

Site Development Standards Reference Guide

1. Commercial and Residential Development Standards

Site Development Standards Commercial Zoning

	NO	LO	GO	CR	LR	GR	L	CBD	DMU	W/LO	CS	CS-1	CH	IP	MI	LI	R&D	DR	AV	AG	P
Minimum Lot Size (Square Feet)	5,750	5,750	5,750	20,000	5,750	5,750	5,750	--	--	43,560	5,750	5,750	20,000	43,560	50 acres	5,750	--	10 acres	--	10 acres	--
Minimum Lot Width	50	50	50	100	50	50	50	--	--	100	50	50	100	100	250	50	100	100	--	--	--
Maximum Height	35 or 2 stories	40 or 3 stories	60	40	40 or 3	60	200	--	120	25 or 1 story	60	60	--	60	120	60	45	35	--	60	--
Minimum Setbacks																					
Front Yard	25	25	15	50	25	10	10	--	--	25	10	10	50	25	--	--	75	25	--	100	--
Street Side Yard	15	15	15	50	15	10	10	--	--	25	10	10	50	25	--	--	25	--	100	--	--
Interior Side Yard	5	5	5	20	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	25	--	--	--	--	10	--	100	--
Rear Yard	5	5	5	20	--	--	--	--	--	25	--	--	25	--	--	--	--	10	--	100	--
Maximum Building Coverage	35%	50%	60%	25%	50%	75%	50%	100%	100%	--	95%	95%	85%	50%	75%	75%	40%	12,000	--	--	--
Maximum Impervious Cover	60%	70%	80%	60%	80%	90%	50%	100%	100%	70%	95%	95%	85%	80%	80%	80%	--	15,000	--	--	--
Maximum Floor Area Ratio	0.35:1	0.7:1	1:01	0.25:1	0.5:1	1:01	8:01	8:01	5:01	0.25:1	2:01	2:01	3:01	1:01	1:01	1:01	--	--	--	--	--

**** See Austin City Code Volume II (Land Development Code)**

Site Development Standards Residential Zoning

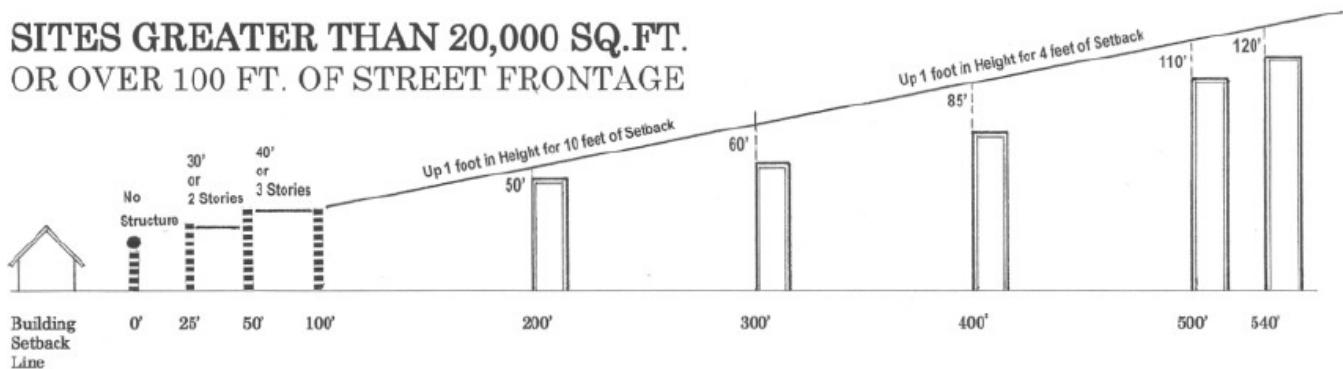
	LA	RR	SF-1	SF-2	SF-3	SF-4A	SF-4B	SF-5	SF-6	MF-1	MF-2	MF-3	MF-4	MF-5	MF-6	MH
Minimum Lot Size (Square Feet)	43,560	43,560	10,000	5,750	5,750	3,600**	--	5,750	5,750	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	--
Minimum Lot Width	100	100	60	50	50	40	--	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	--
Maximum Dwelling Units Per Lot	1	1	1	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Maximum Height	35	35	35	35	35	35	--	35	35	40	40 or 3 stories	40	60	60	90	--
Minimum Setbacks																
Front Yard	40	40	25	25	25	15	--	25	25	25	25	25	15	15	15	--
Street Side Yard	25	25	15	15	15	10	--	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	--
Interior Side Yard	10	10	5	5	5	--	10	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	--
Rear Yard	20	20	10	10	10	--	--	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	--
Maximum Building Coverage	--	20%	35%	40%	40%	55%	40%	40%	40%	45%	50%	55%	60%	60%	70%	--
Maximum Impervious Cover	--	25%	40%	45%	45%	65%	60%	55%	55%	55%	60%	65%	70%	70%	80%	--
Maximum Floor Area Ratio	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75:1	0.75:1	1:01	--	--
Maximum Units Per Acre	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	17	23	36	36-54**	54	--	--

**** See Austin City Code Volume II (Land Development Code)**

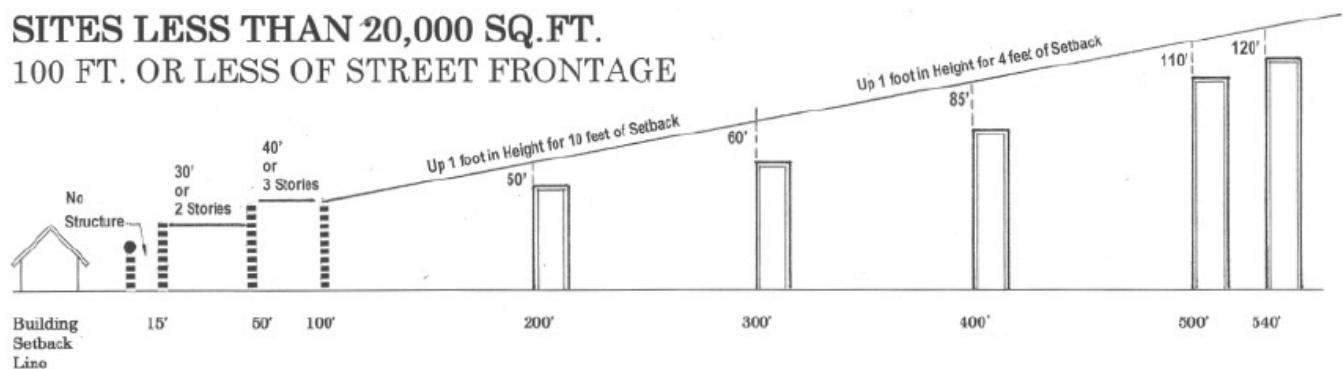
2. Measuring Zoning Compatibility Standards

COMPATIBILITY: HEIGHT + SETBACKS

**SITES GREATER THAN 20,000 SQ.FT.
OR OVER 100 FT. OF STREET FRONTAGE**



**SITES LESS THAN 20,000 SQ.FT.
100 FT. OR LESS OF STREET FRONTAGE**



Notes:

Compatibility Standards are applicable to all property adjoining or across the street from a lot zoned or used as a SF-5 or more restrictive or within 540 feet from a lot zoned SF-5 or more restrictive.

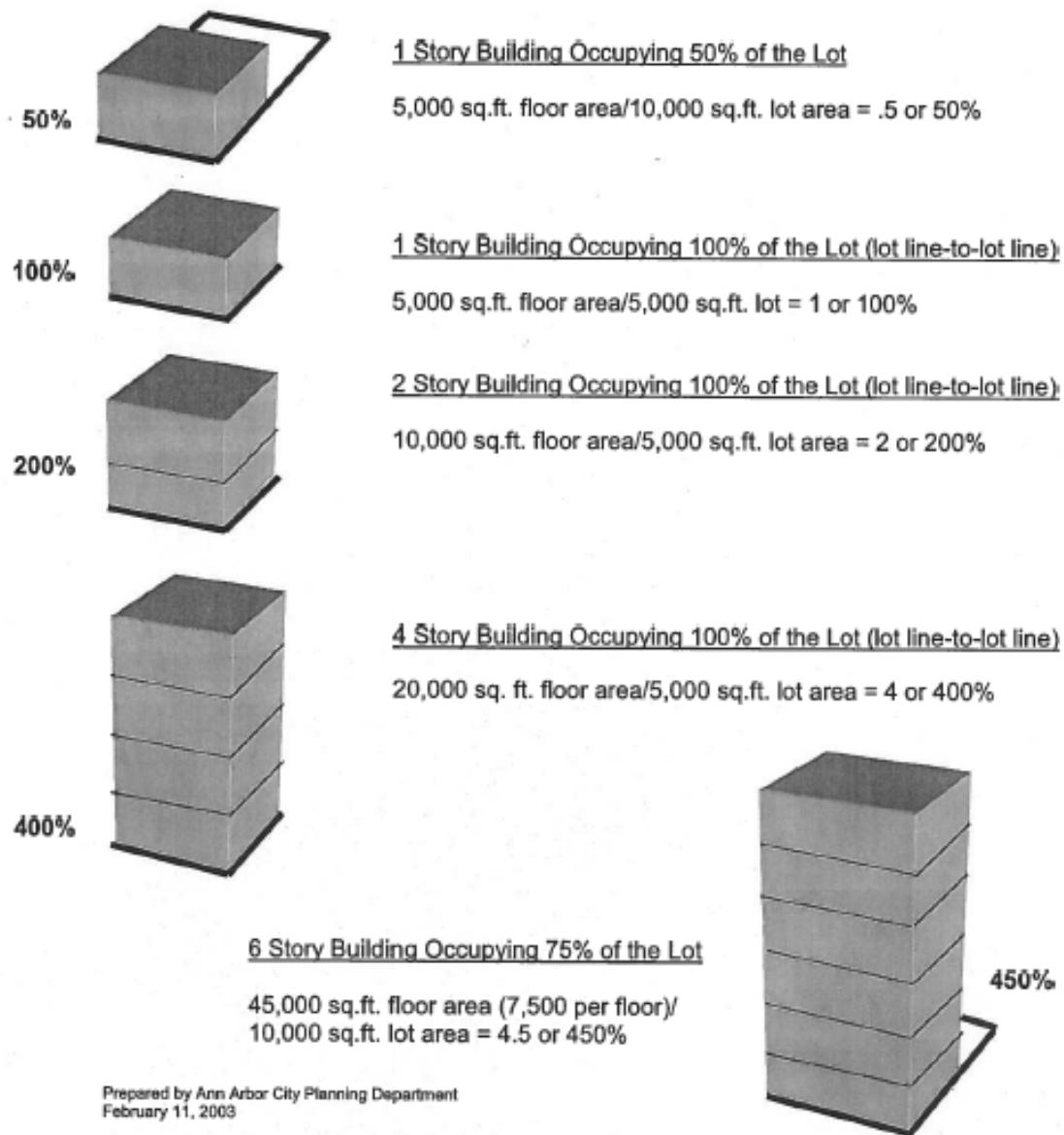
Compatibility includes:

- (1) Height
- (2) Setback Provisions
- (3) Scale & Clustering
- (4) Buffering
- (5) Recognition of passive uses within flood plain
- (6) Design of Signs
- (7) Noise of Mechanical Equipment
- (8) Lighting
- (9) Parking & Driveways.

3. Measuring F.A.R. (Floor Area Ratio)

F.A.R. is the maximum usable floor area in percentage of the lot area, expressed as the gross floor area of all buildings on a lot divided by the total lot area.

FAR = Gross Floor Area/Lot Area



4. Base Zoning Districts

Residential		Commercial	
LA	Lake Austin Residence	NO	Neighborhood Office
RR	Rural Residence	LO	Limited Office
SF-1	Single Family—Large Lot	GO	General Office
SF-2	Single Family—Standard Lot	CR	Commercial Recreation
SF-3	Family Residence	LR	Neighborhood Commercial
SF-4A	Single Family—Small Lot	GR	Community Commercial
SF-4B	Single Family—Condominium	L	Lake Commercial
SF-5	Urban Family Residence	CBD	Central Business District
SF-6	Townhouse & Condominium	DMU	Downtown Mixed Use
MF-1	Multifamily—Limited Density	W/LO	Warehouse/limited Office
MF-2	Multifamily—Low Density	CS	General Commercial Services
MF-3	Multifamily—Medium Density	CS-1	Commercial-Liquor Sales
MF-4	Multifamily—Moderate Density	CH	Commercial Highway Serv
MF-5	Multifamily—High Density	Special Purpose	
MF-6	Multifamily—Highest Density	DR	Development Reserve
MH	Mobile Home Residence	AV	Aviation Services
Industrial		AG	Agricultural
IP	Industrial Park	P	Public
LI	Limited Industrial Services	PUD	Planned Unit Development
MI	Major Industry	TN	Traditional Neighborhood
R&D	Research & Development		

Table 2. Some of the Combining Zoning Districts

Code	District name
-CO	Conditional Overlay Combining District
-H	Historic Combining District
-MU	Mixed Use Combining District
-NP	Neighborhood Plan Combining District
-PDA	Planned Development Area
-V	Vertical Mixed Use Building

The City of Austin has established twelve Zoning Principles as a guide to preserve the compatibility of land uses. City Staff, stakeholders and property owners should use the following principles to evaluate all zoning requests.

- Zoning should be consistent with the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) or adopted neighborhood plan.
- Zoning should satisfy a public need and not constitute a grant of special privilege to an individual owner; the request should not result in spot zoning.
- Granting a request for zoning should result in an equal treatment of similarly situated properties.
- Granting the zoning should not in any way set an undesirable precedent for other properties in the neighborhood or within other areas of the city.
- Zoning should allow for a reasonable use of the property.
- Zoning changes should promote compatibility with adjacent and nearby uses and should not result in detrimental impacts to the neighborhood character.
- Zoning should promote a transition between adjacent and nearby zoning districts, land uses, and development intensities.
- Zoning should promote the policy of locating retail and more intensive zoning near the intersections of arterial roadways or at the intersections of arterials and major collectors.
- The request should serve to protect and preserve places and areas of historical and cultural significance.
- Zoning should promote clearly identified community goals such as creating employment opportunities or providing for affordable housing.
- A change in conditions has occurred within the area indicating that there is a basis for changing the originally established zoning and/or development restrictions for the property.
- The rezoning should be consistent with the policies adopted by the City Council or Planning Commission/Zoning and Platting Commission.

A Base Zoning District establishes regulations governing land use and site development in a specific geographic area. Regulations may include:

- A minimum lot size
- A minimum lot width
- Maximum impervious coverage
- Maximum height allowances
- Required setbacks

Building Coverage: A percentage limit on the amount of a lot that may be covered by a building.

Density: The number of dwelling units (houses, apartments, duplexes etc), or buildings per unit of land. In Neighborhood Planning, this is often expressed as dwelling units per acre or units per lot.

Floor Area Ratio (FAR): The floor area ratio (FAR) is the principal bulk regulation controlling the size of buildings. FAR is the ratio of total building floor area in relation to the area of its zoning lot. Each zoning district has an FAR control which, when multiplied by the lot area of the zoning lot, produces the maximum amount of floor area allowable in a building on the zoning lot.

For example, on a 10,000 square-foot lot in a zoning district with a maximum FAR of 1.0, the floor area of a building cannot exceed 10,000 square feet.



Impervious Cover: Anything that stops rainwater from soaking into the ground, including roads, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, swimming pools, and buildings. The allowable amount of impervious cover is determined by the more restrictive of the zoning district and watershed regulations.

Minimum Site Area: Limits the number of dwelling units on a site by requiring a certain amount of square footage at a site for a specific type of multi-family unit (efficiency, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, etc.). For example, if a zoning district for a 10,000 square foot lot requires 2,500 square feet for each two-bedroom unit, then four two-bedroom units can be built on that lot.

Setbacks: The minimum distance between buildings and any lot line.

Source: City of Austin Zoning Guide, 2016

ZONING USE SUMMARY TABLE (LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE)

P = Permitted Use C = Conditional Use Permit -- = Not Permitted

1-Refers to 25-2-602 (13-2-225); 2-Refers to 25-2-622 (13-2-226); 3-Refers to Subchapter B, Art. 2, Div 5; 4 Refers to 25-2-624 (13-2-227); 5-Refers to 25-2-803 (13-2-233); 6-Subject to 25-2-805 (13-2-224);

7-Subject to 25-2-839 (13-2-235 & 13-2-273); 8-Refers to 25-2-842; 9-Refers to 25-2-863; 10-Subject to 25-2-177 & 25-2-650; 11-Subject to 25-2-587 (D); 12-Subject to 25-2-816; 13-Permitted in MU and V combining districts, subject to 25-2, Subchapter E, Art. 4, Subsec. 4.2.1.C; 14-Refers to 25-6-501; 15-Refers to 25-2-817; 16-Refers to 25-2-811.

PC - Permitted in the district, but under some circumstances may be conditional; CP - Conditional in the district, but under some circumstances may be permitted

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P = Permitted Use C = Conditional Use Permit -- = Not Permitted

CIVIC USES	LA	RR	SF-1	SF-2	SF-3	SF-4A	SF-4B	SF-5	MF-1	MF-2	MF-3	MF-4	MF-5	MF-6	MH	NO	LO	GO	CR	LR	GR	L	CBD	DMU	W/L/O	CS	CS-1	CH	IP	MI	LI	R&D	DR	AV	AG	PUD	P						
Administrative Services	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4										
Aviation Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4											
Camp	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	P	--	3	4												
Cemetery	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	3	4											
Club or Lodge	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	1	C	--	C	3	4								
College and University Facilities	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	P	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	P	1	--	3	4						
Communication Service Facilities	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	P	2	P	3	4						
Community Events	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8								
Community Recreation (Private)	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	P	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4					
Community Recreation (Public)	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	P	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4					
Congregate Living	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	P	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4							
Convalescent Services	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	--	P	--	--	--	P	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	3	4							
Convention Center	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--						
Counseling Services	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Cultural Services	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Day Care Services (Commercial)	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Day Care Services (General)	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Day Care Services (Limited)	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Detention Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	3	4						
Employee Recreation	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Family Home	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Group Home, Class I (General)	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Group Home, Class I (Limited)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Group Home, Class II	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	--	C	P	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Guidance Services	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	--	1	--	3	4						
Hospital Services (General)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4								
Hospital Services (Limited)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Local Utility Services	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Maintenance and Service Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Major Public Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Major Utility Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Military Installations	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Park and Recreation Services (General)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Park and Recreation Services (Special)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Postal Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				
Private Primary Educational Facilities	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Private Secondary Educational Facilities	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	P	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Public Primary Educational Facilities	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Public Secondary Educational Facilities	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4						
Railroad Facilities	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4			
Religious Assembly	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	P	2	--	3	4				
Residential Treatment	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	3	4		
Safety Services	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	1	--	2	--	3	4
Telecommunication Tower. ⁷	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	--	--	--	4					
Transitional Housing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	1	--	3	4		
Transportation Terminal	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	1	--	2	--	3	4	
All other Civic Uses	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	3	4				

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7-Subject to 25-2-839 (13-2-235 & 13-2-273); 8-Refers to 25-2-842; 9-Refers to 25-2-863; 10-Subject to 25-2-177 & 25-2-650; 11-Subject to 25-2-587 (D); 12-Subject to 25-2-816; 13-Permitted in MU and V combining districts, subject to 25-2, Subchapter E, Art. 4, Subsec. 4.2.1.C; 14-Refers to 25-6-501; 15-Refers to 25-2-817; 16-Refers to 25-2-811.

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