or functions, similar permitted use types, and similar permitted density/intensity of use.

Use Type or Specific Use Type: The finest-grained category of uses in this Code; a “Use Type or Specific Use Type” is a sub-category of a “Use Category.” It is used when necessary to tailor the regulatory treatment to address issues such as the relative intensity of the use, issues related to building type, possible effects on neighboring land uses, consistency with zone district purpose and goals, or possible operational externalities (such as odor, glare, or noise).
**Vested Property Right:** Pursuant to this Denver Zoning Code, a property right granted after approval of a "site specific development plan," as approved by the City Council after a public hearing.

**Voluntary Demolition or Voluntarily Demolished:** In relation to a structure, voluntary demolition or voluntarily demolished shall mean the voluntary demolition of 40% or more of the square footage of a the structure’s exterior walls.
Wall: See “Fence and Wall” definition.

Warehouse: A warehouse is a structure or part of a structure, for storing goods, wares and merchandise, whether for the owner or for others, and whether the same being public or private warehouse.

Warehousing: The depositing or securing of goods, wares and merchandise in a warehouse.

Wholesale: Sale for resale not for direct consumption.
Zone Lot: The land designated as the building site for a structure; also, the land area occupied by a use or a structure. Such land area may be designated as a zone lot only by the owner or owners thereof.

Zone Lot, Area of: The area of land enclosed within the boundaries of a zone lot.

Zone Lot, Boundary Line of: Any line separating a zone lot from a street, an alley, another zone lot or any other land not part of the zone lot.

Zone Lot, Corner: A zone lot situated at the junction of two or more intersecting or intercepting streets where the angle of intersection of the lot lines coterminal with the street lines does not exceed 135 degrees.

Zone Lot, Flag: A zone lot not meeting minimum zone lot width or public street frontage requirements under this Code, and where access to a public street is limited to a narrow strip of land or private access way.

Zone Lot, Interior: Any zone lot that is not a corner zone lot.

Zone Lot, Nonconforming: A zone lot that was lawful prior to the adoption, revision, or amendment to this Code, but which fails by reason of such adoption, revision, or amendment, to conform with either:

1. The present minimum zone lot size or minimum zone lot width requirements for any of the building forms permitted in the zone district in which the zone lot is located; or

2. The minimum requirements for a zone lot, as stated in Article 1, Division 1.2, Zone Lots, of this Code.

Zone Lot, Width: See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1

Zone Lot Line: Any boundary of a zone lot.

Zone Lot Line, Primary Street: See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1

Zone Lot Line, Rear: See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1

Zone Lot Line, Side: Any boundary of a zone lot that is neither a Primary Street zone lot line nor a rear zone lot line. A side zone lot line may be either a side “street” zone lot line, or a side “interior” zone line, with the former type abutting a side street and the latter type not abutting a street.

Zone Lot Line, Side Interior: See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1

Zone Lot Line, Side Street: See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1

Zone Lot Size, Minimum: The smallest size zone lot that may be newly created in a zone district according to this Code’s requirements, or the smallest size zone lot that must exist as a prerequisite to development of a building form permitted in the zone district.

Zone of Transparency: See Rule of Measurement, Division 13.1