

**FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2026
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

	Pg.#
1. Call to Order	
2. Pledge of Allegiance	
3. Roll Call	
4. Agenda Modifications	
5. <u>Wastewater Flow Presentation</u>	2
6. <u>Comprehensive Plan Amendment/STEP Housing Discussion</u>	30
7. <u>Council Rules Update</u>	248

The public is invited to listen to the meeting via Zoom utilizing the below call-in information:

Zoom Meeting Details:

Dial-in Information: 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 885 3802 7612 Password: 771679

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL AGENDA SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Sewer Flow Assessment – Prepared by Brian Casey w/Parametrix
ITEM: 5
DATE: March 16, 2026
FROM: Tyler Bemis, Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None – Presentation and Discussion Only.

BACKGROUND: The City recently contracted with Brian Casey of Casey Civil, now with Parametrix, to assist in a Wastewater System Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Analysis Project.

Over the past several years, questions have been raised regarding the presence and extent of inflow and infiltration within the City’s wastewater conveyance system. Elevated I&I levels can contribute to increased flows being conveyed to the wastewater treatment system operated by the City of Tacoma, which may result in higher treatment costs to the City.

Conducting a system-wide I&I analysis provides valuable data to better understand the sources and magnitude of excess flows entering the system. The results of the analysis will help inform future capital improvement planning, support prioritization of repair and rehabilitation efforts, and further the City’s commitment to maintaining a reliable and efficient wastewater system.

ATTACHMENTS: [Technical Memorandum](#)
[PowerPoint Presentation](#)

DATE: March 10, 2026
TO: Tyler Bemis, City of Fircrest Public Works Director
FROM: Brian Casey, PE
SUBJECT: Sewer Flow Assessment
CC:
PROJECT NUMBER: 216-3731-007
PROJECT NAME: Sewer Flow Analysis



March 10, 2026

Background and Purpose

The City of Fircrest (City) owns and operates a wastewater collection system that conveys sanitary flows to downstream treatment facilities operated by the City of Tacoma (Tacoma). The agreement between the City and Tacoma includes capacity limits of 0.75 million gallons per day (mgd) for the average dry weather flow (ADWF) and 2.25 mgd for the peak hydraulic flow. Tacoma has alerted the City that the peak hydraulic flow limit has been exceeded numerous times, including nearly 40,000 minutes of exceedance in 2023 and 33,000 minutes of exceedance in 2024. The City is interested in better understanding wastewater flow and impacts from rain and elevated groundwater that enter the wastewater system, commonly known as infiltration and inflow.

Project Driver(s)

Key drivers for this assessment include:

- Understand the magnitude of wet weather-related flow increases within the wastewater collection system.
- Understand seasonal groundwater infiltration effects.
- Support coordination with downstream treatment providers.

Limitations of Project

This Sewer Flow Assessment is subject to the following limitations:

- Analysis is based solely on existing flow and rainfall data provided by the City.
- No flow monitoring, field investigations, or hydraulic modeling were performed.
- Flow data represents aggregate basin response and does not identify individual sources or defects.
- Results are appropriate for planning-level evaluation and should not be interpreted as definitive system capacity limits.



City and Sewer Basin Characteristics

The City of Fircrest is located in western Washington within the Puget Sound region, situated between the cities of Tacoma and University Place. The City is generally bounded to the north by South 19th Street and to the east by Orchard Street, which form the municipal boundary with the City of Tacoma. The southern boundary generally follows 44th Street West, while the western boundary is primarily defined by Mildred Street along the City of University Place. The total land area within these boundaries is approximately 1,000 acres, including approximately 165 acres for the Fircrest Golf Club. In addition to the area within the city limits, the existing sewer service area extends south encompassing portions of Alameda Avenue between Fordham Street and 47th Street West, as well as a segment of 63rd Avenue West.

City staff reports that about half of the wastewater pipe network was installed between the 1920s and the 1940s and is comprised of clay and concrete pipe. The other half of the pipe system was installed in the 1960s and 1970s, and was mostly constructed of concrete pipe. More recent developments have used polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe, and the City has completed pipe bursting projects that pull a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe through the older pipe to address infiltration and inflow and seal out tree roots.

Wastewater flows from most of the City’s sewer collection system are measured via flow meters and discharged to the City of Tacoma’s sewer system through the Contra Costa and Princeton lift stations. Each station is characterized by its own basin: The larger Contra Costa basin includes four tributary lift stations and the majority of the City’s gravity sewer network, while the smaller Princeton basin contains no tributary lift stations and only serves the gravity sewer system local to the station in the northeast corner of the city. There are 77 residential connections that drain by gravity directly to the City of Tacoma’s China Lake Pump Station. As these flows are not measured, they are not included in this evaluation.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the City’s collection system and the basin boundaries of the Contra Costa and Princeton lift stations, and Table 1 provides a summary of each basin and its characteristics.

Table 1. Basin Characteristics

	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
Acres	792	32	824
Connections	2,427	99	2,526
ERUs	2,987	99	3,086

While the sewer service boundary and the City limits do not align completely, they are reasonably close to estimate that there are approximately 2.3 people per ERU based on the population estimate of around 7,100 people (7,156 per the 2020 United States Census).

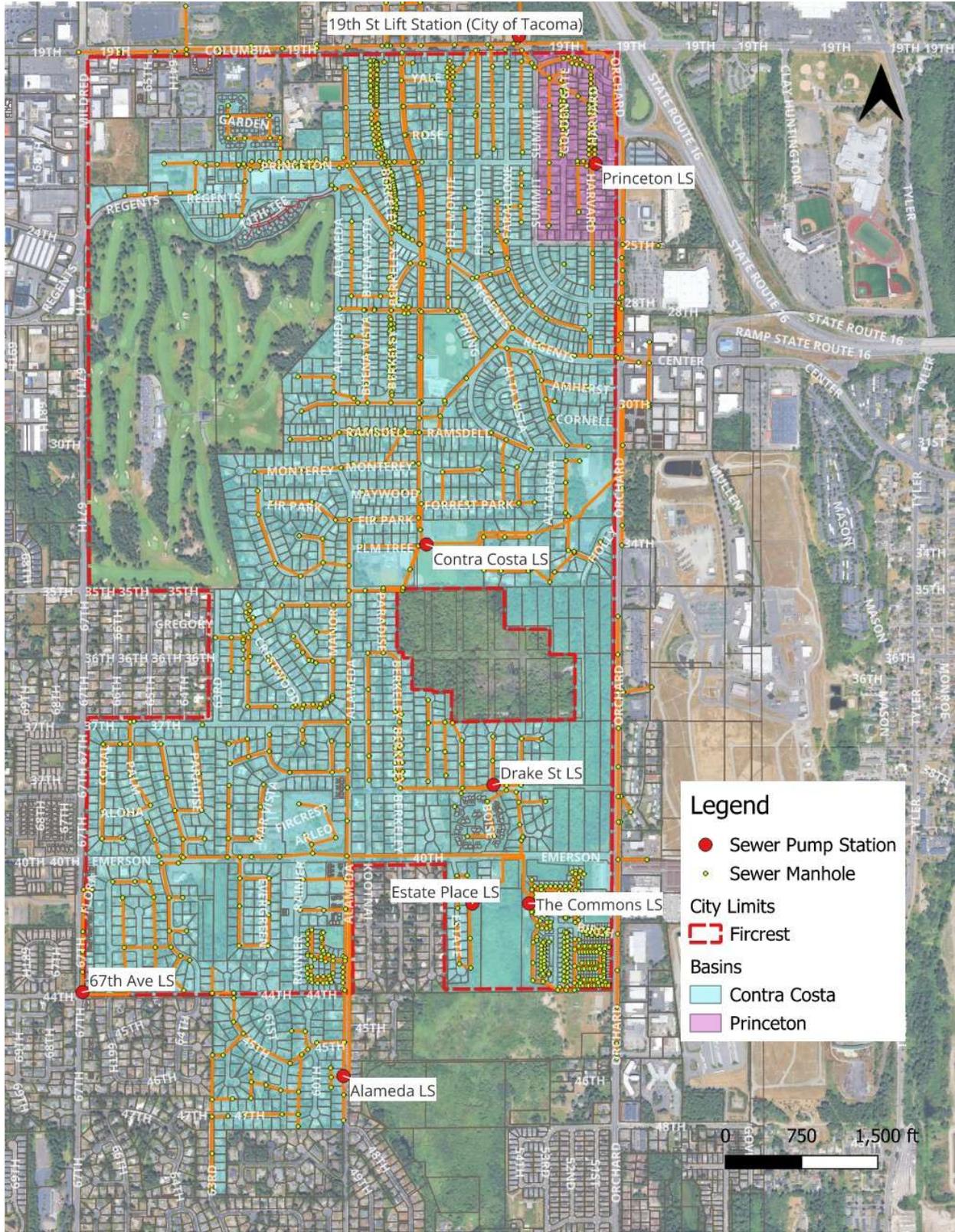


Figure 1. Contra Costa and Princeton Lift Station Basins

Historical Sewer Flows and Rainfall

Daily rainfall and wastewater flow data were evaluated for calendar years 2023 through 2025 to provide context for wet-weather response within the Contra Costa and Princeton lift station basins. Rainfall data was obtained from the Tacoma Narrows Airport, NOAA rain gauge station USW00094274. Annual rainfall totals indicate that 2024 was the wettest of the three years, with overall precipitation volumes remaining relatively similar between years. Table 2 provides a summary of the rainfall data from 2023 to 2025.

Table 2. Rainfall Totals, inches (2023–2025)

Month	2023	2024	2025
Jan	3.05	5.02	2.46
Feb	2.32	4.21	4.1
Mar	2.89	2.34	5.18
Apr	3.66	2.24	1.99
May	0.57	1.51	0.95
Jun	0.48	1.78	0.49
Jul	0.11	0.2	0.05
Aug	0.23	1.11	1.29
Sep	2.5	1.64	0.97
Oct	3.01	3.52	3.51
Nov	5.64	5.62	4.55
Dec	8.63	7.01	7.85
Total	33.09	36.2	33.39

Wastewater flow data from the Contra Costa and Princeton lift stations were evaluated for calendar years 2023 through 2025 to characterize baseline conditions and support subsequent infiltration and inflow analysis. Table 3 summarizes the annual average wastewater flows in million gallons per day (mgd) for the Contra Costa and Princeton basins, as well as the combined system total.

Table 3. Average Annual Day Flows, mgd (2023–2025)

Year	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
2023	0.441	0.016	0.457
2024	0.438	0.017	0.455
2025	0.456	0.016	0.472

Using the 2025 average annual daily flow of 0.472 mgd and the estimate of 3,086 ERUs within the City from Table 1, the average flow per ERU is approximately 153 gallons per day. This is lower than the estimated 200 gallons per day per ERU that was used in the City’s most recent Wastewater Comprehensive Plan (JWM&A, 2002). Using 2.3 people per ERU, estimated in Section 2, the average person contributes approximately 66 gallons per day. This number is also lower than the estimated 100 gallons per day per person in the Wastewater Comprehensive Plan. However, this calculated estimate of 66 gpd per person is more in line with Washington State Department of Health’s Rule Development Committee Issue Research Report for Residential Flow Rates, which presents a range of 50 to 70 gpd per person based on four separate studies.

Table 4 presents a summary of the average dry weather flow (ADWF; taken as the average flow for the period from July through September), for the Contra Costa and Princeton lift stations for calendar years 2023 through 2025.

Table 4. ADWF, mgd (2023–2025)

Year	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
2023	0.393	0.015	0.409*
2024	0.391	0.016	0.407
2025	0.393	0.016	0.409

Table 5 presents a summary of the average wet weather flow (AWWF; taken as the average flow for the period from January through March), for the Contra Costa and Princeton lift stations for calendar years 2023 through 2025.

Table 5. AWWF, mgd (2023–2025)

Year	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
2023	0.463	0.017	0.480
2024	0.486	0.018	0.504
2025	0.479	0.017	0.496

Table 6 presents a summary of the maximum metered flow observed during a 24-hour and 1-hour interval at each of the stations and in total.

Table 6. Peak 24-Hour and 1-Hour Station Flows, mgd (2023–2025)

	2023	2024	2025
Contra Costa			
Peak 24-Hr Flow	1.638	0.804	1.511
Peak 1-Hr Flow	2.051	1.189	2.067
Princeton			
Peak 24-Hr Flow	0.085	0.032	0.074
Peak 1-Hr Flow	0.120	0.065	0.111
Total			
Peak 24-Hr Flow	1.72	0.84	1.59
Peak 1-Hr Flow	2.17	1.25	2.18

The 2024 peak 24-hour and peak 1-hour flows are significantly lower than the 2023 and 2025 data, which may seem counterintuitive given that the total annual rainfall for 2024 was recorded as being roughly 10 percent greater than the other two years. Based on the available information, reasons for this difference cannot be determined but it could be indicative of less intense rainfall in 2024 resulting in a different basin response. Regardless, further analysis of flows will only consider the 2023 and 2025 data, which seem to show similar characteristics.

In the 2023 to 2025 study period, the highest recorded rainfall was 2.55 inches on December 5, 2023. Table 7 shows the wastewater system flows for the same day as the peak rainfall day.

Table 7. 2023 Peak Rainfall and Resulting Day Flows, mgd

	Rainfall	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
December 5, 2023	2.55 inches	1.54	0.077	1.62

It is worth noting that statistically speaking, 2.55 inches in 24 hours is estimated at roughly a 3-year recurrence interval. Table 8 presents the Pierce County 2026 Draft Stormwater Design Manual 24-hour rainfall event totals, and it’s likely that a higher rainfall amount will result in higher flows from the Fircrest wastewater system.

Table 8. 24-Hour Rainfall Total Recurrence Intervals

Frequency	Rainfall Total, inches
2-year	2.3
5-year	3.0
10-year	3.2
25-year	3.7

Infiltration and Inflow Evaluation

Infiltration and Inflow Components

Understanding the average annual day flow and how the average day flow is lower in the dry weather months and higher in the wet weather months offers baseline information. However, the sewer flow is comprised of several components, described below and graphically shown in Figure 2.

- Base sanitary flow: Flow collected from plumbing fixtures.
- Base infiltration: Flow that mostly comes from groundwater entering cracked sewer pipes.
- Inflow: Flow that enters the sewer pipes from direct connections such as catch basins and downspouts.
- Rainfall Derived Infiltration & Inflow: Flow that enters the sewer pipes from a rain event, seeping into the ground and entering cracked sewer pipes or slow drainage into direct connections.

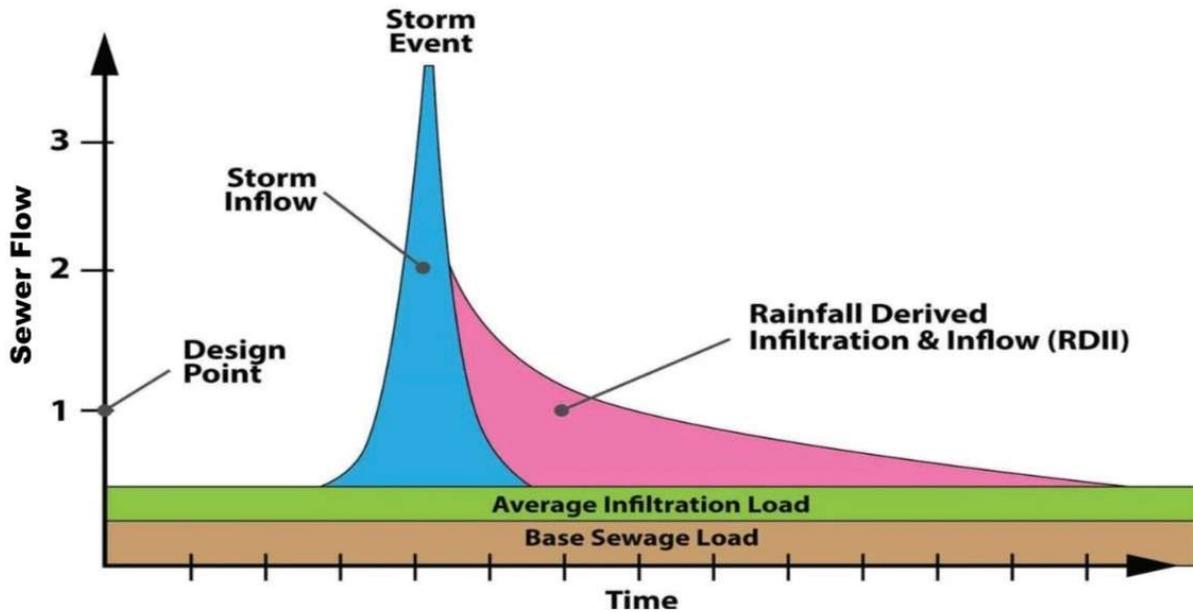


Figure 2. Wastewater Flow Response to Rainfall Event

Base infiltration can be approximated by measuring the flow during a few hours of the night when most people are asleep and not contributing to flow through plumbing fixtures. In a sewer collection system with few cracks and points for water to enter, the flow during the late-night hours nears zero. As groundwater tends to rise in the wet weather months, the comparison of the rate of base infiltration between wet weather months and dry weather months can offer insight into the sewer system. For this estimation, the period of midnight to 3am was measured for the dry weather month of July (2023-2025) and also for January 11th to the 15th in 2024 when no rainfall was recorded. The estimated base infiltration is presented in Table 9.

Table 9. Estimated Base Infiltration, mgd

Year	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
July 2023-2025 (dry weather)	0.220	0.006	0.226
January 11-15, 2024 (wet weather)	0.319	0.010	0.329
Difference	0.099	0.004	0.103
Average	0.270	0.008	0.278

With the base infiltration flows in the dry weather season equating to roughly two-thirds of the base infiltration flow in the wet weather season, it is possible that some flow from the year-round creeks within Fircrest could be getting into the wastewater collection system.

The flow entering the system from plumbing fixtures, the base sanitary flow, can be estimated by subtracting the base infiltration from the average day flow. This estimation is roughly the same whether applied to either the dry weather or wet weather season. Table 10 shows the estimated base sanitary flow, which is later used in the basin response evaluations.

Table 10. Estimated Base Sanitary Flow, mgd

Year	Contra Costa	Princeton	Total
Avg Dry Weather Flow	0.393	0.016	0.409
July 2023-2025 (dry weather)	0.220	0.006	0.226
Base Sanitary Flow	0.173	0.010	0.183

Basin Response Evaluations

Understanding the response of a wastewater collection basin over time and under differing conditions can be helpful in identifying where the system might benefit from improvement to reduce even non-excessive infiltration and inflow, at least where improvements are financially reasonable. Three time periods were identified to document basin response:

- Peak wet weather, around the maximum rain day of December 5, 2023.
- Significant rainfall in the dry weather period, around August 15, 2025.
- No rain during the wet weather period, January 11-15, 2024.

Each of these measured scenarios demonstrate the response of the basins under different antecedent conditions and rainfall.

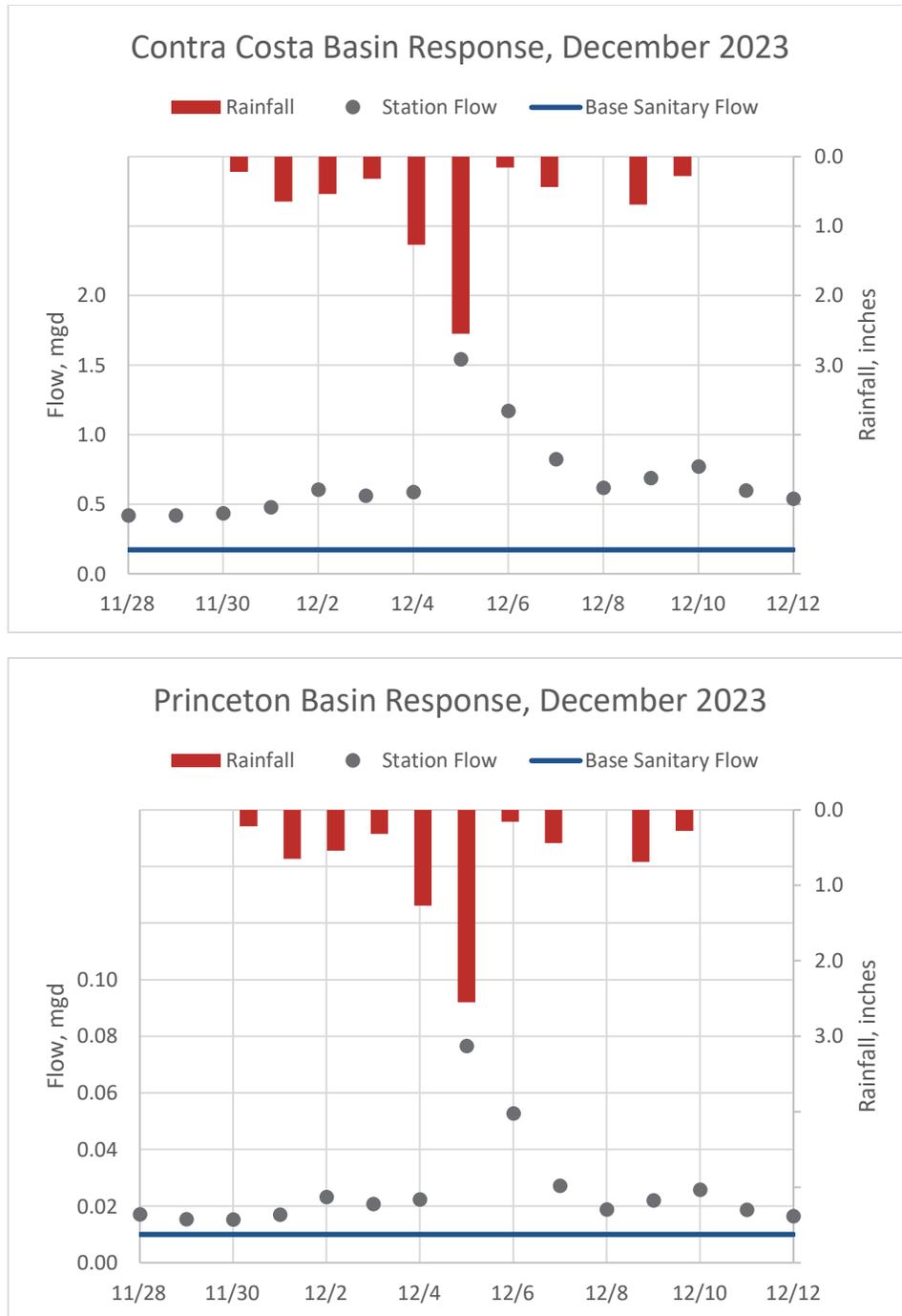


Figure 3. Peak Rainfall During Wet Weather Season

Both the Contra Costa and Princeton basins show a relatively steady daily base flow and a rapid response to the significant rainfall event. This response, where the collection system flow increases by more than a factor of three and then returns to the base flow within a couple of days, is a likely indicator of inflow. Given the age of the City’s wastewater collection system, it is possible that there are illicit connections from private storm systems directly into the wastewater system. The City has completed some testing in the past and found illicit connections that were required to be addressed.

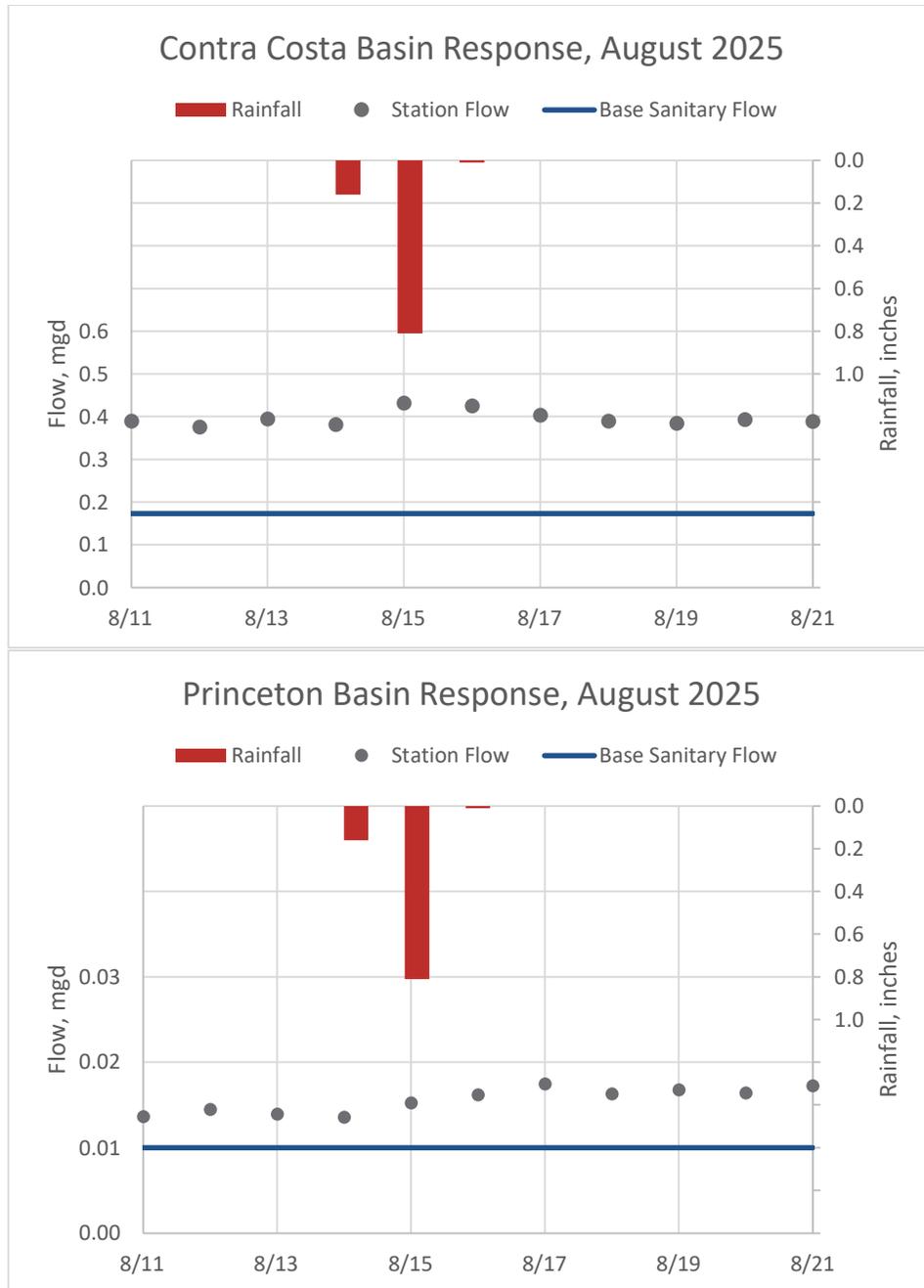


Figure 4. Significant Rainfall During Dry Weather Season

During a significant recorded rainfall of 0.81 inches in the dry weather season when the groundwater elevation is typically lower, both the Contra Costa and Princeton basins show a relatively steady daily base flow, albeit lower than the wet weather period. However, unlike the prior wet weather example, the recorded flow response following the rainfall event is substantially muted. This may be due to rain soaking into the ground and/or collecting in low lying areas before it has a chance to run off into area drains and into the wastewater system.

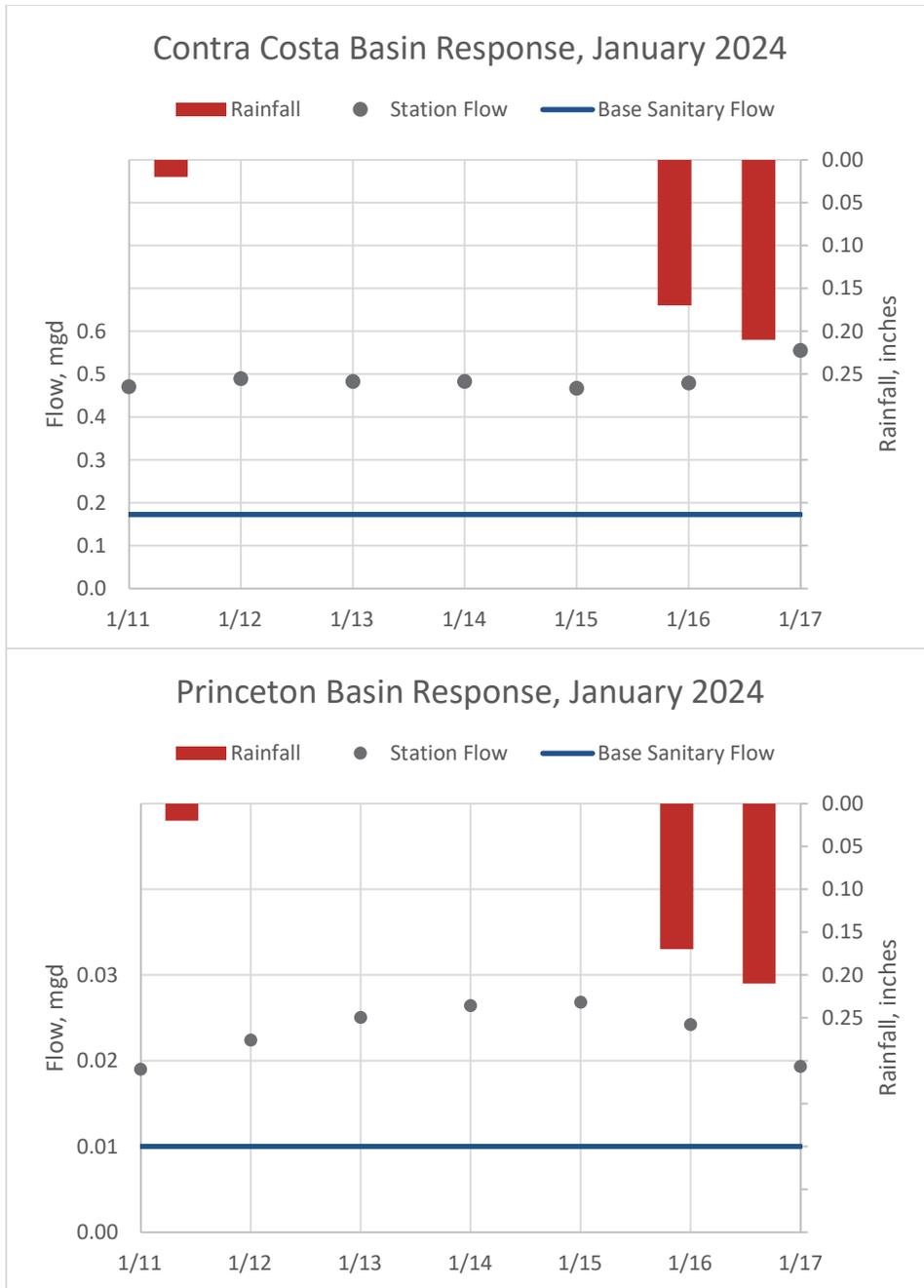


Figure 5. No Rain During Wet Weather Season

During the period of January 11 through January 15 in 2024, no significant rainfall was recorded. This period of the year is typically representative of relatively high ground water. Unlike the two prior examples where the response to rainfall was of interest, this scenario looks for a decrease in base flow to see if the system is affected by a few dry days. In both the Contra Costa and Princeton basins, the base flow stayed relatively even, indicating that the ground water level and infiltration is seasonally steady.

Excessive Infiltration and Inflow Check

One consideration when investigating the amount of infiltration and inflow is whether it would be considered excessive, as determined by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) or the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which can hinder the opportunity for project funding. Both agencies still rely on the 1985 EPA I/I Analysis and Project Certification document, also known as Ecology Publication No. 97-03. In this document, limits of 120 gallons per person per day and 275 gallons per person per day are used for the average dry weather flow and the average day flow during periods of significant rainfall, respectively. Because ‘periods of significant rainfall’ is not quantitatively defined, the check below uses the more conservative peak day of measured rainfall from 2025. Table 11 documents the check for excessive infiltration, and Table 12 documents the check for excessive inflow.

Table 11. Excessive Infiltration Check

Population	Avg DWF, mgd	Actual gpcd	Limit, gpcd	Result
7,100	0.409	57.6	120	Non-Excessive

Table 12. Excessive Inflow Check

Population	Peak Day Flow, mgd	Actual gpcd	Limit, gpcd	Result
7,100	1.59	223	275	Non-Excessive

In both cases, the City of Fircrest’s wastewater collection system does not appear to be classified as having excessive infiltration or excessive inflow.

Summary and Recommendations

The City of Fircrest appears to have exceeded the peak hydraulic capacity limit of 2.25 mgd documented in the agreement with Tacoma every day in 2023 and 2024. However, it is important to note that the recorded data, which is recorded each minute, only shows exceedance for a minute or two at a time. It also appears that the Contra Costa Pump Station has a measured pumping capacity of around 1,600 gpm, or 2.3 mgd. This means that every time a pump at the Contra Costa Pump Station turns on, the City exceeds the agreement with the City of Tacoma.

While the wastewater collection system does not appear to be impacted by excessive infiltration or inflow, there does appear to be a measurable response to significant rainfall events during the wet weather season. This type of response is typically more indicative of inflow rather than infiltration, and the sources of the inflow are often found in illicit connections to the collection system.

Based on our evaluation of the available data, the City of Fircrest should consider the following actions:

- Evaluate the pumping capacity of the Contra Costa Pump Station to understand if there is an opportunity to decrease the pumping rate while still retaining capacity to pump the projected peak hydraulic demands.
- Restart a smoke testing program, particularly in the oldest parts of town, to identify and disconnect illicit connections to the wastewater collection system.

- Evaluate the flows from the smaller pump stations within the City and/or complete flow monitoring at key manhole locations to identify sub-basins that may be contributing a higher amount of infiltration and inflow.
- Targeted video inspection of older sewer pipes and those that run under creeks.

Any testing and inspection of the wastewater system is likely to discover deterioration and areas where infiltration and/or inflow are entering collection pipes. Finding these issues does not necessarily identify a needed improvement project but it does help the City to better understand the condition of the system. It may also help to identify an area to monitor for further deterioration. Given that both infiltration and inflow into the City of Fircrest's wastewater collection system appear to be well under the threshold of what the EPA and Ecology would consider excessive, improvement projects should be considered high value and maintain the reliability of the wastewater collection system.



Parametri^x

**CITY OF FIRCREST
SEWER FLOW ANALYSIS**

Council Work Session
March 16, 2026



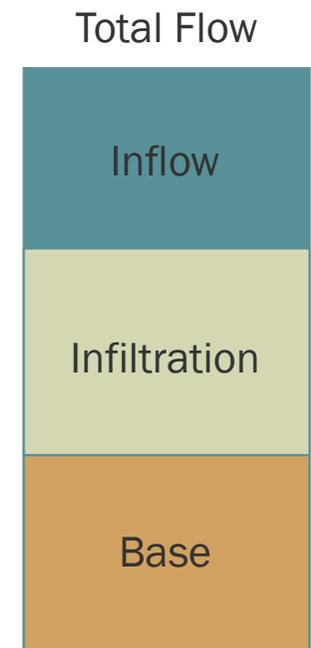
PURPOSE OF STUDY

- Exceedance of peak flow limit in agreement with Tacoma
- Better understand the condition of the City's wastewater collection system



KEY DEFINITIONS

- **Collection System:** pipes and pump stations that collect and convey flows
- **Total Flow:** includes everything that enters the collection system
- **Inflow:** flow from rainfall that directly enters the system through illicit connections
- **Infiltration:** flow that seeps into the system through smaller openings
- **Base Sanitary Flow:** flow that enters through plumbing fixtures





KEY TAKEAWAYS

Infiltration and Inflow:

- EPA and Ecology classify the City's level of infiltration and inflow as 'Non-Excessive'

Agreement Violations:

- The pumping capacity of the Contra Costa Pump Station is ~2.3 mgd
- The peak flow limit in the agreement with Tacoma is 2.25 mgd
- Every time the Contra Costa Pump Station turns on, agreement is violated

WHY DO WE CARE?



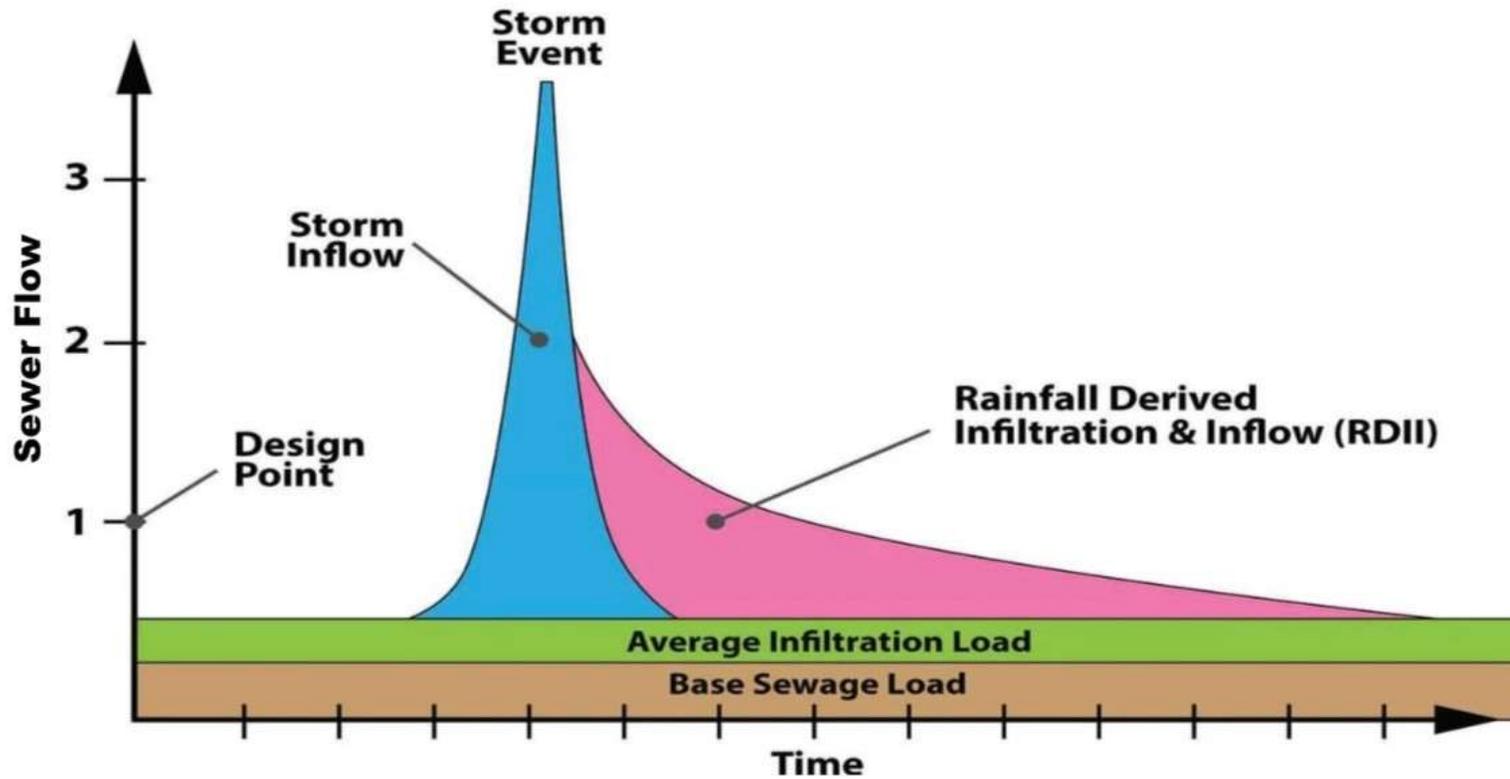


COSTS OF CONVEYANCE AND TREATMENT ARE EXPENSIVE

- The more “water” we have to convey and treat, the higher our rates become.
- If our infiltration/inflow is too high, we are ineligible for some grants and loans.



INFLOW AND INFILTRATION IMPACTS ON FLOW



HOW DO WE COMPARE?





FLOW COMPARISON

	2002 Comp Plan	Est. from Study	Typical Range
Flow per person, gal per day	100	66	50 to 70
Flow per ERU, gal per day	200/250	153	150 to 300



FLOW COMPARISON – EXCESSIVE I/I CHECK

Excessive Infiltration Check

Population	Avg dry weather flow, mgd	Fircrest, gpcd	Limit, gpcd	Result
~7,100	0.41	57.6	120	Non-Excessive

Excessive Inflow Check

Population	Peak Day Flow, mgd	Fircrest, gpcd	Limit, gpcd	Result
~7,100	1.59	223	275	Non-Excessive

X FLOW COMPARISON – AGAINST PIERCE COUNTY AND TACOMA LOS

	Gal per day per person	Gal per day per ERU
Pierce County Check		
Pierce County (LOS – goal) dry weather flow	n/a	220
City of Fircrest (actual) – dry weather flow 0.41 mgd, 7,100 people	58	133
City of Tacoma Check		
City of Tacoma (LOS – goal) max month	200	n/a
City of Fircrest (actual) Dec 2025 – 0.68 mgd, 7,100 people	96	211
City of Tacoma (LOS – goal) peak	400	n/a
City of Fircrest (actual) peak day – 1.72 mgd, 7,100 people	242	557
City of Fircrest (actual) peak hour – 2.18 mgd, 7,100 people	307	706

Pierce County Information from 2010 Unified Sewer Plan
 Tacoma Information from One Tacoma Draft Plan (May 2025)

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?





RECOMMENDATIONS

- Consider the benefit and cost of any actions
- Evaluate the required pumping capacity of the Contra Costa Pump Station and possibly the language in the agreement with Tacoma
- Continue proactively evaluating and tracking the system condition
 - Smoke testing
 - Video inspection

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?



FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA SUMMARY

AGENDA TOPIC: 2026 Comprehensive Plan Amendment – STEP Housing Update
ITEM: 6
DATE: March 16, 2026
FROM: Kimberly Gunderson, Mahoney Planning

RECOMMENDED MOTION: No motion. For discussion only.

BACKGROUND: The attached memorandum, prepared by the City’s planning consultant, Mahoney Planning, is provided to update the City Council on STEP Housing and Fircrest’s Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis (LCA), which are key components of the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Since the memorandum was drafted, the State Legislature has passed House Bill 2266, which is now awaiting the Governor’s signature. This legislation substantially affects prior work that has been done related to STEP Housing, including the stipulation that STEP Housing cannot be subject to different standards than other forms of housing and that applications for STEP Housing be processed through the same application procedures as other housing types.

Additional information regarding the impacts of this bill, as well as implications for the project timeline to amend the previously completed work to align with the new requirements, will be discussed at the Study Session.

ATTACHMENTS: [Mahoney Planning Memo](#)
[Exhibit A – Comp Plan Housing Table](#)
[Exhibit B – FMC Amendments for STEP Housing](#)
[Exhibit C – House Bill 2266 and Bill Summary](#)
[Exhibit D – Project Schedule](#)

March 9, 2026

City of Fircrest City Council
115 Ramsdell Street
Fircrest, WA 98466

Re: 2026 Comprehensive Plan Amendment | Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis and Implementing Development Regulations (“STEP” Housing)

Dear Council,

This memorandum has been prepared to update Council on STEP Housing and Fircrest’s Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis (LCA) as key components of the 2026 Fircrest Comprehensive Plan Update. This project will consist of a completed analysis of Fircrest’s land capacity to accommodate its projected 20-year growth and amendments to the Fircrest Municipal Code (FMC) that would allow broader housing types within the fiscal reach of the city’s forecasted growth. These project components are explained in more depth below. **Notably, there have been no changes to the City’s proposed FMC edits to implement STEP Housing since the last presentation offered to Council at its February Study Session.**

2026 Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Supplemental LCA

Fircrest is a fully-planning city in Pierce County, which requires the City to comply with the Growth Management Act (GMA)¹. The GMA mandates that fully-planning cities adopt a Comprehensive Plan and, on a decennial basis, update their Comprehensive Plan to comply with the then-current GMA. Cities in Pierce County were required to update their Comprehensive Plan by December 31, 2024², which Fircrest timely accomplished. The Puget Sound Regional Council issued a Certification Report of Fircrest’s Comprehensive Plan update on April 24, 2025, concluding the lengthy project.

The City’s adopted Comprehensive Plan fails to comply with key Housing Element requirements of the GMA. Specific requirements for a city’s Comprehensive Plan Housing Element are set forth in RCW 36.70A.070; in general, cities are required to analyze their capacity for all income bands of their projected 20-year growth and implement development regulations which support the potential for land to be developed with housing types affordable to all, including Shelters, Transitional housing, Emergency housing, and Permanent supportive housing³ (“STEP” Housing). Fircrest’s Comprehensive Plan does not include this complete analysis, nor does its FMC currently allow for STEP Housing.

As a component of its 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, the City completed an LCA (BHC, 2024) and **observed deficient land availability** for housing that could meet its projected

¹ RCW 36.70A.040

² RCW 36.70A.130(5)(a)

³ HB 1220 (2021): <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/?BillNumber=1220&Year=2021&Initiative=false>.

growth across all economic segments. The LCA studied Fircrest’s projected growth, its existing housing capacity in each of the City’s zoning districts, and assumed housing affordability across each economic segment and captured its findings in Tables 1-3 of the 2024 Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing Element. The resulting calculated housing adequacy in Fircrest’s existing zoning landscape is captured in Table 4 of its Housing Element. The aforementioned tables have been included with this memorandum as **Exhibit A**.

Table 1 of Fircrest’s Housing Element has been included below for ease in observing the city’s 20-year forecasted growth, and how that growth is expected to span over income levels.

Table 1 Housing Need Allocations by Income Bracket
(Pierce County Ordinance No. 2023-22s)

Income Level (% of Area Median Income)		2020 Estimated Supply	Units Needed in 2044
0-30%	<i>Non-PSH*</i>	12	99
	<i>PSH*</i>	0	134
30 - 50%		140	143
50 - 80%		812	113
80 - 100%		537	49
100 - 120%		322	44
>120%		1,104	188
Total		2,927	769
<i>Temporary Emergency Housing Needs (beds)</i>		0	47

*Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
 Bracket >120% AMI not required to be planned for under HB 1220 but included for informational purposes.

Table 1, Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing

Table 4 of the Housing Element represents the conclusions of the LCA, which find that persons of **“extremely low income” will have a deficit of 10 housing units** without amendments made to Fircrest’s zoning landscape, even with allowances for ADUs and middle housing. Table 4 is included below for ease in observing areas of Fircrest’s studied land deficiency.

Table 4 Projected Housing Unit Scenario Surplus/Deficits

Income Level	Household Income Bracket (Pierce County median income, rounded to nearest 1k)	Surplus/ (Deficit) (Estimated Unit Capacity - Housing Need)			
		1. Baseline (No Change)	2. ADUs	3. Duplexes	Total
Extremely low income (0-30% AMI)	\$0 - \$25,000	(20)	(10)	(20)	(10)
Very Low income (30-50% AMI)	\$25,000 - \$41,000	70	80	70	80
Low income (50-80% AMI)	\$41,000 - \$66,000	100	120	100	120
Moderate income (80-120% AMI)	\$66,000 - \$99,000	134	134	153	153
Total Net Capacity <i>(includes >120% AMI for overall)</i>		139	179	146	186

Table 4, Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing

To address its land deficiency, Fircrest is required to apply “adequate provisions” that will enable a sufficient housing supply to be built in the city. Because Fircrest’s zoning code does not allow for the establishment of housing types assumed to be affordable to those earning 0-30% AMI, an efficient resolve to Fircrest’s LCA findings is to adopt provisions for STEP housing.

What is STEP Housing?

The Washington 2021-22 legislature passed HB 1220, Emergency Shelters and Housing – Local Planning and Development, which created a new statute (RCW 35.21.683) requiring that all cities and towns allow STEP Housing in their zoning codes. In summary, HB 1220 requires cities to:

- Allow permanent supportive housing (PSH) and transitional housing in any zones where residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed;
- Allow emergency shelters and emergency housing in any zones where hotels are allowed, and;
- Apply only reasonable⁴ occupancy, spacing, and intensity of use requirements for STEP housing.

Each STEP Housing type is defined in the RCW as follows:

⁴ “Reasonable” has been contextually defined in RCW 35.21.683 as having a nexus to public health and safety. Occupancy, spacing, and intensity limitations cannot be so severe that they prevent the ability for the city’s 20-year projected growth of STEP housing to be sited.

Emergency Housing: Temporary indoor accommodations for individuals or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless that is intended to address the basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs of individuals or families. Emergency housing may or may not require occupants to enter into a lease or an occupancy agreement (RCW 36.70A.030).

Emergency Shelter: A facility that provides a temporary shelter for individuals or families who are currently homeless. Emergency shelter may not require occupants to enter into a lease or an occupancy agreement. Emergency shelter facilities may include day and warming centers that do not provide overnight accommodations (RCW 36.70A.030).

Transitional Housing: A project that provides housing and supportive services to homeless persons or families for up to two years and that has as its purpose facilitating the movement of homeless persons and families into independent living (RCW 84.36.043).

Permanent Supportive Housing: Subsidized, leased housing with no limit on length of stay that prioritizes people who need comprehensive support services to retain tenancy and utilizes admissions practices designed to use lower barriers to entry than would be typical for other subsidized or unsubsidized rental housing, especially related to rental history, criminal history, and personal behaviors. Permanent supportive housing is paired with on-site or off-site voluntary services designed to support a person living with a complex and disabling behavioral health or physical health condition who was experiencing homelessness or was at imminent risk of homelessness prior to moving into housing to retain their housing and be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement, improve the resident's health status, and connect the resident of the housing with community-based health care, treatment, or employment services. Permanent supportive housing is subject to all of the rights and responsibilities defined in chapter 59.18 RCW (RCW 36.70A.030).

Implementing STEP housing into the FMC has been a focused effort between Mahoney Planning and the Fircrest Planning Commission since November 2025. The Planning Commission has studied where STEP housing could occur, potential methods for administering its development, and a suitable approach to regulating their use in Fircrest, all while employing thoughtful attention toward the priorities and preferences of the Fircrest community. Current draft amendments to the FMC governing STEP housing are discussed below.

Implementing STEP Housing Development Regulations

To implement HB 1220, and to create housing opportunities for all income earners of Fircrest's expected 20-year growth, the City will need to allow STEP housing in the zoning districts set forth in **Table 1**:

Table 1
STEP Housing Allowed Zones

PSH and Transitional Housing Zones	Emergency Housing and Shelter Zones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential-4 (R-4) • Residential-4-Conservation (R-4-C) • Residential-6 (R-6) • Residential-8 (R-8) • Residential-10-Transitional Community Design (R-10-TCD) • Residential-20 (R-20) • Residential-30 (R-30) • Neighborhood Office (NO) • Neighborhood Commercial (NC) • Mixed-Use Neighborhood (MUN) • Mixed-Use Urban (MUU) • Golf Course (GC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed-Use Neighborhood (MUN) • Mixed-Use Urban (MUU)

Planning Commission Feedback

Having considered varied approaches on administering applications for STEP housing and regulating their use, the Fircrest Planning Commission has offered relatively consistent feedback to guide Mahoney Planning’s drafting of code amendments for this project. In general, this project has been built on the following key principles:

- STEP Housing should be decided on **administratively**, with the opportunity to appeal to the Hearing Examiner. **Public noticing** of STEP Housing projects should be required.
 - A **Type-II C application** was conceptualized to govern this procedural design. The new permit type would include an **Administrative Use Permit**, which would be used to review STEP Housing applications. The City Manager would issue these decisions.
- The City should require an **Operational Agreement** with STEP Housing applications that outline procedures for serious **criminal screening** and responses to noncompliance with established rules and **behavioral expectations** of the facility.
- Each project review should be fluid. It is not appropriate to apply a static review of these development proposals.
- The decisionmaker should consider the **scale** of the project and the **context** of the neighborhood. The concept of an “adverse impact” on neighboring residences or existing communities should be informed by measurable criteria. For example, only one STEP Housing facility should be allowed per lot.

These guiding principles have been incorporated in draft edits to the FMC included with this memorandum as **Exhibit B** and are summarized in **Table 2**.

Table 2
FMC Edits to Implement STEP Housing

Topic	FMC Section	FMC Edits (Draft)
Create a Type II-C permit to review Administrative Use Permits.	22.05.003 Project Permit Application Framework	<p>Type II-C: Administrative Use Permit (see Table A)</p> <p>Type II-C: Procedures (see Table B)</p>
Establish increased public engagement and noticing.	22.05.007 Exemptions from Project Permit Application Processing	<p>Pursuant to RCW 36.70B.140(2), building permits, boundary line adjustments, short plats, administrative design review, minor site plan review, minor variances, administrative use permits, other construction permits, or similar administrative approvals which are categorically exempt from environmental review under SEPA (Chapter 43.21C RCW) and the city's SEPA requirements, or permits/approvals for which environmental review has been completed in connection with other project permits, are excluded from the following procedures, unless otherwise expressly required in this title:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Determination of completeness (FMC 22.06.004(a)); (2) Notice of application (FMC 22.06.005); (3) Except as provided in RCW 36.70B.140, optional consolidated project permit review processing (FMC 22.05.002(b)); (4) Joint public hearings (FMC 22.05.004); (5) Single report stating all the decisions and recommendations made as of the date of the report that do not require an open record hearing (FMC 22.09.002(c)); (6) Notice of decision (FMC 22.09.008); (7) Completion of project review within any applicable time periods (including the 120-day permit processing time)
	22.06.004(a) Determination of Completeness	Within 28 days after receiving a Type II-C , Type III-A, Type III-B, or Type IV project permit application, the city shall mail or personally provide a written determination to the applicant...
	22.06.005(a) Notice of Application	A notice of application shall be issued on all Type II-C , Type III-A, III-B, and IV project permit applications pursuant to Chapter 22.07 FMC (RCW 36.70B.110) within 14 days after the city has issued a determination of completeness for a project permit application.

Topic	FMC Section	FMC Edits (Draft)
Allow Permanent Supportive Housing and Transitional Housing in all zones that permit residential development.	22.32.006 R-4 Admin Use	Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC: Permanent support housing. Transitional housing.
	22.34.006 R-4-C Admin Use	
	22.36.006 R-6 Admin Use	
	22.38.006 R-8 Admin Use	
Establish that STEP Housing is reviewed via Administrative Use Permit.	22.40.006 R-10-TCD Admin Use	
	22.42.006 R-20 Admin Use	
	22.43.006 R-30 Admin Use	
	22.44.007 NO Admin Use	
	22.46.005(d),(e) NC Admin Use	
	22.48.005(g),(h) MUN Admin Use	
	22.50.006(g),(h) MUU Admin Use	
	22.56.005(c), (d) GC Admin Use	

Topic	FMC Section	FMC Edits (Draft)
<p>Allow Emergency Housing and Emergency Shelters in all zones that permit residential or lodging/hotel development.</p> <p>Establish that STEP Housing is reviewed via Administrative Use Permit.</p>	<p>22.48.005(i),(j) MUN Admin Use</p>	<p>Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:</p> <p>Emergency shelters.</p> <p>Emergency housing.</p>
	<p>22.50.006(i),(j) MUU Admin Use</p>	
<p>Create STEP Housing review and approval framework.</p>	<p>22.58.030 STEP⁵</p>	<p><i>See Exhibit A, pages 94-95⁶.</i></p>
	<p>22.70.002 Administrative Use Permit – Authority</p>	<p>The director may approve, approve with conditions, modify and approve with conditions, or deny, an administrative use permit...These conditions may include, but are not limited to restrictions in hours of operations; restrictions on locations of structures and uses; structural requirements which address safety, noise, light and glare, vibration, odor, views, aesthetics and other impacts; production of an operational agreement stipulating limitations on the use of the land or facilities thereon...</p>
	<p>22.70.005 Administrative Use Permit – Submittal Requirements</p>	<p>Applications for an administrative use permit to develop or operate a facility for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency shelters, or emergency housing shall submit a draft Operational Agreement as set forth in FMC 22.58.030 with their application.</p>

⁵ For brevity, this acronym has been incorporated into Table 2. Exhibit B reflects the full title of this section, which is “Permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, emergency shelters.”

⁶ FMC 22.58.030 is a detailed newly created section, the length of which may detract from ease in reading this table. For brevity, the reader is being directed to Exhibit B.

Topic	FMC Section	FMC Edits (Draft)
Add off-street parking requirements for STEP Housing.	22.60.003 Parking Space Requirements per Activity	<p><u>Permanent supportive housing and transitional housing: 0.5 per bedroom + 1 per staff</u></p> <p><u>Emergency housing and emergency shelters: 0.5 per bed + 1 per staff¹</u></p> <p>¹ <u>Emergency housing and emergency shelters within 0.25 miles of a major transit stop are required to only provide 0.25 parking spaces per bed.</u></p>
Add germane definitions.	<u>22.98.229.2</u> <u>Emergency Housing</u>	<u>“Emergency housing” means temporary indoor accommodations for individuals or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless that is intended to address the basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs of individuals or families.</u>
Remove dated definitions.	<u>22.98.229.3</u> <u>Emergency Shelter</u>	<u>“Emergency shelter” means a facility that provides a temporary shelter for individuals or families who are currently homeless. Emergency shelter may not require occupants to enter into a lease or an occupancy agreement. Emergency shelter facilities may include day and warming centers that do not provide overnight accommodations.</u>
	<u>22.98.267</u> <u>Family</u>	<u>“Family” means an individual, individuals related by blood, marriage, or adoption, up to and including six individuals who are not related by blood, marriage, or adoption, residing in a single family dwelling unit (including family group home), individuals with a handicap as defined in the Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (42 USCS Section 3602) as amended and residing in a group home or children residing in a group home.</u>
	<u>22.98.437.3</u> <u>Major transit stop</u>	<u>“Major transit stop” means the same as is defined in RCW 36.70A.030, or as amended or recodified.</u>
	<u>22.98.518.1</u> <u>Permanent Supportive Housing</u>	<u>“Permanent supportive housing” means subsidized, leased housing with no limit on length of stay that prioritizes people who need comprehensive support services to retain tenancy and utilizes admissions practices designed to use lower barriers to entry than would be typical for other subsidized or unsubsidized rental housing, especially related to rental history, criminal history, and personal behaviors. Permanent supportive housing is paired with on-site or off-site voluntary services designed to support a person living with a complex and disabling behavioral health or physical health condition who was experiencing homelessness or was at imminent risk of homelessness prior to moving into housing to retain their housing and be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement, improve the resident’s health status, and connect the resident of the housing with community-based health care, treatment, or employment services. Permanent supportive housing is subject to all of the rights and responsibilities defined in chapter 59.18 RCW.</u>

Topic	FMC Section	FMC Edits (Draft)
	<u>22.98.706</u> <u>Transitional Housing</u>	<u>“Transitional housing” means a project that provides housing and supportive services to homeless persons or families for up to two years and that has as its purpose facilitating the movement of homeless persons and families into independent living.</u>

Mahoney Planning regularly monitors the status of draft HB 2266 which would institute changes to HB 1220 that this project has been designed to comply with. As of the date of this memo, HB 2266 has been returned to its House of Origin (the House of Representatives) for concurrence with edits offered by the Senate. The Association of Washington Cities have summarized the latest movement of HB 2266 (**Exhibit C**) and wrote on March 6, 2026 that it is expected the House will concur with amendments offered by the Senate. The 2026 Legislative Session ends on March 12, 2026 – the City will know then whether HB 2266 was passed by state legislators. A passed bill would still need to be signed into law by Governor Ferguson, which he has 20 days to complete.

Supplemental LCA Initial Findings

To reevaluate Fircrest’s capacity for its projected housing growth, a Supplemental LCA is being prepared that will consider Fircrest’s anticipated allowance for STEP Housing. Fircrest’s Supplemental LCA will detail the response taken by the city to create sufficient land capacity for all economic segments of its projected growth through 2044 and will be separately appended to the Fircrest Comprehensive Plan to include revised housing capacity findings, an analysis of emergency housing capacity, and a review of Fircrest’s development regulations, processes, land availability, environmental constraints, and funding gaps that could be barriers to the development of housing (known as “adequate provisions”).

Even in a zoning landscape revised to allow for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and duplexes required by HBs 1110 and 1337, the City is poised to have more than sufficient capacity in all income levels except for the 0-30% AMI level. **Table 3** below combines the findings of Tables 1, 3, and 4 in Fircrest’s LCA to seamlessly represent the city’s land use capacity and the zones intended to serve Fircrest’s growth:

Table 3
Housing Need Surplus/Deficit: Baseline Landscape

Income Level (% AMI)	Income Bracket	Projected Housing Need ⁷	Zones Serving Income Levels	Baseline Capacity Assignment	Surplus/ (Deficit)
0-30% AMI	\$0 - \$25,000	99 (Non-PSH)	R-30, MUN, MUU	398 (Non-PSH) ⁸	299
		134 (PSH)		0 (PSH) ⁹	(134) (PSH)
>30-50%	\$25,000 - \$41,000	143	R-20, R-30, MUN, MUU	197 ¹⁰	54
>50-80%	\$41,000 - \$66,000	113	R-8, R-20, R-30, MUN, MUU	197 ⁹	84
>80-100%	\$66,000 - \$82,000	49	R-8, R-10-TCD, R-20, R-30, MUN, MUU	60 ¹¹	11
>100-120%	\$82,000 - \$99,000	44	R-4, R-4-C, R-6, R-8, R-10-TCD, R-20	58 ¹²	14
Total		582		910	328

⁷ HB 1220 does not require cities to plan for housing in the >120% AMI bracket. Fircrest is expected to need 188 housing units for those earning >120% AMI by 2044; those housing units are not contemplated in the Supplementary LCA.

⁸ It is assumed that the baseline capacity for the MUN zone found in Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing, Table 2, will serve the city's expected growth in the >0-30% AMI (Non-PSH) income bracket. Notably, while Table 2 of the current Housing Element in Fircrest notes a total capacity of 395 units in the MUN, further computation of its assumed densities yields a total baseline capacity of 398 units.

⁹ According to the Department of Commerce *Guidance for Updating Your Housing Element (Book 2)*, housing capacity within any zone cannot be assumed as satisfying projected PSH growth unless the zone in question allows PSH housing types. Efforts made by the City to allow all STEP Housing types has been a key component of this project and its effects alone will create housing capacity for this income bracket.

¹⁰ It is assumed that the baseline capacity for the MUU zone found in Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing, Table 2, will serve the city's expected growth in the >30-50% AMI and >50-80% AMI income brackets. Notably, while Table 2 of the current Housing Element in Fircrest notes a total capacity of 395 units in the MUU, further computation of its assumed densities yields a total baseline capacity of 394 units. This total capacity has been evenly divided between the >30-50% AMI and >50-80% AMI income brackets in this table.

¹¹ It is assumed that the baseline capacity for the R-30 zone found in Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing, Table 2, will serve the city's expected growth in the >80-100% AMI income bracket.

¹² It is assumed that the cumulative baseline capacity for the R-4, R-4-C, and R-6 zones found in Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing, Table 2, will serve the city's expected growth in the >100-120% AMI income bracket.

Table 4
Housing Need Surplus/Deficit: STEP Housing, Duplex, and ADU Landscape

Income Level (% AMI)	Income Bracket	Projected Housing Need	Zones Serving Income Levels	Baseline Capacity Assignment	Capacity Adjustment with STEP, Duplex, and ADU	Surplus/ (Deficit)
0-30% AMI	\$0 - \$25,000	99 (Non-PSH)	R-30, MUN, MUU	398 (Non-PSH)	-199 (Non-PSH)	100
		134 (PSH)		0 (PSH)	+199 (PSH) ¹³	65
>30-50%	\$25,000 - \$41,000	143	R-20, R-30, MUN, MUU	197	-	54
>50-80%	\$41,000 - \$66,000	113	R-8, R-20, R-30, MUN, MUU	197	-	84
>80-100%	\$66,000 - \$82,000	49	R-8, R-10-TCD, R-20, R-30, MUN, MUU	60	+20 (ADUs) ¹⁴ +10 (Duplex)	41
>100-120%	\$82,000 - \$99,000	44	R-4, R-4-C, R-6, R-8, R-10-TCD, R-20	58	+20 (ADUs) ¹⁴ +9 (Duplex)	43
Total (less Emergency Housing beds)		582		910	+59	387

STEP Housing

With the adoption of Fircrest’s 2026 Comprehensive Plan Amendment and its Supplemental LCA, Fircrest expects to adopt by ordinance amendments to its development regulations which will allow STEP Housing as per RCW 35A.21.425. In doing so, Fircrest would allow for the development of permanent supportive housing (PSH), a housing type which is not currently included as a permitted use in Fircrest’s Land Use Matrix. This important adjustment to the zoning

¹³ Fircrest expects to pass by ordinance in Q4 2026 development regulation amendments which would allow for permanent supportive housing (PSH) in all zones that allow for residential development, including the R-30, MUN, and MUU zones. With the intended passing of said ordinance prior to the adoption of this Supplemental LCA, the 398 unit capacity in Fircrest’s MUN zone would sufficiently accommodate its projected 20-year growth of those earning 0-30% AMI, both non-PSH and PSH. Assumed unit capacity in Fircrest’s MUN zone has been equally distributed among those earning 0-30% AMI in Fircrest’s projected housing need.

¹⁴ While assumptions made in the Fircrest Comprehensive Plan Housing Appendix demonstrate a growth of housing capacity attributed to the development of ADUs with the passing of HB 1337, Table 4 of the Housing Appendix assigns this assumed growth of 40 ADUs to those earning less than 80% AMI. According to the Department of Commerce *Guidance for Updating Your Housing Element (Book 2)*, ADUs in higher-cost communities (including all of Pierce County) are likely only affordable to those earning 80% AMI or more. This table reappropriates that growth to an equal distribution between the >80-100% AMI and the >100-120% AMI income brackets to better align with state guidance.

landscape in Fircrest, combined with Fircrest’s recent adoption of ordinances allowing for middle housing and ADUs in compliance with HBs 1110 and 1337, will create the capacity needed for Fircrest’s expected population growth in the 0-30% AMI range, particularly the 134 future residents expected to need PSH. These adjustments are reflected in **Table 4**.

Adequate Provisions

The City will need to analyze “adequate provisions” as a part of the Supplemental LCA, which aim to identify barriers to the development of housing affordable to all income bands that may be caused by local jurisdictions’ development regulations, processes, land availability, environmental constraints, and funding gaps. Municipalities are required to adopt any changes to their zoning landscape found to be necessary in removing barriers to the potential for housing development in all income bands in conjunction with its Comprehensive Plan update¹⁵. It is expected that adequate provisions will be analyzed and presented to the Planning Commission at its April or May project workshop.

Emergency Housing LCA

As a fully-planning City under the GMA, Fircrest is required to quantify its capacity for emergency housing¹⁶. A distinct LCA specific to Fircrest’s ability to accommodate its projected growth of emergency housing will be analyzed and presented to the Planning Commission at its April or May project workshop.

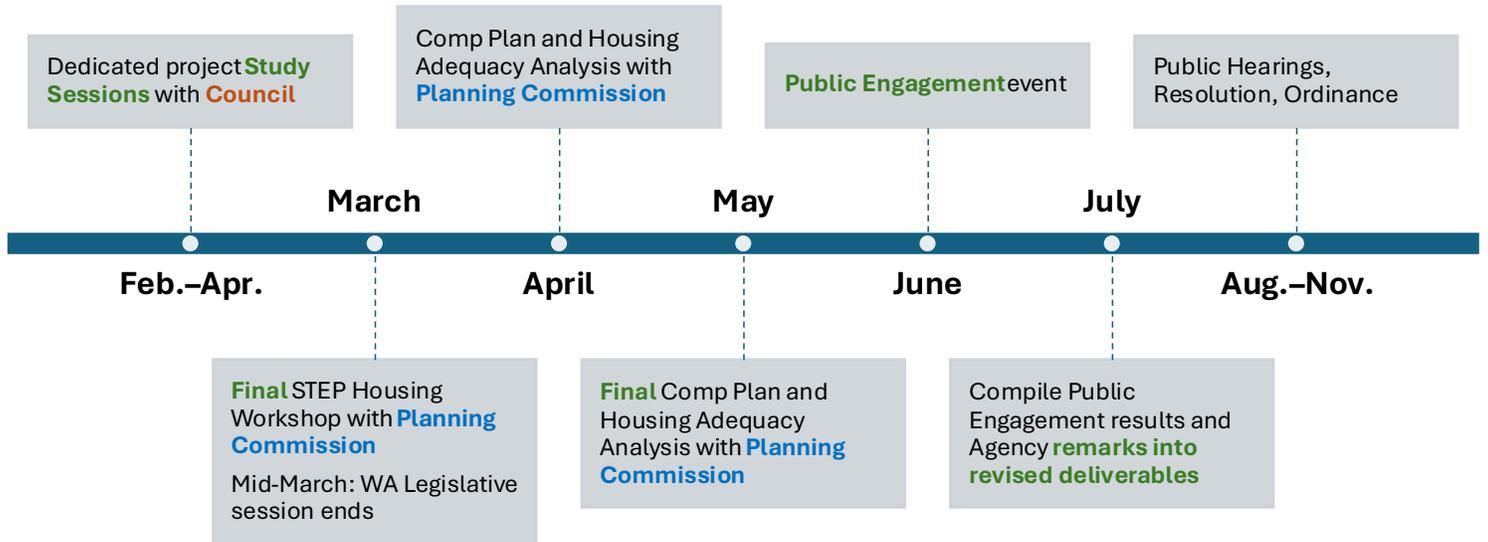
Project Schedule

The project’s schedule has been intentionally designed to expedite this important work without segueing from valued public engagement, agency feedback, and collaborative workshopping with Fircrest’s appointed and elected officials. A detailed project schedule has been included with this memorandum as **Exhibit D**, and an abbreviated version highlighting project milestones is included below. It is expected that this project will conclude by November 2026.

Mahoney Planning is poised to notice Fircrest’s proposed FMC amendments implementing STEP Housing to the Washington Department of Commerce at the beginning of April, once greater understanding of HB 2266’s fate is available. Adjustments may be made to the project schedule if HB 2266 is passed into law.

¹⁵ RCW 36.70A.130(1)(a). See Commerce’s *Guidance for Updating Your Housing Element (January 2026)*, p. 55

¹⁶ RCW 36.70A.070(2)(c)



I look forward to updating City Council on our advances toward this important project at its March 16 Study Session!

Kimberly A. Gunderson
 Mahoney Planning, LLC

Exhibits:

- A. 2024 Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, Appendix B: Housing Element, Tables 1-4
- B. Fircrest Municipal Code Chapters 22.05, 22.06, 22.32, 22.34, 22.36, 22.38, 22.40, 22.42, 22.43, 22.44, 22.46, 22.48, 22.50, 22.56, 22.58, 22.60, 22.70, and 22.98 (redline)
- C. Draft HB 2266 and Bill Summary (STEP Housing)
- D. Project Schedule, 2026 Fircrest Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Pierce County adopted housing targets for all jurisdictions, including by income level, under Ordinance No. 2023-46s. The allocations for Fircrest for 2044 are shown below in Exhibit 1.

Table 1 Housing Need Allocations by Income Bracket
(Pierce County Ordinance No. 2023-22s)

Income Level (% of Area Median Income)		2020 Estimated Supply	Units Needed in 2044
0-30%	<i>Non-PSH*</i>	12	99
	<i>PSH*</i>	0	134
30 - 50%		140	143
50 - 80%		812	113
80 - 100%		537	49
100 - 120%		322	44
>120%		1,104	188
Total		2,927	769
<i>Temporary Emergency Housing Needs (beds)</i>		0	47

*Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
Bracket >120% AMI not required to be planned for under HB 1220 but included for informational purposes.

Land Capacity for residential units was determined both through identifying underutilized and vacant lands from the Pierce County Assessor and from the 2021 Pierce County Buildable Lands Analysis. In addition to developable lands, the analysis identified 156 units for the MUN zone and 235 units for the MUU zone as expected as part of the Prose application. These units were also counted as part of the analysis.

This analysis used a series of density assumptions based on zoned and achieved densities in the city, shown in the following exhibit, to convert acreage to units. To establish a baseline scenario for comparison, these initial assumptions did not include density adjustments considering ADUs and duplexes under new state legislation. This analysis then determined the number of units.

The assumed densities and estimated vacant and under-utilized capacities are established on the following page, in Table 2.

Table 2 Land Capacity Acreage and Assumed Density

Zone	Net Developable Land (acres)			Assumed density/pipeline units		Total baseline capacity (dwelling units)
	Vacant*	Under-utilized*	Total	Baseline assumed Dwelling units/acre	Pipeline and recent units added	
Residential-4, R-4	1.0	0.0	1.0	4	0	4
Residential-4-Conservation, R-4-C	13.0	0.0	13.0	4	0	52
Residential-6, R-6	0.4	0.0	0.4	5.5	0	2
Residential-8, R-8	0.0	0.0	0.0	8	0	0
Residential-10-Traditional Community Design, R-10-TCD	0.0	0.0	0.0	10	0	0
Residential-20, R-20	0.0	0.0	0.0	20	0	0
Residential-30, R-30	0.0	2.0	2.0	30	0	60
Neighborhood Office, NO	0.0	0.0	0.0	6	0	0
Neighborhood Commercial, NC	0.0	0.0	0.0	6	0	0
Mixed-Use Neighborhood, MUN	0.0	4.1	4.1	59	156	395
Mixed-Use Urban, MUU	0.0	2.7	2.7	59	235	395
Park, Recreation and Open Space, PROS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Golf Course, GC	0.0	0.0	0.0	15	0	0

Source: Pierce County 2021 Buildable Lands Report (Fourth Edition).

*15% market/infrastructure deduction for vacant lands, 25% for underutilized.

To compare unit capacity with the adopted housing need by income bracket, the land capacity analysis created assumed income brackets served by each zone. These assumptions were based both on the Washington State Department of Commerce's Guidance and on local conditions in Fircrest. The analysis used allocation ratios to consider the fact that zones serve multiple income brackets. The assumptions are shown in the following, Table 3.

Table 3 Assumed Affordability Allocation Ratios by Zone

Residential Zones	0-30% AMI	30-50% AMI	50-80% AMI	80-100% AMI	100-120% AMI	>120% AMI
Residential-4, R-4					0.25	0.75
Residential-4-Conservation, R-4-C					0.25	0.75
Residential-6, R-6					0.25	0.75
Residential-8, R-8			0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Residential-10-Traditional Community Design, R-10-TCD				0.25	0.25	0.50
Residential-20, R-20		0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
Residential-30, R-30	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25		
Mixed-Use Neighborhood, MUN	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25		
Mixed-Use Urban, MUU	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25		
Golf Course, GC						1.00

Row add up to 100 horizontally to ensure no under/over counting.

This analysis compared the following scenarios and trends to better understand Fircrest's expected capacity or deficits by income level.

1. Baseline (No Change). This scenario assumes that despite state legislation, density and housing production will remain consistent with historic levels and will not include additional duplexes or ADUs.
2. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). This scenario includes estimates of ADUs. This analysis assumes an average of two ADUs produced over the next 20 years, consistent with recent permit data trends at the City. ADUs were assumed to be affordable for the 0-80% AMI brackets.
3. Duplexes. Under this scenario, the analysis increases the assumed density for R-4 to 4.5 dwellings per acre (du's/acre) and 4.5 du's/acre for the R-6 zone. This then adjusts affordability for these zones for 50-120% AMI brackets, rather than the >100% AMI in the baseline.
4. Total (Combined Trends). This adds the ADU and Duplex scenarios to show the overall, expected surplus or deficit expected for housing unit supply compared to need.

The results are shown in the following table. In summary, while the City may expect an overall surplus at the citywide level, there will be a likely deficit of supply affordable to the 0-30% AMI bracket.

Table 4 Projected Housing Unit Scenario Surplus/Deficits

Income Level	Household Income Bracket (Pierce County median income, rounded to nearest 1k)	Surplus/ (Deficit) (Estimated Unit Capacity - Housing Need)			
		1. Baseline (No Change)	2. ADUs	3. Duplexes	Total
Extremely low income (0-30% AMI)	\$0 - \$25,000	(20)	(10)	(20)	(10)
Very Low income (30-50% AMI)	\$25,000 - \$41,000	70	80	70	80
Low income (50-80% AMI)	\$41,000 - \$66,000	100	120	100	120
Moderate income (80-120% AMI)	\$66,000 - \$99,000	134	134	153	153
Total Net Capacity <i>(includes >120% AMI for overall)</i>		139	179	146	186

Fircrest will need to make adequate provisions to meet these housing targets and the projected deficit for the 0-30% AMI bracket as part of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Exhibit B
March 16, 2026
Fircrest City Council Study Session
2026 Comprehensive Plan & STEP Housing

Chapter 22.05

TYPES OF PROJECT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Sections:

- 22.05.001 Classification of project permits.
- 22.05.002 Determination of classification.
- 22.05.003 Project permit application framework.
- 22.05.004 Joint public hearings.
- 22.05.005 Legislative decisions.
- 22.05.006 Legislative enactments not restricted.
- 22.05.007 Exemptions from project permit application processing.

22.05.001 Classification of project permits.

For the purpose of project permit processing, all project permit applications shall be classified as shown in Table A, FMC 22.05.003, as one of the following: Type I, Type II-A, Type II-B, Type III-A, Type III-B, or Type IV. Legislative decisions are Type V actions, and are addressed in FMC 22.05.005. Exclusions from the requirements of project permit application processing are contained in FMC 22.05.007 (RCW 36.70B.120). (Ord. 1512 § 1, 2011; Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.05.002 Determination of classification.

(a) Determination by Director. The director of the planning/building department or his designee (hereinafter the “director”) shall determine the proper classification for each project permit application. If there is a question as to the appropriate classification, the director shall resolve the question in favor of the higher classification type.

(b) Optional Consolidated Permit Processing. An application that involves two or more classification types may be processed collectively under the highest numbered type required for any part of the application or processed individually under each of the procedures identified by the code. The applicant may determine whether the application shall be processed collectively or individually. If the application is processed individually, the highest numbered type shall be processed prior to the subsequent lower numbered type (RCW 36.70B.060(3), RCW 36.70B.120).

(c) Hearing Bodies. Applications processed in accordance with subsection (b) of this section which involve different hearing bodies shall be heard collectively by the highest-ranking hearing body. The city council is the highest rank, followed by the planning commission and hearing examiner, and then the director. Joint public hearings with other agencies shall be processed according to FMC 22.05.004 (RCW 36.70B.060(3), RCW 36.70B.120). (Ord. 1638 § 1, 2019; Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.05.003 Project permit application framework.

Table A – Classifications

Type I	Type II-A	Type II-B	Type II-C	Type III-A	Type III-B	Type IV	Type V
Permitted use not requiring site plan or design review	Minor variance	Short plat, short plat vacation or alteration	Administrative use permit	Major variance	Zoning map amendment	Final plat	Comprehensive plan amendment
Boundary line adjustment	Minor site plan	Final site plan		Conditional use permit			Development regulation amendment
Minor amendment to Type III-A project permit	Administrative use permit	Final development plan		Preliminary plat, plat vacation or alteration			Area-wide rezone

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Type I	Type II-A	Type II-B	Type II-C	Type III-A	Type III-B	Type IV	Type V
Temporary accessory structure and use		Design review		Preliminary site plan (major)			Annexation
Home occupation permit, not requiring CUP		Land clearing/grading permit		Preliminary development plan			
Short-term rental permit, not requiring CUP		Administrative interpretation		Major amendment to Type III-A project permit			
De minimis variance		Critical areas determination		Critical areas reasonable use exception and public agency and utility exception			
		Binding site plan		Development agreement associated with project permit			

Table B – Procedures

Action	Type I	Type II-A	Type II-B	Type II-C	Type III-A	Type III-B	Type IV	Type V
Recommendation made by:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Hearing examiner	Hearing examiner	Planning commission
Final decision made by:	Director	Director	Director	Director	Hearing examiner	City council	City council	City council
Notice of complete application/comment period:	Not required	Not required; see FMC 22.07.004	Not required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Not required
Open record public hearing/public review:	Not required	Not required; see FMC 22.07.005	Hearing required only if director decision appealed, then hearing before hearing examiner	Hearing required only if director decision appealed, then hearing before hearing examiner	Hearing required before hearing examiner	Hearing required before hearing examiner, who will forward recommendation to city council	Public review required before hearing examiner, who will forward recommendation to city council	Hearing required before planning commission and city council
Closed record review/appeal hearing/decision:	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required	Closed record review required before city council, which will render final decision	Closed record review required before city council, which will render final decision	N/A
Judicial appeal:	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

(Ord. 1638 § 2, 2019; Ord. 1611 § 1, 2018; Ord. 1575 § 1, 2016; Ord. 1562 § 1, 2015; Ord. 1527 § 1, 2012; Ord. 1468 § 1, 2009; Ord. 1375 § 8, 2005; Ord. 1245 § 1, 2000).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

22.05.004 Joint public hearings.

(a) Director's Decision to Hold Joint Hearing. The director may combine any public hearing on a project permit application with any hearing that may be held by another local, state, regional, federal, or other agency, on the proposed action, as long as: (1) the hearing is held within the city limits; and (2) the requirements of subsection (c) of this section are met (RCW 36.70B.110(7)).

(b) Applicant's Request for a Joint Hearing. The applicant may request that the public hearing on a permit application be combined as long as the joint hearing can be held within the time periods set forth in this title. In the alternative, the applicant may agree to a particular schedule if that additional time is needed in order to complete the hearings (RCW 36.70B.110(7)).

(c) Prerequisites to Joint Public Hearing. A joint public hearing may be held with another local, state, regional, federal or other agency and the city, as long as:

- (1) The other agency is not expressly prohibited by statute from doing so (RCW 36.70B.110(8));
- (2) Sufficient notice of the hearing is given to meet each of the agencies; adopted notice requirements as set forth in statute, ordinance, or rule;
- (3) The agency has received the necessary information about the proposed project from the applicant in enough time to hold its hearing at the same time as the local government hearing; and
- (4) The hearing is held within the geographic boundary of the local government. (Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.05.005 Legislative decisions.

(a) Decisions. The following decisions are legislative, and are not subject to the procedures in this chapter, unless otherwise specified:

- (1) Zoning code text and zoning district amendments;
- (2) Adoption of development regulations and amendments;
- (3) Area-wide rezones to implement new city policies;
- (4) Adoption of the comprehensive plan and any plan amendments; and
- (5) Annexations.

(b) Planning Commission. The planning commission shall hold a public hearing and make recommendations to the city council on the decisions listed in subsection (a) of this section. The public hearing shall be held in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 22.09 FMC.

(c) City Council. The city council may consider the planning commission's recommendation in a public hearing held in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 22.09 or 22.10 FMC.

(d) Public Notice. Notice of the public hearing or public meeting shall be provided to the public as set forth in FMC 22.07.003(b)(4).

(e) Implementation. The city council's decision shall become effective by passage of an ordinance. (Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.05.006 Legislative enactments not restricted.

Nothing in this chapter or the permit processing procedures shall limit the authority of the city council to make changes to the city's comprehensive plan, as part of an annual revision process, or to make changes to the city's development regulations (RCW 36.70B.020(4)). (Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.05.007 Exemptions from project permit application processing.

(a) Whenever a permit or approval in this code has been designated as a Type I, II-A, II-B, III-A, III-B, or IV permit, the procedures in this title shall be followed in project permit processing. The following permits or approvals are, however, specifically excluded from the procedures set forth in this title:

- (1) Landmark designations;
- (2) Street vacations;
- (3) Street use permits.

(b) Pursuant to RCW 36.70B.140(2), building permits, boundary line adjustments, short plats, administrative design review, minor site plan review, minor variances, ~~administrative use permits~~, other construction permits, or similar administrative approvals which are categorically exempt from environmental review under SEPA (Chapter 43.21C RCW) and the city's SEPA requirements, or permits/approvals for which environmental review has been completed in connection with other project permits, are excluded from the following procedures, unless otherwise expressly required in this title:

- (1) Determination of completeness (FMC 22.06.004(a));
- (2) Notice of application (FMC 22.06.005);
- (3) Except as provided in RCW 36.70B.140, optional consolidated project permit review processing (FMC 22.05.002(b));
- (4) Joint public hearings (FMC 22.05.004);
- (5) Single report stating all the decisions and recommendations made as of the date of the report that do not require an open record hearing (FMC 22.09.002(c));
- (6) Notice of decision (FMC 22.09.008);
- (7) Completion of project review within any applicable time periods (including the 120-day permit processing time) (FMC 22.09.008, 22.09.009) (RCW 36.70B.140). (Ord. 1468 § 2, 2009; Ord. 1245 § 2, 2000).

Chapter 22.06

TYPE I-IV PROJECT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Sections:

- 22.06.001 Preapplication conference.
- 22.06.002 Project permit application.
- 22.06.003 Application fees.
- 22.06.004 Determination of completeness.
- 22.06.005 Notice of application.
- 22.06.006 Referral and review of project permit applications.

22.06.001 Preapplication conference.

(a) Preapplication Conference. A preapplication conference may be held with city staff and a potential applicant for a Type II-A, Type II-B, Type III-A, Type III-B or Type IV permit to discuss application submittal requirements and pertinent fees. The purpose of the preapplication conference is to acquaint the applicant with the requirements of this code.

(b) The applicant may request that the following be provided:

- (1) A form which lists the requirements for a completed application;
- (2) A general summary of the procedures to be used to process the application;
- (3) The references to the relevant code provisions or development standards which may apply to the approval of the application;
- (4) The city's design guidelines.

(c) The conference is not intended to be an exhaustive review of all potential issues. The discussions at the conference or information provided by the city to the applicant under subsection (b) of this section shall not bind or prohibit the city's future application or enforcement of all applicable law. (Ord. 1638 § 3, 2019; Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.06.002 Project permit application.

Applications for project permits shall be submitted upon forms provided by the director. Pursuant to Washington State Department of Ecology requirements, all documents to be submitted to the SEPA Register, including all application materials, technical reports, and other supporting documentation, shall be provided to the city in electronic format. The city may also require electronic format submittals for non-SEPA Register documents. An application shall consist of all materials required by the applicable development regulations, and shall include the following general information:

- (a) A completed project permit application form;
- (b) A verified statement by the applicant that the property affected by the application is in the exclusive ownership of the applicant, or that the applicant has submitted the application with the consent of all owners of the affected property;
- (c) A property and/or legal description of the site for all applications, as required by the applicable development regulations;
- (d) The applicable fees;
- (e) Evidence of adequate water supply as required by RCW 19.27.097;
- (f) A completed environmental checklist for project subject to review under the State Environmental Policy Act;

(g) Any supplemental information or special studies identified by the director. (Ord. 1575 § 2, 2016; Ord. 1245 § 3, 2000; Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.06.003 Application fees.

Filing fees and filing deposits for project permit applications shall be paid upon the filing of an application in accordance with the planning service fee schedule established by council resolution. (Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.06.004 Determination of completeness.

(a) Determination of Completeness. Within 28 days after receiving a [Type II-C](#), Type III-A, Type III-B, or Type IV project permit application, the city shall mail or personally provide a written determination to the applicant which states either: (1) that the application is complete; or (2) that the application is incomplete and what is necessary to make the application complete (RCW 36.70B.070).

(b) Identification of Other Agencies with Jurisdiction. To the extent known by the city, other agencies with jurisdiction over the project permit application shall be identified in the city's determination required by subsection (a) of this section (RCW 36.70B.070).

(c) "Complete" Application/Additional Information. A project permit application is complete for purposes of this section when it meets the submission requirements in FMC 22.06.002, as well as the submission requirements contained in the applicable development regulations. The determination of completeness shall be made when the application is sufficient for continued processing even though additional information may be required or project modifications may be undertaken subsequently. The city's determination of completeness shall not preclude the city from requesting additional information or studies either at the time of the notice of completeness or at some later time, if new information is required or where there are substantial changes in the proposed action (RCW 36.70B.090(1)).

(d) Incomplete Application Procedure.

(1) If the applicant receives a determination from the city that an application is not complete, the applicant shall have 120 days to submit the necessary information to the city. Within 14 days after an applicant has submitted the requested additional information, the city shall make the determination as described in subsection (a) of this section, and notify the applicant in the same manner.

(2) If the applicant either refuses in writing to submit additional information or does not submit the required information within the 120-day period, the application shall lapse.

(3) If the application has lapsed because the applicant has failed to submit the required information within the necessary time period, the applicant may request a refund of any unused portion of an application deposit fee.

(e) City's Failure to Provide Determination of Completeness. A project permit application shall be deemed complete under this section if the city does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in subsection (a) of this section (RCW 36.70B.070(4)(a)).

(f) Date of Determination of Completeness. When the project permit application is deemed complete, the director shall accept the application and note the date of the determination of completeness. If the city has not provided a written determination to the applicant that an application is either complete or incomplete within 28 days of receiving the application, the date of the determination of completeness shall be noted as 5:00 p.m. on the twenty-eighth day. (Ord. 1245 § 4, 2000; Ord. 1145 § 2, 1997; Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.06.005 Notice of application.

(a) Issuance/Timeframe. A notice of application shall be issued on all [Type II-C](#), Type III-A, III-B, and IV project permit applications pursuant to Chapter 22.07 FMC (RCW 36.70B.110) within 14 days after the city has issued a determination of completeness for a project permit application. If any open record predecision hearing is required for the requested project permit(s), the notice of application shall be provided at least 15 days prior to the open record hearing (RCW 36.70B.110).

(b) SEPA Exempt Projects. A notice of application shall not be required for project permits that are categorically exempt under SEPA, unless a public comment period or an open record predecision hearing is required (RCW 36.70B.140(2)).

(c) Contents. The notice of application shall include:

- (1) The name of applicant;
- (2) The date of application, the date of the determination of completeness for the application, and the date of the notice of application;
- (3) A description of the proposed project action and a list of the project permits included in the application and, if applicable, a list of any studies requested under RCW 36.70B.070;
- (4) The identification of other permits not included in the application, to the extent known by the city;
- (5) The identification of existing environmental documents that evaluate the proposed project, and, if not otherwise stated on the document providing notice of application, the location where the application and any studies can be reviewed;
- (6) A statement of the limits of the public comment period, which shall be not less than 14 nor more than 30 days following the date of notice of application, and statements of the right of any person to comment on the application, receive notice of and participate in any hearings, request a copy of the decision once made, and any appeal rights;
- (7) The date, time, place and type of hearing, if applicable and scheduled at the time of issuance of the notice of application;
- (8) A statement of the preliminary determination of consistency, if one has been made at the time of issuance of the notice of application, and of those development regulations that will be used for project mitigation and the determination of consistency as provided in Chapter 22.08 FMC;
- (9) Any other information determined appropriate by the city, such as the city's threshold determination, if complete at the time of issuance of the notice of application (RCW 36.70B.110).

(d) Public Comment on the Notice of Application. All public comments on the notice of application must be received in the planning/building department by 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Comments may be mailed, personally delivered or sent by facsimile. Comments should be as specific as possible.

(e) Except for a determination of significance, the city may not issue its threshold determination or issue a decision or recommendation on a project permit until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application (RCW 36.70B.110). (Ord. 1145 § 3, 1997; Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

22.06.006 Referral and review of project permit applications.

Within 10 days of issuing a determination of completeness, the director shall do the following:

(a) Transmit a copy of the application, or appropriate parts of the application, to each affected agency and city department for review and comment, including those responsible for determining compliance with state and federal requirements. The affected agencies and city departments shall have 15 days to comment. The referral agency or city department is presumed to have no comments if comments are not received within the specified time period. The director shall grant an extension of time for comment only if the application involves unusual circumstances. Any extension shall only be for a maximum of three additional days (RCW 36.70B.070).

(b) If a Type III-A or III-B procedure is required, notice and hearing shall be provided as set forth in Chapter 22.07 FMC. (Ord. 1120 § 1, 1996).

Chapter 22.32

RESIDENTIAL-4 DISTRICT (R-4)

Sections:

- 22.32.001 Purpose.
- 22.32.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.32.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.32.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.32.005 Development standards.
- 22.32.006 Administrative uses.

22.32.001 Purpose.

The R-4 zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's low density residential land use designation. The district standards aim to preserve and enhance the character of neighborhoods that have a well-established suburban development pattern. The predominant land uses in these neighborhoods are detached single-family dwellings located on 8,000- to 12,000-square-foot lots. New construction must fit within this context. (Ord. 1246 § 2, 2000).

22.32.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative design review approval, when applicable, in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Single-family dwelling.
- (b) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (c) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 5, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 2, 2000).

22.32.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.32.002:

- (a) Accessory dwelling unit (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.012).
- (b) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (c) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (d) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (e) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, swimming pool, sport court, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures.
- (f) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (g) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.
- (h) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 1, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 2, 2000).

22.32.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) School, accredited K-12, public or private.
- (d) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (e) Religious institution.
- (f) Bed and breakfast establishment (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.011).
- (g) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (h) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (i) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (j) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 2, 2000).

22.32.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	4 dwelling units per gross acre.
Minimum lot area	8,000 square feet.
Maximum height	30 feet. See FMC 22.58.007 for exceptions.
Maximum floor area ratio	0.35. See FMC 22.58.026 for FAR standards.
Minimum front yard setback	25 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for setback reduction and allowable encroachments.
Minimum interior side yard setback	8 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for allowable encroachments.
Minimum side street side yard setback	15 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for allowable encroachments.
Minimum rear yard setback	20 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for allowable encroachments.
Exterior wall modulation	Building elevations greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 4 feet for front and side street side yard elevations of single-family dwellings, and 6 feet for all elevations of all other buildings. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the facade. No uninterrupted length of any elevation shall exceed 40 horizontal

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Accessory building standards	See FMC 22.58.003.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	40% for all structures combined.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	50% for structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Minimum lot width	60 feet.
Minimum frontage on a public street	60 feet. 45 feet if located on a cul-de-sac or facing the inside curve of a street.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscape regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.32.006 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

- (a) Permanent support housing.
- (b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1611 § 5, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 6, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 2, 2002; Ord. 1272 § 1, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 2, 2000).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.34

RESIDENTIAL-4-CONSERVATION DISTRICT (R-4-C)

Sections:

- 22.34.001 Purpose.
- 22.34.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.34.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.34.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.34.005 Development standards.
- 22.34.006 Administrative uses.

22.34.001 Purpose.

The R-4-C zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's low density residential – conservation overlay land use designation. The district standards permit limited residential development within areas that contain significant environmental constraints such as wetlands, frequently flooded areas and steep slopes. These constraints place practical limits on building intensity and provide for the clustering of new development to further protect critical areas and to retain additional open space. (Ord. 1461 § 1, 2008; Ord. 1246 § 3, 2000).

22.34.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Small lot development (subject to compliance with small lot design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC).
- (b) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (c) Cottage housing (subject to compliance with cottage housing standards in FMC 22.58.027).
- (d) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (e) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 7, 2015; Ord. 1461 § 2, 2008; Ord. 1246 § 3, 2000).

22.34.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.34.002:

- (a) Accessory dwelling unit (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.012).
- (b) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (c) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (d) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (e) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures. Excludes swimming pools, sport courts and other facilities identified through the planned development permit review process that may add significantly to impervious surface coverage.
- (f) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (g) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.

(h) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 2, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 3, 2000).

22.34.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (e) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (f) A use not listed above which is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 3, 2000).

22.34.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	4 dwelling units per gross acre for small lot development. 8 dwelling units per gross acre for cottage housing.
Density bonus	The following density bonuses, not to exceed 30% combined, may be permitted for small lot development: a. A 5% increase in density if ≥30% of the development site is retained as common open space, and which must be contiguous or larger than 1 acre in area. b. A 10% increase in density if a pedestrian trail system is provided within the common open space area, consistent with a trails plan. c. A 10% percent increase in density if a minimum 35% of the required common open space is improved as an active recreational area. Active recreational areas include, but are not limited to: i. Clearly defined athletic fields and/or activity courts. ii. Recreation centers or community facilities. d. A 1% increase in density for each 5% additional increase in common open space provided beyond the minimum percentage required.
Minimum and maximum lot area	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027.
Maximum height	Other uses: 35 feet. Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. Exceptions may be authorized per FMC 22.58.007.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Minimum and maximum front yard, interior side yard, side street side yard, and rear yard setback	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. Other uses: To be determined through the administrative design review process. If not specified, FMC 22.58.002 encroachment standards will apply.
Exterior wall modulation	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. For other uses, elevations greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 6 feet. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the facade. No uninterrupted length of any elevation shall exceed 40 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. For other uses, building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Accessory building standards	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. If not specified, FMC 22.58.003 standards will apply.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. For other uses, 50% for all structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Maximum developable slope	Subject to the requirements of Chapter 22.100 FMC.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. For other uses, see Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscape regulations	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. For other uses: See Chapter 22.62 FMC.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Design standards	Small lot development: See Chapter 22.63 FMC. Cottage housing: See FMC 22.58.027. For other uses: See Chapter 22.64 FMC.
Critical areas	See Chapter 22.92 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number, with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.34.006 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

(a) Permanent support housing.

(b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1611 § 6, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 8, 2015; Ord. 1481 § 1, 2009; Ord. 1461 § 3, 2008; Ord. 1311 § 3, 2002; Ord. 1272 § 2, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 3, 2000).

Chapter 22.36

RESIDENTIAL-6 DISTRICT (R-6)

Sections:

- 22.36.001 Purpose.
- 22.36.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.36.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.36.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.36.005 Development standards.
- 22.36.006 Administrative uses.

22.36.001 Purpose.

The R-6 zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's low density residential land use designation. The district standards aim to preserve the historic development pattern established in the city's original residential neighborhoods (the circa 1907 Regents Park I and II plats). These neighborhoods include an eclectic mix of architecture within a pedestrian-oriented urban grid development pattern. The predominant land uses are detached modestly-scaled single-family dwellings located on 5,000- to 8,000-square-foot lots. New construction must fit within this context. (Ord. 1246 § 4, 2000).

22.36.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative design review approval, when applicable, in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Single-family dwelling.
- (b) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (c) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 9, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 4, 2000).

22.36.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.36.002:

- (a) Accessory dwelling unit (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.012).
- (b) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (c) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (d) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (e) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, swimming pool, sport court, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures.
- (f) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (g) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.

(h) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 3, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 4, 2000).

22.36.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) School, accredited K-12, public or private.
- (d) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (e) Religious institution.
- (f) Bed and breakfast establishment (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.011).
- (g) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (h) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (i) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (j) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 4, 2000).

22.36.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	6 dwelling units per gross acre.
Minimum lot area	5,000 square feet.
Maximum height	27 feet (where minimum roof slope of 6:12 for all parts of the roof above 18 feet is provided). Otherwise, 18 feet. See FMC 22.58.007 for exceptions.
Maximum floor area ratio	0.35. See FMC 22.58.026 for FAR standards.
Minimum front yard setback	20 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for setback reduction and allowable encroachments.
Minimum interior yard setback	5 feet for first story. 8 feet for side second story. See FMC 22.58.002 for allowable encroachments.
Minimum side street side yard setback	15 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for allowable encroachments.
Exterior wall modulation	Building elevations greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 4 feet for front and side street side yard elevations of single-family dwellings, and 6 feet for all elevations of all other buildings.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the elevation. No uninterrupted length of any elevation shall exceed 40 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Minimum rear yard setback	20 feet. See FMC 22.58.002 for allowable encroachments.
Accessory building standards	See FMC 22.58.003.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	40% for all structures combined, except that up to 200 square feet of a covered, unenclosed front porch having a 6-foot minimum depth may be excluded from total.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	50% for all structures and other impervious surfaces combined, except that porches excluded above, and driveway strips less than or equal to 2 feet wide leading to a detached garage in rear 50% of a lot, may be excluded from total.
Minimum lot width	50 feet.
Minimum frontage on a public street	50 feet. 35 feet if located on a cul-de-sac or facing the inside curve of a street.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.36.006 Administrative uses.
Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(a) Permanent support housing.

(b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1611 § 7, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 10, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 4, 2002; Ord. 1272 § 3, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 4, 2000).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.38

RESIDENTIAL-8 DISTRICT (R-8)

Sections:

- 22.38.001 Purpose.
- 22.38.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.38.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.38.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.38.005 Development standards.
- 22.38.006 Administrative uses.

22.38.001 Purpose.

The R-8 zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's medium density residential land use designation. The district provides for a mix of residential dwelling units, including duplex and multifamily structures with three or four dwelling units. (Ord. 1246 § 5, 2000).

22.38.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to planned development approval in accordance with Chapter 22.76 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (b) Duplex dwelling.
- (c) Multifamily dwelling within a structure containing no more than four dwelling units, when clustered to avoid critical areas or to retain significant open space.
- (d) Manager's office, recreation facilities, laundry facilities, and other structures and facilities intended for use by residents of a residential complex.
- (e) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (f) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 11, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 5, 2000).

22.38.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.38.002:

- (a) Accessory dwelling unit (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.012).
- (b) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (c) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (d) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (e) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, swimming pool, sport court, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures.
- (f) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).

(g) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.

(h) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 4, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 5, 2000).

22.38.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

(a) Child day-care center.

(b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).

(c) School, accredited K-12, public or private.

(d) Preschool, accredited, public or private.

(e) Religious institution.

(f) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.

(g) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.

(h) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).

(i) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 5, 2000).

22.38.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	8 dwelling units per gross acre.
Minimum lot area	To be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC.
Maximum height	35 feet. Exceptions may be authorized per FMC 22.58.007 and through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC.
Minimum and maximum front yard, interior side yard, side street side yard, and rear yard setback	Setbacks and allowable encroachments to be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC. If not specified, FMC 22.58.002 encroachment standards will apply.
Exterior wall modulation	Building elevations greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 4 feet for front and side street side yard elevations of single-family dwellings, and 6 feet for all elevations of all other buildings. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the elevation. No uninterrupted

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	length of any elevation shall exceed 40 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Accessory building standards	To be determined through the PD process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC. If not specified, FMC 22.58.003 standards will apply.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	To be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	65% of the developable site area for all structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Development not subject to planned development approval	For development that is not subject to planned development approval, or for modifications to existing development constructed prior to adoption of planned development requirements, lot size, setbacks, lot coverage and impervious surface area coverage shall comply with the development standards in FMC 22.36.005 (R-6 zone).
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC. Site-specific design guidelines may be required as part of planned development approval. See also multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC.
Critical areas	See Chapter 22.92 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

22.38.006 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

(a) Permanent support housing.

(b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1611 § 8, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 12, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 5, 2002; Ord. 1272 § 4, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 5, 2000).

Chapter 22.40

RESIDENTIAL-10-TRADITIONAL COMMUNITY DESIGN DISTRICT (R-10-TCD)

Sections:

- 22.40.001 Purpose.
- 22.40.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.40.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.40.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.40.005 Development standards.
- 22.40.006 Administrative uses.

22.40.001 Purpose.

The R-10-TCD zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's medium density residential – traditional community design overlay land use designation. The district standards encourage a broad range of housing types, including single-family, duplex, and multifamily structures containing up to eight units per building when this facilitates the protection of critical areas or the retention of significant open space. Development plans must use neo-traditional designs that achieve pedestrian-friendly, human-scale neighborhoods. These neighborhoods will have interconnected street patterns, buildings that face streets, sidewalks or other public space, small setbacks, parking placed to the rear of buildings with access from alleys where feasible, and a variety of architectural building styles, design features and amenities which provide visual interest and reinforce the human-scale character of the neighborhood. (Ord. 1246 § 6, 2000).

22.40.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to planned development approval in accordance with Chapter 22.76 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Single-family dwelling.
- (b) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (c) Duplex dwelling.
- (d) Multifamily dwelling within a structure containing no more than eight dwelling units, when clustered to avoid critical areas or to retain significant open space.
- (e) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (f) Manager's office, recreation facilities, laundry facilities, and other structures and facilities intended for use by residents of a residential complex.
- (g) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (h) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 13, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 6, 2000).

22.40.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.40.002:

- (a) Accessory dwelling unit (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.012).
- (b) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (c) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).

- (d) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (e) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures.
- (f) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (g) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.
- (h) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 5, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 6, 2000).

22.40.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (d) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (e) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 6, 2000).

22.40.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	10 dwelling units per gross acre.
Minimum and maximum lot area	To be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC.
Maximum height	35 feet. Exceptions may be authorized per FMC 22.58.007 and through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC.
Minimum and maximum front yard, interior side yard, side street side yard, and rear yard setback	Setbacks and allowable encroachments to be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC. If not specified, FMC 22.58.002 encroachment standards will apply.
Accessory structure standards	To be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC. If not specified, FMC 22.58.003 standards will apply.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	To be determined through the PD review process – see Chapter 22.76 FMC.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Maximum impervious surface coverage	65% of the developable site area for all structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Exterior wall modulation	Facades greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 4 feet for front and side street side yard elevations of single-family dwellings and duplexes, and 6 feet for all elevations of all other buildings. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the facade. No uninterrupted length of any facade shall exceed 40 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Maximum % of multifamily dwelling units allowed	50% of the total number of units within a development.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC. See also multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC.
Critical areas	See Chapter 22.92 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.40.006 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

- (a) Permanent support housing.
- (b) Transitional housing.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Fircrest Municipal Code
Chapter 22.40 RESIDENTIAL-10-TRADITIONAL
COMMUNITY DESIGN DISTRICT (R-10-TCD)
(Ord. 1611 § 9, 2018; Ord. 1311 § 6, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 6, 2000).

Page 26/168

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.42

RESIDENTIAL-20 DISTRICT (R-20)

Sections:

- 22.42.001 Purpose.
- 22.42.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.42.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.42.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.42.005 Development standards.
- 22.42.006 Administrative uses.

22.42.001 Purpose.

The R-20 zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's high density residential land use designation. The district provides for predominantly multifamily housing with the inclusion of duplexes, where appropriate. Development standards encourage neighborhood designs that have a density and configuration that support mass transit service along collector and arterial streets. Generally, developments within this district provide relatively affordable housing near shopping and employment centers. (Ord. 1246 § 7, 2000).

22.42.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (b) Duplex dwelling.
- (c) Multifamily dwelling.
- (d) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (e) Manager's office, recreation facilities, laundry facilities, and other structures and facilities intended for use by residents of a residential complex.
- (f) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (g) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 14, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 7, 2000).

22.42.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.42.002:

- (a) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (b) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (d) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, swimming pool, sport court, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures.
- (e) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).

(f) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.

(g) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1562 § 15, 2015; Ord. 1509 § 6, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 7, 2000).

22.42.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (d) Religious institution.
- (e) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (f) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (g) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 7, 2000).

22.42.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	20 dwelling units per gross acre.
Minimum or maximum lot area	To be determined through the conditional use permit or site plan review process – see Chapter 22.68 or 22.72 FMC.
Maximum height	35 feet. A maximum 45-foot height may be authorized if 1 or more levels of structured parking are provided at or below grade level within the building footprint. For other exceptions, see FMC 22.58.007.
Minimum front yard setback	25 feet for first 35 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 35 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Minimum interior side yard setback	8 feet for first 35 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 35 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Minimum side street side yard setback	15 feet for first 35 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 35 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Minimum rear yard setback	20 feet for first 35 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 35 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Minimum dwelling structure separation	10 feet for first 35 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 35 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Exterior wall modulation	Building elevations greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 4 feet for front and side street side yard elevations of duplexes, and 6 feet for all elevations of all other buildings. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the elevation. No uninterrupted length of any elevation shall exceed 40 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	55% for all structures combined. 65% for all structures combined if at least 50% of required parking is provided at or below grade level within the building footprint.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	75% for all structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Additional specific use and structure regulations.	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC. See also multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.42.006 Administrative uses.
Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(a) Permanent support housing.

(b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1611 § 10, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 16, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 7, 2002; Ord. 1272 § 5, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 7, 2000).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.43

RESIDENTIAL-30 DISTRICT (R-30)

Sections:

- 22.43.001 Purpose.
- 22.43.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.43.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.43.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.43.005 Development standards.
- 22.43.006 Administrative uses.

22.43.001 Purpose.

The R-30 zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's high density residential land use designation. The district provides for predominantly multifamily housing and supportive uses. Development standards encourage neighborhood designs that have a density and configuration that support mass transit service along collector and arterial streets. Potential impacts associated with higher density housing are ameliorated through high quality design that is consistent with the city's multifamily design standards and guidelines. Generally, developments within this district provide relatively affordable housing near community-serving mixed use office, retail and service uses. (Ord. 1562 § 17, 2015).

22.43.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (b) Multifamily dwelling.
- (c) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (d) Manager's office, recreation facilities, laundry facilities, and other structures and facilities intended for use by residents of a residential complex.
- (e) Nonmotorized recreational trail or passive recreational park with no permanent on-site staff.
- (f) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 17, 2015).

22.43.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.43.002:

- (a) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (b) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Amateur and citizen band transmitter, support structure and antenna array (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.002(h)).
- (d) Residential accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a permitted residential dwelling unit (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.58 FMC). Residential accessory uses and structures may include, but are not limited to: garage, carport, storage shed, noncommercial greenhouse, patio, swimming pool, sport court, gazebo, pergola, trellis, fence, and similar uses or structures.

- (e) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (f) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.
- (g) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1562 § 17, 2015).

22.43.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (d) Religious institution.
- (e) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (f) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (g) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1562 § 17, 2015).

22.43.005 Development standards.

Maximum density	30 dwelling units per gross acre.
Minimum or maximum lot area	To be determined through the conditional use permit or site plan review process – see Chapter 22.68 or 22.72 FMC.
Maximum height	40 feet. A maximum 50-foot height may be authorized if 1 or more levels of structured parking are provided at or below grade level within the building footprint. For other exceptions, see FMC 22.58.007.
Minimum front yard setback	25 feet for first 40 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 40 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Minimum interior side yard setback	8 feet for first 40 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 40 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Minimum side street side yard setback	15 feet for first 40 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 40 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Minimum setback abutting an R-6 or R-8 district	30 feet for first 40 feet of building height. Portions of a

The Firecrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	building above 40 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Additional setbacks	Per International Building Code.
Minimum dwelling structure separation	10 feet for first 40 feet of building height. Portions of a building above 40 feet shall be stepped back an additional 10 feet from the underlying story wall plane.
Exterior wall modulation	Building elevations greater than 40 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 6 feet for all building elevations. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the elevation. No uninterrupted length of any elevation shall exceed 40 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement.
Articulation	Building elevations exceeding 20 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate a minimum of 2 articulation components, such as a stoop, porch, chimney or other substantial projections, windows, multiple contrasting siding materials, or substantial trim including a belt course, to visually and/or functionally break up flat, blank or undifferentiated elevations. Building elevations greater than 30 feet in length, measured horizontally, and exceeding 12 feet in height, measured from finished grade to top of wall where it connects to roof structure, shall incorporate a minimum of 3 articulation components.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	65% for all structures combined, 75% for all structures combined if at least 50% of required parking is provided at or below grade level within the building footprint.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	85% for all structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Additional specific use and structure regulations.	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards and guidelines	See Chapter 22.64 FMC. See also multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.43.006 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

(a) Permanent support housing.

(b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1611 § 11, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 17, 2015).

Chapter 22.44

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE DISTRICT (NO)

Sections:

- 22.44.001 Purpose.
- 22.44.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.44.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.44.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.44.005 Prohibited uses.
- 22.44.006 Development standards.
- 22.44.007 Administrative uses.

22.44.001 Purpose.

The NO zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's neighborhood commercial land use designation. This district provides opportunities for small-scale offices that provide personal services primarily for the needs of nearby neighborhoods. Uses that tend to draw traffic into the neighborhood are not allowed. A pedestrian orientation is required for new development and new automobile-oriented uses are prohibited. Neighborhood office sites are limited in size to keep them in scale with the neighborhoods they serve and nearby uses. In addition, landscaping is used to make the area attractive, functional and to minimize negative impacts on nearby uses. Other measures, such as buffering requirements and limits on hours of operation, may be used to reduce impacts to nearby residences. Limited residential uses above the ground floor level of mixed use buildings are encouraged. (Ord. 1246 § 8, 2000).

22.44.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Commercial office serving primarily a local clientele, including, but not limited to, medical, dental, optometric, business and professional office.
- (b) Pharmacy solely incidental to a medical office.
- (c) Residential dwelling units, including family group homes and adult family homes, located above the ground floor of a commercial office establishment, not to exceed a maximum density of six units per gross acre of site area.
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1562 § 18, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 8, 2000).

22.44.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.44.002:

- (a) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (b) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (d) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.
- (e) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 7, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 8, 2000).

22.44.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (c) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment, greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (e) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (f) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 8, 2000).

22.44.005 Prohibited uses.

The following uses are prohibited:

- (a) Drive-up or drive-through facility.
- (b) Off-street parking facility which provides greater than 120 percent of the minimum required number of parking stalls specified in FMC 22.60.003.
- (c) Adult entertainment establishment. (Ord. 1246 § 8, 2000).

22.44.006 Development standards.

Maximum height	30 feet. See FMC 22.58.007 for exceptions.
Front yard and side street side yard setback	Zero feet minimum/20 feet maximum.
Minimum interior side yard setback	10 feet when abutting any "R" district; otherwise zero feet.
Minimum rear yard setback	20 feet when abutting any "R" district; otherwise zero feet.
Exterior wall modulation	<p>Facades greater than 60 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 6 feet. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the facade. No uninterrupted length of any facade shall exceed 60 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement. Alternative designs that: incorporate recessed or projecting balconies; use base, middle and top treatments with different forms; include roof modulation; and/or provide strong articulation of the facade through the use of multiple siding materials and textures, various building forms, awnings and variation in colors – in</p>

The Firecrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	conjunction with appropriate landscaping, may be approved in lieu of compliance with the wall modulation standard specified above.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	50% for all structures combined. 65% if at least 50% of required parking is provided below grade or at grade level within the building footprint.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	75% for structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Business hours	6:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m., unless further restricted through the conditional use permit or site plan review processes – see Chapters 22.68 and 22.72 FMC.
Additional specific use and structure regulations, including performance standards	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC.
Sign regulations	See Chapter 22.26 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

22.44.007 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

(a) Permanent support housing.

(b) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1562 § 19, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 8, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 8, 2000).

Chapter 22.46

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (NC)

Sections:

- 22.46.001 Purpose.
- 22.46.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.46.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.46.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.46.005 Administrative uses.
- 22.46.006 Master plans.
- 22.46.007 Prohibited uses.
- 22.46.008 Development standards.

22.46.001 Purpose.

The NC zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's neighborhood commercial land use designation. This district provides for small-scale shopping areas that offer retail convenience goods and personal services primarily for the daily needs of nearby neighborhoods. This zoning district is designed to reduce vehicle trips by providing convenient shopping for nearby residents. NC zones are located on transit routes, and site and building design also encourage pedestrian, bicycle and transit use. A pedestrian orientation is required for new development and new automobile-oriented uses are prohibited. Neighborhood commercial sites are limited in size to keep them in scale with the neighborhoods they serve and nearby uses. In addition, high quality landscaping is used to make the area attractive and functional and to minimize negative impacts on nearby uses. Other measures, such as buffering requirements and limits on hours of operation, may be used to reduce impacts to nearby residences. Limited residential uses above the ground floor level of mixed-use buildings are encouraged. Master plans are required for substantial redevelopment or substantial new development within areas designated "special planning areas" on the comprehensive plan's land use designation map. (Ord. 1562 § 20, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Retail sales store including, but not limited to, the sale or rental of the following items: antiques, appliances (small), art and art supplies, bicycles, books, clothing, fabrics, flowers, gifts, groceries, hardware, hobby and craft supplies, home furnishings, lawn and garden equipment and supplies, paint and wallpaper, music, pets, pharmaceuticals, photography supplies and processing, sporting goods, stationery, and videos.
- (b) Commercial service including, but not limited to: beauty and hair care, consulting, copying, fitness/health studios, laundry and cleaning (self-service), locksmithing, office equipment repair, optical, paging, pet grooming, post office or postal substation, studio photography, real estate sales, shoe repair, tailoring, telecommunication sales, and travel agency service.
- (c) Food- or beverage-serving establishment including, but not limited to: bakery, cafeteria, coffee shop, confectionery, delicatessen, espresso stand, ice cream or yogurt shop, restaurant and other sit-down, self-service or take-out establishments. See FMC 22.58.029 for standards regulating establishments licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to serve liquor for on-premises consumption. See FMC 22.46.005 for establishments serving liquor for on-premises consumption in an outdoor customer seating area.
- (d) Commercial office serving primarily a local clientele including, but not limited to: medical, dental, optometric, business and professional office.
- (e) Culturally enriching use including, but not limited to: art gallery, dance studio, library, museum, live theater venue and senior center.
- (f) Residential dwelling units, including family group homes and adult family homes, located above the ground floor of a commercial establishment, not to exceed a maximum density of six units per gross acre of site area.

(g) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1568 § 1, 2015; Ord. 1562 § 21, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.46.002:

- (a) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (b) Home occupation – Type I (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Employee recreation facility and play area.
- (d) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (e) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.
- (f) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025).
- (g) Electric vehicle battery exchange station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025).
- (h) Delivery service, when the principal use is located within a neighborhood commercial center abutting a street classified as an arterial in the Fircrest Comprehensive Plan, provided delivery vehicles use an arterial, and do not use an abutting local street, for making deliveries. (Ord. 1575 § 10, 2016; Ord. 1509 § 8, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Child day-care center.
- (b) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (c) Home occupation – Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (e) Personal wireless telecommunications facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (f) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.005 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

- (a) Outdoor sidewalk cafe or other food- or beverage-serving facility or establishment, when located on a public sidewalk or other public right-of-way area (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.017).
- (b) Establishment licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to serve liquor for on-premises consumption in an outdoor customer seating area (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.029).
- (c) Uses otherwise subject to site plan or conditional use permit approval which have been authorized by the hearing examiner as part of a master plan pursuant to FMC 22.46.006.

(d) Permanents supportive housing.

(c) Transitional housing.

(Ord. 1638 § 20, 2019; Ord. 1568 § 2, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.006 Master plans.

Approval of a master plan by the hearing examiner is required for substantial redevelopment or substantial new development within areas designated “special planning areas” on the comprehensive plan’s land use designation map. Each master plan shall contain a pedestrian plaza with landscaping, seating, tables and complementary uses that render the site a pleasant, safe and comfortable resting, socializing and picnicking area for employees and shoppers. The master plan shall be processed as a major site plan in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC. Upon approval of a master plan, specific uses that would otherwise be subject to site plan or conditional use permit approval in Chapter 22.68 FMC and determined by the director to be consistent with the approved master plan may be approved in accordance with the administrative use permit review process contained in Chapter 22.70 FMC. No additional hearing examiner approval is required for these previously authorized uses. If a proposed individual use represents a substantial modification to, or departure from, the approved master plan, the proposal shall be processed as a site plan amendment in accordance with FMC 22.72.012. (Ord. 1638 § 21, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.007 Prohibited uses.

The following uses are prohibited:

- (a) Drive-up or drive-through facility.
- (b) Off-street parking facility which provides greater than 120 percent of the minimum required number of parking stalls specified in FMC 22.60.003.
- (c) Tavern, night club, sports entertainment facility or lounge as defined by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board.
- (d) Adult entertainment establishment.
- (e) Second-hand store, other than antique store. (Ord. 1575 § 11, 2016; Ord. 1568 § 3, 2015; Ord. 1325 § 1, 2003; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

22.46.008 Development standards.

Maximum height	30 feet. A maximum 40-foot height may be authorized if one or more levels of structured parking is provided at or below grade level within the building footprint. For other exceptions, see FMC 22.58.007.
Front yard and side street side yard setback	Zero feet minimum / 20 feet maximum for first two stories. Additional stories shall be stepped back at least 10 feet from the wall plane of the first two stories. On street blocks where a historic main street development pattern is represented by buildings constructed to or near the front property line, new construction shall be built with a comparable setback that places the storefront abutting the sidewalk or in line with other buildings at or near the property line. On other street blocks where this historic pattern is not well established, new construction shall reinforce or establish a historic main street pattern. The maximum setback

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	in such cases shall be 20 feet, unless the building is separated from a street by another principal building on the same lot. At least 75% of the length of the
	ground floor street-facing facade of a building shall be within the maximum setback.
Minimum interior side yard setback	10 feet when abutting any "R" district; otherwise zero feet.
Minimum rear yard setback	20 feet when abutting any "R" district; otherwise zero feet.
Minimum alley setback	12 feet from an alley lot line; provided, that a structure may project over the required rear yard alley setback if a 14-foot clear vertical distance between the structure and ground level is maintained.
Maximum floor area for a single commercial use	15,000 square feet.
Maximum lot coverage for structures	65% for all structures combined. 75% for all structures combined if at least 50% of required parking is provided at or below grade level within the building footprint.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	85% for structures and other impervious surfaces combined.
Ground floor use of a commercial or mixed use building	See FMC 22.64.016(a).
Continuous storefront requirement for parking structures	See FMC 22.64.016(b).
Minimum floor to ceiling height for ground floor commercial space	See FMC 22.64.016(c).
Minimum storefront window area for ground floor commercial space	See FMC 22.64.020(a).
Exterior wall modulation	Building elevations greater than 60 feet in length, measured horizontally, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least 6 feet. The projections or recesses shall extend at least 20% of the length of the facade. No uninterrupted length of any building elevation shall exceed 60 horizontal feet. See FMC 22.64.009 for an illustration of this requirement. Alternative designs that: incorporate recessed or projecting balconies; use base, middle and top treatments with different forms; include roof modulation; and/or provide strong articulation of the facade through the use of

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	multiple siding materials and textures, various building forms, awnings and variation in colors – in conjunction with appropriate landscaping, may be approved in lieu of compliance with the wall modulation standard specified above.
Pedestrian plaza requirements	See FMC 22.58.016.
Business hours	6:00 a.m. through 12:00 midnight, unless further restricted through the site plan review or conditional use permit review processes – see Chapters 22.68 and 22.72 FMC.
Additional specific use and structure regulations, including performance standards	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking, circulation, and transit improvements	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC.
Sign regulations	See Chapter 22.26 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

(Ord. 1562 § 22, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 9, 2002; Ord. 1272 § 6, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 9, 2000).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.48

MIXED-USE NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT (MUN)

Sections:

- 22.48.001 Purpose.
- 22.48.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.48.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.48.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.48.005 Administrative uses.
- 22.48.006 Prohibited uses.
- 22.48.007 Development standards.

22.48.001 Purpose.

The MUN zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's mixed-use land use designation. This district provides opportunities for a broad mix of retail and office uses, personal, professional and business services, institutions, recreational and cultural uses, residential uses, and other facilities that provide services for the needs of nearby residents and businesses and the surrounding community. Development standards support moderate density residential development and moderately intense commercial development. In addition, the MUN district provides limited opportunities for light industrial activities that enhance the city's economic base and provide employment for residents in the area in a manner that is compatible with neighboring commercial and residential uses. Site and building design support pedestrian, bicycle and transit use while accommodating automobiles. Applicable form-based code standards require new development to establish a fine-grained street grid and block pattern as properties redevelop. Community greens, squares, plazas, and other publicly accessible spaces are incorporated into mixed-use developments that include a variety of complementary uses. High quality architecture, landscaping, streetscape, artwork, and other public amenities contribute to making the area inviting, attractive, functional, and vibrant for residents, employees, and visitors alike. (Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

22.48.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to compliance with form-based standards in accordance with Chapter 22.57 FMC, site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Commercial use, including retail, service, office, financial institution, fitness center, and food-serving establishment.
- (b) Microbeverage production facility, including microbrewery, microdistillery and microwinery.
- (c) Culturally enriching use, including art gallery, dance studio, library, museum, live theater venue, and senior center.
- (d) Laboratory, including medical, dental, and optical.
- (e) Civic, labor, social, and fraternal organization.
- (f) Veterinary clinic, with treatment and storage of animals within an enclosed building.
- (g) Entertainment and recreation facility (indoor only).
- (h) Automobile, recreational vehicle, and boat sales or rental, new or used (indoor showroom only).
- (i) Child day-care center.
- (j) Preschool, accredited, public or private.
- (k) Lodging.

- (l) Religious institution.
- (m) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (n) Cottage housing, live-work unit, and multifamily dwelling.
- (o) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (p) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

22.48.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.48.002:

- (a) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (b) Home occupation – Type I and Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (d) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025).
- (e) Electric vehicle battery exchange station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025).
- (f) Other accessory use or structure that is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director. (Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

22.48.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Essential public facility, as determined by FMC 22.58.022. Excludes family and general group homes and includes correctional group homes.
- (b) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (c) Personal wireless service facility for which a variance is required (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (d) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

22.48.005 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

- (a) Outdoor sidewalk cafe or other food- or beverage-serving facility or establishment, when located on a public sidewalk or other public right-of-way area (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.017).
- (b) Establishment licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to serve liquor for on-premises consumption in an outdoor customer seating area (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.029).
- (c) Drive-up or drive-through facility established prior to effective date of the ordinance codified in this section (modifications subject to compliance with FMC 22.60.012 and 22.64.043).

(d) Light industrial uses including: engineering-oriented pursuits such as electronics, robotics, 3-D printing, and the use of computer numerical control (CNC) tools; metalworking, woodworking, and traditional arts and crafts; small-scale assembly and manufacturing of products using processed materials that do not have the potential to create a nuisance for adjoining land uses; wholesale sale of products manufactured on site; and technological and biotechnological uses, including scientific research, testing and experimental development laboratories.

(e) Outdoor seasonal sales, such as Christmas tree or pumpkin patch lots, or other outdoor special event sales.

(f) Personal wireless service facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).

(g) Permanent supportive housing.

(h) Transitional housing.

(i) Emergency shelters.

(j) Emergency housing. (Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

22.48.006 Prohibited uses.

The following uses are prohibited:

(a) Vehicle wrecking yard.

(b) Impound yard.

(c) Junk or salvage yard.

(d) Mini-storage or mini-warehouse.

(e) Service station or vehicle repair.

(f) New drive-up or drive-through facility. (Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

22.48.007 Development standards.

Residential density	Determined through project compliance with development standards.
Building placement	See form-based building standards in Chapter 22.57 FMC.
Minimum height/number of stories	25 feet/2 stories above grade.
Maximum height/number of stories	50 feet/4 stories above grade.
Form-based standards	See Chapter 22.57 FMC.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards and guidelines	See Chapter 22.64 FMC. See also multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with 0.50 being rounded up.</i>	

The Firecrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(Ord. 1667 § 9, 2020).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.50

MIXED-USE URBAN DISTRICT (MUU)

Sections:

- 22.50.001 Purpose.
- 22.50.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.50.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.50.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.50.005 *Repealed.*
- 22.50.006 Administrative uses.
- 22.50.007 Prohibited uses.
- 22.50.008 Development standards.

22.50.001 Purpose.

The MUU zoning district is intended to implement the comprehensive plan's mixed-use land use designation. This district provides opportunities for a broad mix of retail and office uses, personal, professional and business services, institutions, recreational and cultural uses, residential uses, and other facilities that provide services for the needs of nearby residents and businesses and the surrounding community. Development standards support higher density residential development and more intense commercial development compared to the MUN zoning district. In addition, the MUU district provides limited opportunities for light industrial activities that enhance the city's economic base and provide employment for residents in the area in a manner that is compatible with neighboring commercial and residential uses. Site and building design support pedestrian, bicycle and transit use while accommodating automobiles. Applicable form-based code standards require new development to establish a fine-grained street grid and block pattern as properties redevelop. Community greens, squares, plazas, and other publicly accessible spaces are incorporated into mixed-use developments that include a variety of complementary uses. High quality architecture, landscaping, streetscape, artwork, and other public amenities contribute to making the area inviting, attractive, functional, and vibrant for residents, employees, and visitors alike. (Ord. 1667 § 11, 2020; Ord. 1562 § 27, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 11, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 11, 2000).

22.50.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to compliance with form-based standards in accordance with Chapter 22.57 FMC, site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Commercial use, including retail, service, office, financial institution, fitness center and food-serving establishment.
- (b) Microbeverage production facility, including microbrewery, microdistillery and microwinery.
- (c) Culturally enriching use, including art gallery, dance studio, library, museum, live theater venue, and senior center.
- (d) Laboratory, including medical, dental, and optical.
- (e) Civic, labor, social, and fraternal organization.
- (f) Veterinary clinic, with treatment and storage of animals within an enclosed building.
- (g) Entertainment and recreation facility (indoor only).
- (h) Automobile, recreational vehicle, and boat sales or rental, new or used (indoor showroom only).
- (i) Child day-care center.
- (j) Preschool, accredited, public or private.

The Firecrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- (k) Lodging.
- (l) Religious institution.
- (m) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (n) Live-work unit and multifamily dwelling.
- (o) Assisted living facility, including congregate care facility, convalescent home, hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility.
- (p) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure, or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1667 § 12, 2020; Ord. 1611 § 12, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 28, 2015; Ord. 1325 § 2, 2003; Ord. 1311 § 12, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 11, 2000).

22.50.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.50.002:

- (a) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (b) Home occupation – Type I and Type II (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.013).
- (c) Family day-care facility (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.010).
- (d) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025).
- (e) Electric vehicle battery exchange station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025).
- (f) Other accessory use or structure that is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director. (Ord. 1667 § 13, 2020; Ord. 1562 § 29, 2015; Ord. 1509 § 10, 2011; Ord. 1311 § 13, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 11, 2000).

22.50.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Service station established prior to effective date of the ordinance codified in this section.
- (b) Adult entertainment establishment (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.014).
- (c) Essential public facility, as determined by FMC 22.58.022. Excludes family and general group homes and includes correctional group homes.
- (d) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation.
- (e) Personal wireless service facility for which a variance is required (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (f) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1667 § 14, 2020; Ord. 1611 § 13, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 30, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 14, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 11, 2000).

22.50.005 Conditional uses – Light industrial lots.

Repealed by Ord. 1562. (Ord. 1518 § 1, 2011; Ord. 1311 § 15, 2002).

22.50.006 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

- (a) Outdoor sidewalk cafe or other food- or beverage-serving facility or establishment, when located on a public sidewalk or other public right-of-way area (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.017).
- (b) Establishment licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to serve liquor for on-premises consumption in an outdoor customer seating area (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.029).
- (c) Drive-up or drive-through facility established prior to effective date of the ordinance codified in this section (modifications subject to compliance with FMC 22.60.012 and 22.64.043).
- (d) Light industrial uses including: engineering-oriented pursuits such as electronics, robotics, 3-D printing, and the use of computer numerical control (CNC) tools; metalworking, woodworking, and traditional arts and crafts; small-scale assembly and manufacturing of products using processed materials that do not have the potential to create a nuisance for adjoining land uses; wholesale sale of products manufactured on site; and technological and biotechnological uses, including scientific research, testing and experimental development laboratories.
- (e) Outdoor seasonal sales, such as Christmas tree or pumpkin patch lots, or other outdoor special event sales.
- (f) Personal wireless service facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- [\(g\) Permanent supportive housing.](#)
- [\(h\) Transitional housing.](#)
- [\(i\) Emergency shelters.](#)
- [\(j\) Emergency housing.](#) (Ord. 1667 § 15, 2020; Ord. 1611 § 14, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 32, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 16, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 11, 2000. Formerly 22.50.005).

22.50.007 Prohibited uses.

The following uses are prohibited:

- (a) Vehicle wrecking yard.
- (b) Impound yard.
- (c) Junk or salvage yard.
- (d) Mini-storage or mini-warehouse.
- (e) New service station or vehicle repair.
- (f) New drive-up or drive-through facility. (Ord. 1667 § 16, 2020; Ord. 1611 § 15, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 33, 2015; Ord. 1518 § 2, 2011; Ord. 1518 § 2, 2011; Ord. 1311 § 17, 2002).

22.50.008 Development standards.

Residential density	Determined through project compliance with development standards.
Building placement	See form-based building standards in Chapter 22.57 FMC.
Minimum height/number of stories	35 feet/3 stories above grade.

The Firecrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Maximum height/number of stories	80 feet/7 stories above grade.
Form-based standards	See Chapter 22.57 FMC.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.
Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards and guidelines	See Chapter 22.64 FMC. See also multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with 0.50 being rounded up.</i>	

(Ord. 1667 § 17, 2020; Ord. 1611 § 16, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 34, 2015; Ord. 1536 § 1, 2013; Ord. 1311 § 18, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 11, 2000. Formerly 22.50.006).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.56

GOLF COURSE DISTRICT (GC)

Sections:

- 22.56.001 Purpose.
- 22.56.002 Permitted uses.
- 22.56.003 Accessory uses.
- 22.56.004 Conditional uses.
- 22.56.005 Administrative uses.
- 22.56.006 Master plans.
- 22.56.007 Development standards.

22.56.001 Purpose.

The GC zoning district is intended to implement the Comprehensive Plan's Parks, Recreation and Open Space land use designation. The GC district aims to protect and preserve the open space qualities of lands that are currently developed or planned for golf course uses. The district allows for a mix of active golf-related recreational facilities and supporting infrastructure in a manner consistent with the policies of the Comprehensive Plan. Master plans are encouraged for recreational uses and required for residential uses that exceed the size thresholds provided in FMC 22.56.002(b) and (c). (Ord. 1575 § 12, 2016; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

22.56.002 Permitted uses.

Uses permitted subject to site plan approval in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC and/or administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Golf course facilities including, but not limited to: clubhouse, maintenance facility, pro shop, driving range, and other recreational facilities.
- (b) Duplex dwellings, subject to master plan approval if occupying greater than five percent of the total GC district area. Detached single-family dwellings may be included in a duplex development provided they do not exceed 10 percent of the total number of units within the development.
- (c) Small lot and multifamily development subject to compliance with small lot and multifamily design standards and guidelines adopted by reference in Chapter 22.63 FMC, and subject to master plan approval if occupying greater than five percent of the total GC district area.
- (d) Cottage housing subject to compliance with cottage housing standards in FMC 22.58.027.
- (e) Family group home, including adult family home.
- (f) Necessary public or quasi-public utility building, structure or equipment, unstaffed and less than or equal to 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Excludes substation. (Ord. 1575 § 13, 2016; Ord. 1562 § 35, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

22.56.003 Accessory uses.

Uses permitted in conjunction with, or accessory to, a principal use permitted in FMC 22.56.002:

- (a) Temporary accessory use or structure (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.015).
- (b) Other accessory use or structure which is subordinate and incidental to a principally permitted use, as determined by the director.
- (c) Electric vehicle charging station (subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.025). (Ord. 1509 § 12, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

22.56.004 Conditional uses.

Uses permitted subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC and administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC:

- (a) Personal wireless telecommunications facility which exceeds one or more standards set forth in Chapter 22.24 FMC.
- (b) Necessary public or quasi-public structure or equipment greater than 500 square feet in gross floor area (subject to compliance with landscape standards in Chapter 22.62 FMC). Includes substations existing on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section.
- (c) A use not listed above which: is not listed in another zoning district as a permitted or conditional use; is similar in nature to the above list of permitted and conditional uses; is consistent with the purpose and intent of this zoning district; and is compatible with the uses on adjoining properties. (Ord. 1638 § 23, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

22.56.005 Administrative uses.

Uses permitted subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC:

- (a) Personal wireless service facility (subject to compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC).
- (b) Nonresidential uses otherwise subject to site plan or conditional use permit approval which have been authorized by the hearing examiner as part of a master plan pursuant to FMC 22.56.006.
- (c) Permanent supportive housing.
- (d) Transitional housing. (Ord. 1638 § 24, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

22.56.006 Master plans.

In order to encourage effective long-range planning efforts for facilities intended to be developed over an extended period of time, and to allow for streamlined review of individual improvements, a master plan for the golf club may be submitted for processing as a major site plan in accordance with Chapter 22.72 FMC. Upon approval of a master plan, individual uses that would otherwise be subject to site plan or conditional use permit approval in this chapter, and which are determined by the director to be consistent with the approved master plan, may be approved in accordance with the administrative use permit review process contained in Chapter 22.70 FMC. No additional site plan or conditional use permit approval is required for these previously authorized uses. If a proposed individual use represents a substantial modification to, or departure from, the approved master plan, the proposal shall be processed as a site plan amendment in accordance with FMC 22.72.012. (Ord. 1575 § 14, 2016; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

22.56.007 Development standards.

Maximum height	To be determined through the site plan or master plan review process – see Chapter 22.72 FMC.
Minimum setback for yards abutting the exterior boundary of the golf course property	20 feet.
Minimum setback for other yards	To be determined through the site plan or master plan review process – see Chapter 22.72 FMC.
Maximum impervious surface coverage	To be determined through the site plan or master plan review process – see Chapter 22.72 FMC. See low impact development regulations in FMC 22.58.008(k), Stormwater Management.
Additional specific use and structure regulations	See Chapter 22.58 FMC.
Parking and circulation	See Chapter 22.60 FMC.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Landscaping regulations	See Chapter 22.62 FMC.
Design standards	See Chapter 22.64 FMC.
Signs	See Chapter 22.26 FMC.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

(Ord. 1575 § 15, 2016; Ord. 1246 § 14, 2000).

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.58

SPECIFIC USE AND STRUCTURE REGULATIONS

Sections:

- 22.58.001 Purpose.
- 22.58.002 Setback and yard determination.
- 22.58.003 Accessory buildings.
- 22.58.004 Fences, walls and hedges.
- 22.58.005 Clear vision triangle.
- 22.58.006 Garage placement and width.
- 22.58.007 Height exceptions.
- 22.58.008 Performance standards.
- 22.58.009 Manufactured homes.
- 22.58.010 Family day-care facilities.
- 22.58.011 Short-term rental establishments.
- 22.58.012 Accessory dwelling units (ADUs).
- 22.58.013 Home occupations.
- 22.58.014 Adult entertainment establishments.
- 22.58.015 Temporary accessory structures and uses.
- 22.58.016 *Repealed.*
- 22.58.017 Sidewalk cafes.
- 22.58.018 Outdoor lighting.
- 22.58.019 Social card games.
- 22.58.020 Development agreement.
- 22.58.021 Voluntary agreement.
- 22.58.022 Siting of essential public facilities.
- 22.58.023 Nonconforming lots, uses and structures.
- 22.58.024 Outdoor storage of vehicles.
- 22.58.025 Electric vehicle charging stations.
- 22.58.026 Floor area ratio (FAR) standards.
- 22.58.027 Cottage housing.
- 22.58.028 Lot development standards.
- 22.58.029 Establishments serving liquor for on-premises consumption.
- 22.58.030 Permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, emergency shelters.

22.58.001 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to list those regulations which apply to specific circumstances and those detailed regulations which are applicable to more than one zoning district. The regulations below are to be considered in addition to standards and design guidelines located in specific land use district chapters. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.002 Setback and yard determination.

(a) Measurement. All setbacks shall be measured perpendicular to the nearest property line.

(b) Permitted Encroachments into Required Residential Yards.

(1) Belt courses, canopies, cornices, eaves, chimneys, sills, sunshades, and similar architectural features may extend two feet into any yard, provided a minimum three-foot setback is maintained. Overhead projections shall provide at least seven and one-half feet of unobstructed vertical clearance above grade.

(2) Bay windows and similar features that increase floor area or enclosed space may extend two feet into any yard, provided a minimum three-foot setback is maintained from the property line. Overhead projections shall provide at least seven and one-half feet of unobstructed vertical clearance above grade. Encroaching bay windows shall not extend horizontally across more than 50 percent of the linear wall surface to which they are affixed. The maximum length of each bay shall be 10 feet and the minimum horizontal separation between bays

shall be five feet. Bay windows shall not encroach into yards at any other level than the story on which the window openings or glazings are located, except that ornamental brackets or canopies may be approved through administrative design review.

(3) A covered, unenclosed porch of a principal residential structure may encroach up to six feet into a required front yard. An existing legal nonconforming porch and connecting staircase may be reconstructed with an encroachment beyond six feet into a front yard if they generally conform to the original design and footprint.

(4) Uncovered patios, decks, stairs and landings may encroach into required yards based on their height above finished grade or floor level, as follows:

Height Above Finished Grade or Floor Level	Permitted Encroachment
≤ 12 inches above finished grade	May extend to property lines.
> 12 inches and ≤ 30 inches above finished grade	10 feet into required front and rear yards, 6 feet into side street side yards, and 2 feet into interior side yards.
> 30 inches and ≤ floor level of first floor	6 feet into required front and rear yards.
> floor level of first floor	None allowed.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

(5) Uncovered wheelchair ramps or other structures providing disabled access may encroach into any required yard as long as the access structure provides continuous access from the street or parking area to an entrance of the structure that it is designed to serve. The encroachment shall be the minimum necessary to provide safe and adequate access and shall be subject to administrative design review.

(6) Balconies that are less than or equal to 50 square feet in area, have no exterior access, and are cantilevered or supported from the structure, may extend three feet into a required front, rear or side street side yard. The balcony shall not project more than six feet from the supporting wall to the furthest outward extension. Overhead projections shall provide at least seven and one-half feet of unobstructed vertical clearance above grade. Any balcony that does not meet the above criteria shall be considered an uncovered porch subject to the standards in subsection (b)(4) of this section.

(7) A detached accessory building, including but not limited to a garage, carport or garden shed, may be located in a required side or rear yard, subject to the specific standards specified in FMC 22.58.003.

(8) A fence meeting the standards specified in FMC 22.58.004 may be located in a required yard. Fences exceeding these height limits must be located within the allowable building envelope for the principal residential structure.

(9) Arbors, pergolas, trellises and similar structures, either freestanding or attached to a principal or accessory building, may be constructed in any required yard; provided, that a minimum three-foot setback is maintained. A structural connection between these structures and a fence located at or near a property line is permitted, provided the connecting structure does not exceed the height limit that applies to a fence in the required yard.

(10) Porches, patio covers, gazebos and similar covered, unenclosed structures may be constructed in a required rear yard; provided, that a minimum 10-foot rear setback and a standard side yard setback are maintained.

(11) Swimming pools and spas (above and in ground) and related equipment, fish ponds, stationary barbecues, children's play equipment, and HVAC equipment, may be placed in any required side or rear yard; provided, that a minimum three-foot setback is maintained.

(12) Flagpoles may be placed within any required yard; provided, that a minimum five-foot setback is maintained.

(c) Setback Reduction for Residential Front Yard. A required front yard setback for a principal residential structure may be decreased to a depth that is equal to the average of the setbacks of existing principal residential structures on the adjoining parcels having the same frontage. In computing the average, any adjoining setback greater than the required front yard shall be considered the same as the required front yard setback. In the absence of a principal residential structure on an adjoining parcel, the parcel shall be considered to have a setback equal to the required front yard. In computing the average for corner lots, the adjoining setback on the side street side shall be the same as the required front yard. For each foot of front yard setback reduction, the rear yard setback shall be increased a corresponding distance from the minimum required setback.

(d) Setback from Adjoining Half-Street or Designated Arterial. In addition to providing the standard setback from a property line abutting a street, a lot adjoining a half-street or designated arterial shall provide an additional width of street setback sufficient to accommodate construction of the planned half-street or arterial.

(e) Common Boundary Exception to Setback Requirements. When the common boundary line separating two contiguous lots in any zoning district is covered by a single building or permitted group of buildings, these lots shall constitute a single building site and the setback required by this title shall not apply to the common boundary line.

(f) Special Side Yard Setback Restriction. When the side lot line of a lot in any zoning district adjoins the side lot line of a lot in a more restrictive district, then the adjoining side yard setback for this lot shall not be less than the minimum side yard setback required in the more restrictive district.

(g) Setbacks for Personal Wireless Telecommunication Facilities. See Chapter 22.24 FMC.

(h) Setbacks for Amateur or Citizen Band Transmitters. Support structure setback is equal to overall height of support structure plus height of antenna array. Support structures are prohibited in front yards.

(i) Setback for Flag Lot Front Yards. The front yard setback for a flag lot shall be a minimum of 10 feet measured from the nearest parallel or nearly parallel lot line adjacent to the front facade of the dwelling. See Figure 1.

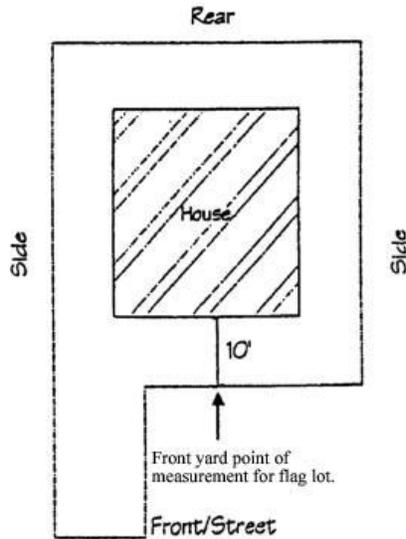


Figure 1

(Ord. 1562 § 36, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.003 Accessory buildings.

(a) One or more detached accessory buildings, including, but not limited to, garages, carports, garden sheds, greenhouses and other similar structures, may be constructed on a parcel containing a principal residential structure, subject to the following standards:

Maximum building footprint area	600 sf.
Maximum lot coverage	10% of the lot area or 1,000 sf, whichever is less, for all accessory buildings combined on a single lot.
Maximum building height	18 feet at top of ridge and 10 feet at top of wall.
Minimum front yard setback	Same as specified for principal residential structure.
Minimum interior side yard setback	5 feet.
Minimum side street side yard setback on a corner lot	Same as specified for principal residential structure if building permit required, otherwise 5 feet.
Minimum rear yard setback	5 feet.
Minimum setback from "rear" lot line of a "through lot"	Same as specified for required front yard for principal residential structure if building permit required, otherwise 5 feet.
Minimum setback from alley	5 feet. Vehicle access points from garages, carports or fenced parking areas shall be set back from the alley

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	property line to provide a straight-line separation of at least 22 feet from the access point to the opposite property line of the alley. No portion of the garage or the door in motion may cross the property line abutting the alley.
Minimum separation from principal residential structure	5 feet. Note: the building code may require additional separation based on construction design.
<i>Calculations resulting in a fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with .50 being rounded up.</i>	

(b) Exceptions to Building Footprint Area, Height and Lot Coverage Limits. The director may grant an administrative use permit for a building that exceeds the building footprint, height or lot coverage standards listed in subsection (a) of this section if it finds that:

- (1) The building and its use will not significantly impact adjoining properties;
- (2) The architecture will incorporate exterior finish materials and design elements consistent with, or superior to, that of the principal residential structure on the property;
- (3) The building will fit the character of the neighborhood;
- (4) The architecture complies with the city’s design guidelines;
- (5) The building footprint will not exceed 800 square feet, and the building height will not exceed 21 feet at the top of ridge or 12 feet at the top of wall; and
- (6) The combined building footprints of existing and proposed accessory buildings on the same lot will not exceed 1,000 square feet.

(c) Determination of Attached Versus Detached Status for Garages. A garage that is connected to a principal residential structure by an architecturally integrated, covered breezeway is classified as an attached garage if the separation between the parallel walls of the garage and principal structure does not exceed eight feet. For purposes of determining allowable setbacks, height and lot coverage, an attached garage is treated as if it were part of the principal structure. If the separation between the parallel walls of a garage and principal structure exceeds eight feet, the garage is classified as a detached building subject to the accessory building standards listed in this section. (Ord. 1616 § 1, 2018; Ord. 1562 § 37, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 26, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.004 Fences, walls and hedges.

(a) Fences and walls located within a required yard in a residential zoning district shall not exceed the following height limits:

- (1) Front yard: four feet.
- (2) Side street side yard: six feet.
- (3) Interior side and rear yard: six feet plus one foot of lattice or other material with a surface area that is no more than 50 percent opaque. See Figure 2.
- (4) Clear vision triangle: two feet, six inches above centerline grades of intersecting streets when a surface area is more than 50 percent opaque (see FMC 22.58.005).

(b) Fences and walls located in a residential zoning district may exceed the preceding height limits if located outside of required yards or within the allowable building envelope for the principal residential structure. Fences and walls may also exceed the limits specified in subsections (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this section if they are intended to enclose public school grounds, parks, playgrounds, substations, wells or other municipal installations.

(c) Fences and walls located within a commercial or industrial zoning district may exceed the height limits specified in subsection (a) of this section, provided the fence or wall design complies with the city's design guidelines.

(d) Fence height is measured from the ground level where placed or from a retaining wall to the top of the fence, excluding posts. On sloping properties where a fence is constructed of sections which are terraced to match the terrain, fence height shall be the average of the high and low points of each fence section. In such instances, portions of the fence may exceed the maximum allowable height; provided, that the average height of the fence section does not exceed the maximum height.

(e) Solid fences or walls higher than two feet within the front yard are prohibited; this does not include hedges. Front yard fences and walls shall have a surface area that is no more than 50 percent opaque. See Figure 2.

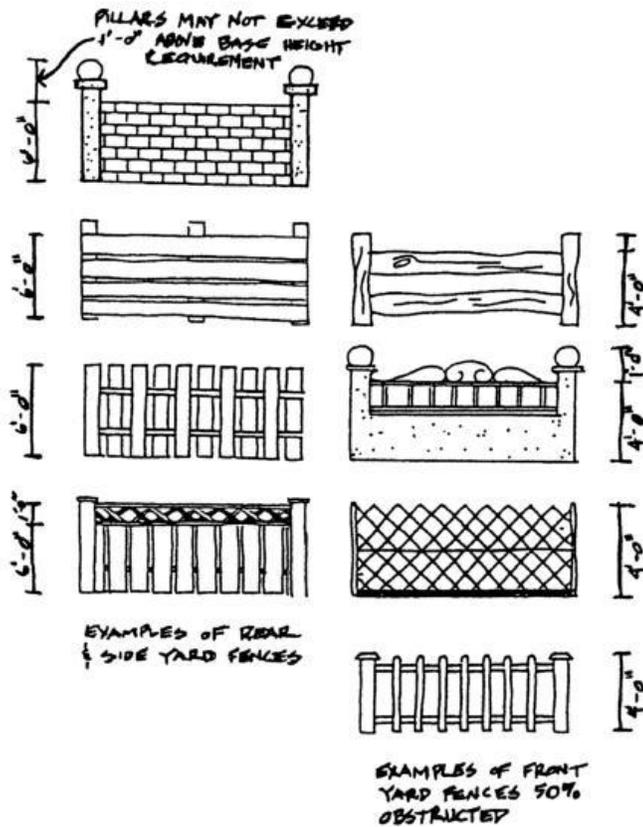


Figure 2

(f) Fence pillars or posts may project a maximum of one foot above maximum fence height.

(g) An administrative exception may be granted to allow the front yard fence height to exceed the four-foot height limit in subsection (a)(1) of this section if the director finds that:

- (1) The principal residential structure existing on the lot at the time of application encroaches into the required front yard.
- (2) The proposed fence will not encroach into the required front yard any further than the existing principal residential structure.
- (3) The fence will not exceed a maximum height of six feet plus one foot of lattice or other material with a surface area that is no more than 50 percent opaque. See Figure 2.
- (4) The fence will not be located within a clear vision triangle.

(h) Fences and walls shall not be located within a public street right-of-way unless a right-of-way encroachment permit is granted by the city. The request shall be processed as a Type 2 permit project application in accordance with Chapter 22.05 FMC. In order to grant a right-of-way encroachment permit, the city shall adopt written findings showing the following criteria are met by the proposal:

- (1) The fence or wall will comply with clear vision triangle standards, if applicable.
- (2) The placement of the fence or wall will not interfere with underground utilities.
- (3) The fence or wall will not compromise public safety by restricting the ability of sidewalk users to avoid conflicts with competing users of the sidewalk.
- (4) The property owner will be able to obtain and maintain insurance coverage in the event that a claim is filed relating to the fence or wall. The coverage will be provided at a level determined to be acceptable by the risk manager and city attorney, and the property owner will provide documentation of coverage annually to the city.
- (5) The property owner shall, by written agreement to be recorded with the Pierce County auditor, indemnify and hold harmless the city for any claim filed against the property owner for any action or cause for damages that may occur as a result of the encroachment.

(i) All private swimming pools, wading pools, spas and hot tubs shall be provided with a fence or wall to prevent unauthorized access. See FMC 12.04.020(a) for specific standards.

(j) A fence permit is required for all fences located in required front yards, side street side yards, yards adjoining through-lot street frontages, and clear vision triangles.

(k) Hedges are allowed in all required yards subject to the following height limits:

- (1) Front yard, interior side yard, side street side yard, and rear yard equals no limit.
- (2) Clear vision triangle equals two feet, six inches above centerline grades of intersecting streets. (Ord. 1562 § 38, 2015; Ord. 1469 § 1, 2009; Ord. 1438 § 1, 2007; Ord. 1417 § 1, 2006; Ord. 1311 § 27, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.005 Clear vision triangle.

(a) All corner lots located in zoning districts that require a front and side yard shall maintain a clear vision triangle at the intersection of two streets for the purpose of public safety. A clear vision triangle shall also be maintained at the intersection of a street and alley or driveway. No building, structure, object or growth between a height of two feet, six inches and eight feet above the centerline grades of the intersecting streets shall be allowed within these triangles.

(b) The clear vision triangle at a street intersection shall be determined by measuring 20 feet along both street property lines beginning at their point of intersection. The third side of the triangle shall be a line connecting the endpoints of the first two sides of the triangle. See Figure 3.

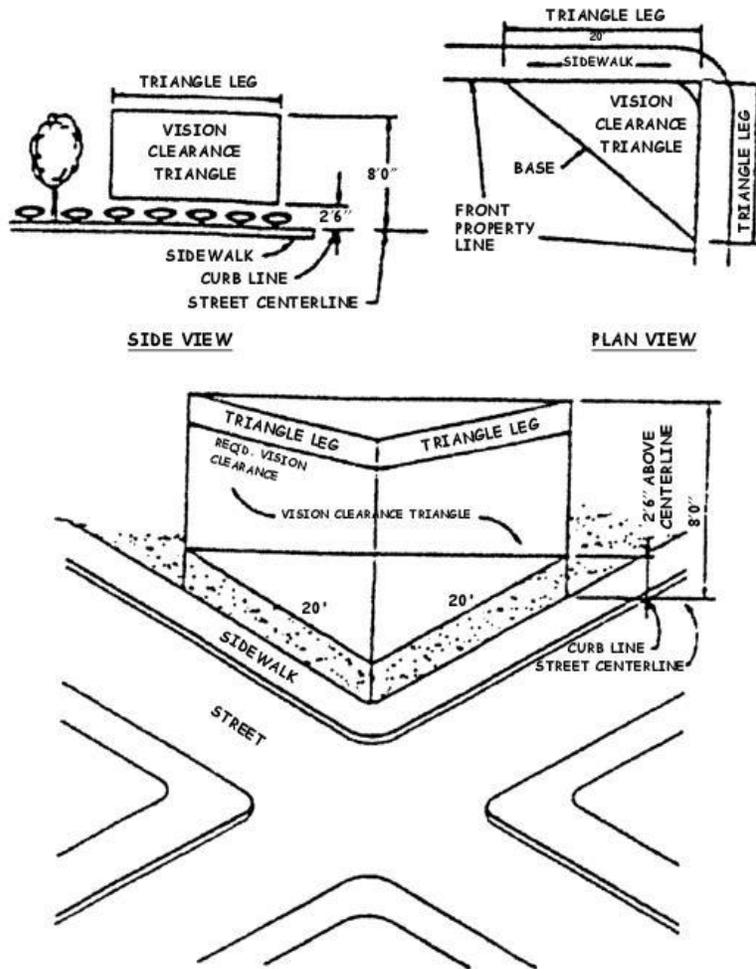


Figure 3

(c) The clear vision triangle at the intersection of a street and alley or driveway shall be determined by measuring 10 feet along the street property line and 10 feet along the edges of the alley or driveway beginning at the respective points of intersection. The third side of the triangle shall be a line connecting the endpoints of the first two sides of the triangle. See Figure 3.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(d) The city engineer may allow alteration of the clear vision triangle. This alteration is contingent on unusual site topography, proposed site design features, and other unique circumstances pertaining solely to the site and surrounding properties. The city engineer shall make written findings that the alteration does not constitute a traffic or pedestrian safety hazard.

(e) Street lights, power poles, traffic signs, or other similar street fixtures less than one-foot wide or other objects above eight feet in height above the adjacent street elevation shall be allowed in the clear vision triangle unless the city engineer determines that, individually or cumulatively, they would pose a public safety hazard. The city engineer may authorize other objects in the clear vision triangle that do not comply with this standard if he/she determines that they would not pose a risk to public safety. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.006 Garage placement and width.

(a) The following standards apply to garages attached to single-family, duplex and multifamily dwelling units:

(1) Projection. A garage with doors which face a front yard shall not project in front of the dwelling unit's facade; provided, that a garage may project in front of the habitable portion of the dwelling unit if a covered porch projects the same or greater distance.

(2) Door Width. Garage doors which face a front yard or a side street side yard shall not exceed 33 percent of the lot width or 18 feet, whichever is less. Individual single bay doors shall not exceed a width of nine feet.

(3) Garage Width. A garage with garage doors that face a front yard or side street side yard shall not exceed 50 percent of the building line or 24 feet, whichever is greater, unless it is designed to appear as habitable space through the use of residential architectural features (see FMC 22.64.023(b)).

(b) Garages attached to dwelling units located on the following types of lots are exempt from the standards listed in subsection (a) of this section:

(1) Flag lots (see FMC 22.98.393, Definitions).

(2) Lots where topography or significant tree retention precludes compliance with the provisions of this section, as determined by the director.

(3) Lots within planned developments granted preliminary development plan approval prior to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section.

(4) Lots within subdivisions where at least 75 percent of the lots located on the same block face and the block face directly across the street, within 300 feet of the subject property, are occupied by dwelling units with garages which project beyond the facade or which have a garage width or garage door width which exceeds the standards listed in this section.

(5) Undeveloped lots of record existing prior to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section that are provided vehicular access solely via a substandard private road having one outlet. (Ord. 1417 § 10, 2006; Ord. 1272 § 7, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.007 Height exceptions.

(a) Height exceptions to the applicable zoning district limit shall be limited to the minimum necessary for the intended use. Chimneys, steeples, flag poles, skylights, mechanical equipment and associated screening, fire parapet walls, widow's walk or other similar item required for building operation or maintenance, and tanks and towers required for public utility purposes may be erected above the required height limit provided they meet the structural requirements of the city.

(b) A residential amateur or citizen band antenna array and support structure may be erected up to the minimum height necessary for reception purposes. If a resident proposes a height greater than 45 feet, the city shall require the applicant to submit certification from a qualified and licensed engineer that the proposed height is the minimum necessary for reception purposes. For a proposed height greater than 55 feet, the city shall, at the applicant's expense, hire a qualified and licensed engineer to review the applicant's submittal.

(c) A public or quasi-public utility pole or structure may be erected to a height necessary for proper use. For proposed structures above 45 feet, the city shall require the applicant to submit certification from a qualified and licensed engineer that the proposed height is the minimum necessary for utility purposes. For a proposed height greater than 55 feet, the city shall, at the applicant's expense, hire a qualified and licensed engineer to review the applicant's submittal.

(d) A personal wireless service facility may exceed the applicable zoning district height limit provided it is installed in compliance with Chapter 22.24 FMC. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.008 Performance standards.

In addition to the specific requirements within the applicable zoning district chapter, the following performance standards shall apply:

(a) **Objectionable Elements.** No land or building shall be used or occupied in any manner to create any dangerous, injurious, noxious, or otherwise objectionable element. An objectionable element may include, but is not limited to, excessive noise, vibration, glare, smoke, dust, or odor.

(b) **Enclosure of Activities.** Unless authorized by the applicable zoning district, all home occupation, commercial and industrial activities shall be conducted within an enclosed structure, except for customary accessory appurtenances, such as refuse collection containers screened from public view, parking and loading areas.

(c) **Outside Storage.** Unless authorized by the applicable zoning district, outside storage of material for commercial and industrial uses is prohibited. An outside storage area shall not exceed 20 percent of lot area and shall be screened from view from any property line. Outside storage shall be restricted to the area at the rear of a principal building. The outside storage area shall be enclosed by a fence greater than or equal to eight feet in height. Outside storage exceeding a height of eight feet shall be set back from the property line a distance of at least twice the height of material being stored. The height of outside storage shall not exceed twice the height of the fence in this subsection. Outside storage of junk or wrecked vehicles is prohibited. Outside storage of inoperable vehicles may be permitted in residential districts subject to compliance with FMC 22.58.024.

(d) **Refuse Collection Containers.** For multifamily, mixed-use, or nonresidential structures and uses, all outdoor refuse collection containers (including recycling containers) shall be completely screened from public or private streets and from adjacent property by an opaque screen. Masonry block wall, decorative metal, or other high-quality durable materials shall be used for the screen. Chain link with slats shall not be used. Where space allows, evergreen shrubs and other landscaping shall be installed to soften the visual impact of the screening enclosure. Refuse storage areas that are visible from the upper stories of adjacent structures shall have an opaque or semi-opaque horizontal cover or screen to mitigate unsightly views. The covering structure shall be compatible with the site's architecture. If required by the sanitary sewer service provider, the trash enclosure floor shall be designed to slope to an interior trapped area floor drain and connected to a grease interceptor before plumbing to the sanitary sewer system. The floor shall be designed to contain all interior runoff and not allow outside storm rain or runoff from entering the trash enclosure. The storage of animal or vegetable waste that may attract insects or rodents or otherwise create a potential health hazard is prohibited. Properties undergoing substantial improvement as defined in FMC 22.98.697, a change in building code classification, or a change in use shall install new screening or upgrade any existing collection container facilities that do not meet the standards of this section to ensure code consistency upon completion of the redevelopment. A change from one tenant to another that neither triggers a change in building code classification nor represents a change in use will not require new screening or an upgrade to an existing enclosure. For multi-tenant structures, the city's determination as to whether improvement to an individual tenant space is considered to be a substantial improvement will be based on the value of the improvements relative to the assessed valuation of the tenant space, or a comparable judgment if an individual tenant space assessment is unavailable.

(e) **Maintenance of Yards and Open Space.** All required structures, yards, parking areas and other open areas on site shall be maintained in a neat and orderly manner at all times appropriate for the zoning district. Yards and open areas shall be maintained, as the responsibility of the property owner, free of any hazards to health or safety. Except for permitted earth-disturbing activity, all ground areas shall be maintained in a manner ensuring that the natural or landscaped vegetation or permitted impervious surfaces provide a durable and dust-free covering at all times. Dumping or storage of junk or debris, including junk vehicles or wrecked vehicles, is prohibited.

(f) Utilities. For new development, or existing development which is being expanded by greater than or equal to 50 percent of its existing gross floor area, all utilities shall be located underground; provided, that electrical lines of 50,000 volts or greater may be placed aboveground. The construction of a new single-family residence on an infill lot located within a subdivision where electric service is typically provided from an overhead location may be exempted from this requirement by the public works director if he/she determines that the undergrounding of electric facilities for this lot would be impractical.

(g) Screening of Mechanical Equipment. All roof-mounted air conditioning or heating equipment, vents or ducts shall not be visible from the ground level of any abutting parcel or any public rights-of-way. This shall be accomplished through the extension of the main structure or roof or screening in a manner that is architecturally integrated with the main structure. The screening may require acoustical treatment to mitigate noise generation.

(h) Barbed or Razor Wire. Barbed, razor or similar security wire may be authorized by the city for municipal facilities, if the fence on which the wire is placed will be effectively screened by landscaping. Barbed or razor wire is prohibited in all other locations and zoning districts.

(i) Erosion and Sedimentation. A temporary erosion and sedimentation control plan detailing measures for controlling erosion and sediment-laden runoff shall be submitted for approval by the director prior to issuance of a clearing and grading permit or other construction permit for a project. Measures shall include provisions to remove depositions of soil and material from streets and to prevent discharge of soil and materials onto adjoining properties or environmentally sensitive areas. The plan shall be implemented by the applicant before and during construction, and the applicant's performance shall be monitored by the city. The plan shall be upgraded as deemed necessary by the director to ensure effective control during construction.

(j) Particulates. During site development activities, construction dust and other particulates shall be controlled through frequent watering and/or other dust control measures approved by the director. Reclaimed water shall be used whenever practicable. Soil that is transported in trucks to and from the construction site shall be covered to the extent practicable to prevent particulates from being released.

(k) Stormwater Management. Stormwater facilities shall be designed in accordance with the standards set forth in Chapter 20.24 FMC. Stormwater site plans demonstrating compliance with stormwater management standards shall be submitted for approval by the director and city engineer prior to issuance of site development permits.

(l) Contaminants. During site development activities, all releases of oils, hydraulic fluids, fuels, other petroleum products, paints, solvents, and other deleterious materials shall be contained and removed in a manner that will prevent their discharge to waters and soils of the state. The cleanup of spills shall take precedence over other work on the site. (Ord. 1667 § 19, 2020; Ord. 1640 § 5, 2019; Ord. 1562 § 39, 2015; Ord. 1311 § 28, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.009 Manufactured homes.

A manufactured home is permitted in any zoning district that permits a single-family residence. The placement of a manufactured home is subject to the same zoning regulations and environmental standards that are required for construction of a conventional site-built single-family residence regulated by the International Building Code. A manufactured home shall be permanently set on a foundation, consistent with the foundation requirements for manufactured housing, and shall include a perimeter fascia that looks similar to a foundation for a site-built home, as determined by the director. A manufactured home shall comply with the city's infill housing design guidelines, when applicable. (Ord. 1473 § 4, 2009; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.010 Family day-care facilities.

A family day-care facility shall:

- (a) Comply with all building, fire, safety, health code and business licensing requirements;
- (b) Conform to lot area, coverage, density, setback and lot coverage standards applicable to the zoning district except if the structure is a legal nonconforming structure;
- (c) Be certified by the office of childcare policy licensor as providing a safe passenger loading area;

(d) Comply with Chapter 22.26 FMC, Sign Regulations;

(e) Prior to state licensing, the proposed provider shall submit proof to the director that the provider notified the immediately adjoining property owners about the intent to locate and maintain a family day-care facility. Adequate proof shall consist of a copy of a detailed letter submitted to the adjoining neighbors, along with a signed certification of delivery and/or a written letter from the adjoining neighbors indicating that they have received proper notification. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.011 Short-term rental establishments.

(a) Purpose and Intent. The purpose of this section is to:

- (1) Provide property owners and residents with an opportunity to use their homes to engage in small-scale business activities.
- (2) Protect neighborhood character and stability.
- (3) Establish criteria and standards for the use of residential structures as short-term rentals.

(b) Permit Requirements. A short-term rental establishment may be carried on upon the issuance of a business license pursuant to Chapter 5.04 FMC and the issuance of a short-term rental permit by the director.

(c) Submittal Requirements. Application for a short-term rental permit shall be made upon forms provided by the director, accompanied by a filing fee in accordance with the planning services fee schedule established by council resolution. The application shall be signed by the owner of the property on which the short-term rental activity will occur. The application shall also be signed by the business operator if that person is different from the property owner. The director may require the submittal of a site plan of the premises, floor plans of the residence or accessory building in which the use or activity will take place, and other documentation deemed necessary to process the application. The plans shall clearly indicate the area where the use or activity will take place and any structural alterations intended to accommodate the use or activity.

(d) Short-Term Rental Types Defined. The following definitions apply to the short-term rental types allowed through the provisions of this section:

- (1) "Room rental establishment" means a lodging use, where individual rooms within a single dwelling unit are provided for less than 30 consecutive days for a fee by prearrangement. This shall include bed and breakfast establishments.
- (2) "Dwelling unit rental" means a dwelling unit, typically rented in its entirety, for less than 30 consecutive days for a fee by prearrangement.

(e) Processing Requirements.

- (1) The director shall approve a proposed short-term rental establishment, which complies with all the performance standards set forth in this section, except as provided in subsection (e)(2) of this section. The director may impose conditions of approval to ensure that the activity is conducted in a manner consistent with the standards and purpose and intent of this section.
- (2) A proposed room rental establishment providing more than two bedrooms available for rent is subject to conditional use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC.

(f) Room Rental Establishment Standards.

- (1) Room rentals shall be an incidental or secondary use to the primary use, which is considered to be the principal residential dwelling unit.
- (2) The owner/lessee of the structure shall operate the establishment and reside on site.

(3) Service shall be limited to the rental of bedrooms. Meal service shall be limited to the provision of breakfast or light snacks for registered guests.

(4) A maximum of four bedrooms or suites may be made available for rent. There shall be no expansion in the number of guest rooms beyond the number approved.

(5) No separate or additional kitchens for guests are permitted. Limited cooking facilities shall be allowed inside guestrooms, or inside other rooms that are used solely by guests, such as small microwaves and refrigerators.

(6) Receptions, private parties or similar activities, for which a fee is paid or which are allowable as a condition of room rental, may be permitted upon a determination by the hearing examiner that such activities will not significantly impact the adjoining neighborhood.

(7) One off-street parking space shall be provided on site for each rental bedroom. The number of required off-street spaces may be reduced by the number of spaces available on the street frontage adjoining the parcel upon which the room rental is to be established, if the decision-maker determines that sufficient on-street parking will exist to satisfy parking demand in the neighborhood once the room rental has been established. Any additional off-street parking provided in conjunction with the room rental shall, to the extent possible, be located to the side or rear of the structure housing the room rental in order to minimize visual impacts on the streetscape. Off-street parking shall be designed to reduce impacts on adjoining properties through the installation of vegetative screening and/or fencing. The parking surface and additional driveway surface required to provide access to the parking area shall be constructed of permeable, porous or pervious pavers to achieve low impact development objectives and a superior appearance when compared with conventional asphalt or concrete pavement. For additional off-street parking standards, see Chapter 22.60 FMC.

(8) Certification by the building official that the residence complies with fire and life safety aspects is required. Inspection fee may apply.

(g) Dwelling Unit Rental.

(1) The number of persons per sleeping area shall comply with the International Building Code.

(2) Two off-street parking spaces shall be provided on site.

(h) Other Regulations.

(1) Proof of ownership or approval of property owner is required.

(2) The room rental shall be exempt from the home occupation requirements of FMC 22.58.013.

(3) The exterior appearance of the structure shall maintain its original character.

(4) Signage shall comply with Chapter 22.26 FMC, Sign Regulations.

(5) Permits shall lapse and become void if the establishment ceases operation for 12 consecutive months, applicant named on the permit moves from or sells the site, or the applicant fails to maintain a valid business license. (Ord. 1638 § 25, 2019; Ord. 1604 § 1, 2017; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.012 Accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

(a) Purpose. The purpose of allowing ADUs is to:

(1) Provide homeowners with a means of obtaining, through tenants in either the ADU or the principal unit, rental income, companionship, security, and services.

(2) Add affordable units to the existing housing stock.

(3) Make housing units available to people with income levels that might otherwise preclude them from finding homes within the city.

(4) Develop housing units in single-family neighborhoods that are appropriate for people at a variety of stages in the life cycle.

(5) Protect neighborhood stability, property values, and the single-family residential appearance of the property and neighborhood by ensuring that ADUs are installed under the conditions of this section.

(b) Approval. An attached ADU may be approved by the director subject to administrative design review approval in accordance with Chapter 22.66 FMC, provided the standards and criteria in subsection (c) of this section are met by the proposal. A detached ADU shall be processed as a conditional use, pursuant to Chapter 22.68 FMC.

(c) Standards and Criteria. An ADU shall meet the following standards and criteria:

(1) The design and size of the ADU shall conform to all applicable standards in the building, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, fire, health, and any other applicable codes. When there are practical difficulties in carrying out the provisions of this subsection, the building official may grant modifications for individual cases, provided the intent of the applicable code is met.

(2) An ADU may be attached to, or detached from, the principal unit.

(3) Only one ADU may be created per principal unit.

(4) The property owner, which shall include title holders and contract purchasers, must occupy either the principal unit or the ADU as their permanent residence, but not both, and at no time receive rent for the owner-occupied unit.

(5) An ADU may be developed in either an existing or a new single-family residence.

(6) An attached ADU shall not exceed 800 square feet; provided, if the ADU is completely located on a single floor of a multistory building, the director may allow increased size in order to efficiently use all floor area. A detached ADU shall comply with accessory building size limits and related standards listed in FMC 22.58.003.

(7) An attached ADU shall be designed to maintain the architectural design, style, appearance and character of the principal unit as a single-family residence. If an attached ADU extends beyond the current footprint or existing height of the principal unit, or requires modifications to the exterior of the building, the addition or modifications must be consistent with the existing facade, roof pitch, siding, windows, and other exterior design elements and finish materials. A detached ADU shall use the same design vocabulary as the principal unit to the extent feasible.

(8) Only one entrance is permitted to be located on the front facade of the principal unit. If a separate outside entrance is necessary for an attached ADU, it must be located either on the rear or side of the principal unit. This entrance shall be located in such a manner as to be unobtrusive from the same view of the building that encompasses the main entrance to the principal unit.

(9) No additional off-street parking is required for an ADU unless the director determines that insufficient on-street parking will exist to satisfy parking demand in the neighborhood once the ADU has been occupied. Any additional off-street parking provided in conjunction with the ADU shall, to the extent possible, be located to the side or rear of the principal unit to minimize visual impacts on the streetscape. Off-street parking shall be designed to reduce impacts on adjoining properties through the installation of vegetative screening and/or fencing. The parking surface shall be constructed of a permeable surface such as interlocking paving blocks (cement or plastic) or other porous pavement which minimizes impervious surface and provides a superior appearance when compared with asphalt or concrete paving. For additional off-street parking standards, see Chapter 22.60 FMC.

(10) In order to encourage the development of housing units for people with disabilities, the director may allow reasonable deviation from the requirements of this section when necessary to install features that facilitate accessibility. These facilities shall conform to Washington State regulations for barrier-free facilities.

(11) An ADU shall be connected to the utilities of the principal unit and may not have separate water, sewer and electrical services.

(12) The total number of occupants in both the principal unit and ADU combined may not exceed the maximum number established by the definition of "family" in FMC 22.98.267.

(13) A registration form or other forms required by the director shall be filed as a deed restriction with the Pierce County auditor to indicate the presence of the ADU, the requirement of owner-occupancy, and other standards for maintaining the unit as described above.

(d) Legalization of Nonconforming ADUs. Nonconforming ADUs existing prior to the enactment of these requirements may be found to be legal if the property owner applies for an ADU permit prior to one year after enactment of this section and brings the unit up to minimum housing code standards. No penalty fees or fines will be assessed by the city for legalization submittals made prior to this date. After one year after enactment of this section, an owner of an illegal ADU shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, including all statutory costs, assessments, and fees, plus \$75.00 per day after notice of this violation has been met. An owner of an illegal ADU shall also be required to either legalize the unit or remove it. (Ord. 1575 § 16, 2016; Ord. 1512 § 7, 2011; Ord. 1417 § 2, 2006; Ord. 1311 § 29, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.013 Home occupations.

(a) Purpose and Intent. It is the purpose and intent of this section to:

- (1) Protect residential areas from potential adverse impact of activities defined as home occupations;
- (2) Allow residents of the community a broad choice in the use of their homes as a place of livelihood and for the production or supplementing of personal and family income; and
- (3) Establish criteria and standards for the use of residential structures for home occupations.

(b) Permit Requirement. A home occupation may be carried on upon the issuance of a business license pursuant to Chapter 5.04 FMC and the issuance of a home occupation permit by the director.

(c) Submittal Requirements. Application for a home occupation permit shall be made upon forms provided by the director, accompanied by a filing fee in accordance with the planning services fee schedule established by council resolution. The application shall be signed by the owner of the property on which the home occupation activity will occur. The application shall also be signed by the business operator if that person is different from the property owner. The director may require the submittal of a site plan of the premises, floor plans of the residence or accessory building in which the use or activity will take place, and other documentation deemed necessary to process the application. The plans shall clearly indicate the area where the use or activity will take place and any structural alterations intended to accommodate the use or activity.

(d) Categories of Home Occupation.

(1) Type I home occupations are those activities, categorized below, which comply with all performance standards set forth in subsection (f) of this section.

(A) Type I-A includes home offices, internet businesses, and similar activities that have no traffic or product pickup or deliveries.

(B) Type I-B includes instruction, counseling, sales, services, and other activities that have customer traffic and/or product pickup or deliveries.

(2) Type II home occupations are those activities which do not comply with one or more of the performance standards governing Type I home occupations as set forth in subsection (f) of this section but which do comply

with the performance standards governing Type II home occupations as set forth in subsection (g) of this section.

(e) Processing Requirements.

(1) The director shall approve a proposed home occupation, which complies with all Type I standards set forth in subsection (f) of this section. The director may impose conditions of approval to ensure that the business activity is conducted in a manner consistent with the standards and purpose and intent of this section.

(2) A proposed home occupation which has been determined by the director to not comply with one or more Type I standards set forth in subsection (f) of this section may be permitted subject to conditional use permit approval by the planning commission in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC, if the home occupation complies with the Type II standards set forth in subsection (g) of this section.

(f) Type I Home Occupation Standards.

(1) Only residents of the premises on which the home occupation is located shall carry on the home occupation.

(2) The home occupation shall be carried on entirely within a residence and/or detached accessory building. The home occupation shall occupy not more than 25 percent of the total floor area of the habitable portion of a residence. In no event shall such occupancy exceed 400 square feet.

(3) Any extension of the home occupation to the outdoors, including, but not limited to, paving of yards for parking, outdoor storage or activity, and indoor storage or activity visible from outdoors (e.g., in an open garage) is prohibited, except that vegetables, fruits, flowers and other agricultural products may be grown on the premises if production does not exceed what would normally be consumed on the premises.

(4) The home occupation shall not result in the elimination of required on-site parking.

(5) The home occupation shall be conducted in such a manner as to give no outward appearance nor manifest any characteristics of a business in terms of deliveries, parking, customer trips and other activities, that would infringe upon the right of the neighboring residents to enjoy a peaceful occupancy of their homes.

(6) The home occupation shall not result in structural alteration to the interior or exterior of the structure that changes its residential character.

(7) No equipment shall be used and no activities shall be conducted which would result in noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odors, heat, glare or other conditions exceeding in duration or intensity those normally produced by residential use. Normal residential use shall be construed as including the above impacts only on an occasional weekend or evening basis (e.g., in connection with a hobby or home/yard maintenance), and not on a daily basis.

(8) The home occupation shall not include: (A) automobile, truck or heavy equipment repair; (B) body work or painting; (C) outdoor storage of used parts of vehicles and used machinery in an inoperable condition; or (D) outside storage of building materials such as lumber, plasterboard, pipe, paint or other construction materials.

(9) The home occupation shall not include parking or storage of heavy equipment, including trucks of over one-ton load capacity or commercial vehicles in excess of 10,000 gross vehicle weight (GVW), within a public right-of-way or on private property outside of a fully enclosed building.

(10) Persons in building trades and similar fields using their homes or apartments as offices for business activities conducted off the residential premises may have other employees or independent contractors; provided, that such employees or independent contractors do not perform labor or personal services on the residential premises, park on or near the residential premises, or check in at the residential premises during the course of business.

(11) The home occupation may include limited on-premises sales of products or stock-in-trade, provided the applicant can clearly demonstrate that such sales will not be inconsistent with other Type I standards. Examples

of allowable on-premises sales include cosmetics or similar products associated with a business where most products are delivered to a customer's address, hair care products associated with a barber/beauty shop and instructional materials pertinent to the home occupation, e.g., music books. The display or storage of products or stock-in-trade outside a residence or in a window is prohibited, except that vegetables, fruits, flowers and other agricultural products grown on the premises may be offered for sale out-of-doors during the growing season.

(12) Activities conducted and equipment or material used shall not change the fire safety or occupancy classifications of the premises. Utility consumption shall not exceed normal residential usage.

(13) The home occupation shall not generate significantly greater traffic volume than would normally be expected in the particular residential zone or neighborhood in which the home occupation is conducted. Generally, delivery and pickup of materials to and from the premises by a commercial vehicle should not exceed two trips per week. For the purpose of this section, commercial vehicles shall not exceed a gross vehicle weight of 20,000 pounds. Also, generally, traffic generated by a home occupation should not exceed four round trips per day.

(14) If the home occupation is the type in which classes are held or instruction given, there shall be no more than two students allowed in any one class or instruction period.

(g) Type II Home Occupation Standards.

(1) The home occupation will not harm the character of the surrounding neighborhood.

(2) The home occupation will not include storage, use or operation of building materials, machinery, commercial vehicles or tools, unless:

(A) The activity is wholly enclosed within a structure or building;

(B) The activity would not result in noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odors, heat, glare or other conditions exceeding in duration or intensity those normally produced by residential use. Normal residential use shall be construed as including the above impacts only on an occasional weekend or evening basis (e.g., in connection with a hobby or home/yard maintenance), and not on a daily basis.

(3) The home occupation will not create a condition which injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health and safety of persons on abutting properties or streets.

(4) The home occupation will not generate excessive traffic or necessitate excessive parking beyond that normally associated with residential use in the neighborhood in which the home occupation is located.

(5) The home occupation will include no more than two nonresident employees working on site when nonresident employees are involved. The home occupation may have additional employees or independent contractors; provided, that such employees or independent contractors do not perform labor or personal services on the residential premises, park on or near the residential premises, or physically check in at the residential premises during the course of business.

(6) The home occupation will not include the outdoor display and sale of products or stock in trade, unless the applicant can demonstrate that such on-premises sales will not result in noncompliance with other applicable standards governing Type I and Type II home occupations.

(h) Other Regulations.

(1) Home occupations shall comply with all other local, state or federal regulations pertinent to the activity pursued, and the requirements or permission granted or implied by this section shall not be construed as an exemption from these regulations.

(2) Home occupation permits are issued to an individual applicant and shall not be transferred or otherwise assigned to any other person. The permit will automatically expire when the applicant named on the permit

application moves from the site or moves the business from the site. The home occupation shall also automatically expire if the permittee fails to maintain a valid business license or the business license is suspended or revoked. The home occupation shall not be transferred to any site other than that described on the application form.

(3) Two or more home occupation permits may be issued for the same location if it is determined that the sum of the businesses still meets the requirements of this chapter.

(4) The home occupation will comply with Chapter 22.26 FMC, Sign Regulations.

(i) Exemptions. The following activities shall be exempt from the provisions of this section:

(1) Garage sales, yard sales, bake sales, occasional parties for the sale or distribution of goods or services, and other like uses; provided, that any such garage sales and yard sales involve only the sale of household goods, none of which were purchased for the purpose of resale. If the collective total of all such sales and/or parties exceeds four events or 12 days in any calendar year, then such sales and/or parties shall be considered a home occupation;

(2) Family day-care facilities licensed by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services; and

(3) Telecommuting, remote work and other alternative work options; provided the resident is an employee of an off-site company, a business license is not required, and the work does not require deliveries or customers visiting the home.

(j) Permit Fee Exemptions. Nonprofit organizations as defined by FMC 5.04.100(c) must apply for a home occupation permit but are exempt from a home occupation permit fee. Nonprofit organizations that are categorized as Type II home occupations are not exempt from the conditional use permit fee. (Ord. 1605 § 1, 2017; Ord. 1512 § 4, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.014 Adult entertainment establishments.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of this section is to regulate adult entertainment establishments and to provide certain limitation to the siting of these uses.

Development standards are used to reduce conflicts between these uses and other uses that may not be compatible.

(b) Uses Permitted. Adult entertainment establishments may be permitted by conditional use permit in the MUU zone.

(c) Locational Requirements.

(1) Adult entertainment establishments shall not be located on lots adjacent to (directly touching or across a street from) any residential zone (R-4, R-4-C, R-6, R-8, R-10-TCD, R-20 and R-30) and additional zones (NC, NO, GC and MUN) that allow residential uses (except for dwelling units provided for site security or maintenance personnel).

(2) Adult entertainment establishments shall not be allowed within 500 feet of any other adult entertainment establishment, as measured from property lines.

(3) Adult entertainment establishments shall not be allowed within 100 feet of any "sensitive receptor." Distances provided in this section shall be measured by following a straight line, without regard to intervening buildings, from the nearest point of the property parcel upon which the proposed use is to be located, to the nearest point of the parcel of property or the zone district boundary line from which the proposed land use is to be separated.

(d) Variance to Locational Requirements. A variance to the dispersal provisions may be granted by the hearing examiner if all of the following criteria can be met:

(1) That free speech rights which are entitled to protection by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution of an applicant for an adult entertainment establishment cannot be adequately protected on parcels allowed for siting because other adult entertainment establishments are in place, or sensitive receptors limit additional uses in the MUU zone.

(2) That the natural or built environment in the immediate vicinity would result in an effective separation between the proposed adult entertainment establishment and any sensitive zones or uses in terms of visibility and access.

(3) The proposed use complies with the goals and policies of the comprehensive plan.

(4) The proposed use is otherwise compatible with adjacent and surrounding land uses.

(5) The applicant has proposed conditions that would minimize the secondary adverse effects of the proposed use.

(e) Development Standards. The development standards in this section shall apply to all buildings, uses, and property used for adult entertainment purposes. The development standards for adult entertainment establishment uses are the same as the applicable zoning regulations for the zoning districts in which they are located, except as follows:

(1) Visual Impacts.

(A) No owner or operator of an adult entertainment establishment shall allow any merchandise or activity of the establishment to be visible from any point outside the establishment.

(B) No owner or operator of an adult entertainment establishment shall allow the exterior to have flashing lights or any lettering, photographs, silhouettes, drawings, or pictorial representations of any kind other than to the extent permitted by this section or Chapter 22.26 FMC.

(C) The exterior of an adult entertainment establishment, if painted, must be painted (stained or otherwise covered) in a single achromatic color, except if:

(i) The adult entertainment establishment is part of a commercial multi-unit center; and

(ii) The exteriors of each individual unit in the commercial multi-unit center, including the adult entertainment establishment, are painted the same color as one another or are painted in such a way as to be a component of the overall architectural style or pattern of the commercial center.

(2) Signage. In addition to the restrictions imposed by Chapter 22.26 FMC, the following restrictions apply to any adult entertainment establishment:

(A) Each display surface of a sign must:

(i) Be a flat plane, rectangular in shape;

(ii) Not be flashing or pulsating;

(iii) Have characters of a solid color;

(iv) Have all characters of the same print type, size, and color;

(v) Have the background in one solid color.

(B) Readerboard signs are not allowed.

(f) Nonconforming Adult Entertainment Establishments. An adult entertainment establishment shall be deemed a legal nonconforming use and shall be subject to the requirements of FMC 22.58.023 (Nonconforming lots, uses and

structures) if a zone that allows residential uses is located adjacent to the adult entertainment establishment or if a sensitive receptor identified in subsection (e)(3) of this section locates within 50 feet of the adult entertainment establishment facility after the date the adult entertainment establishment facility has located within the city in accordance with requirements of this section. (Ord. 1667 § 20, 2020; Ord. 1562 § 40, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.015 Temporary accessory structures and uses.

The following temporary accessory structures and uses are allowed in any zoning district:

- (a) Temporary structures and storage containers for construction purposes for a period not to exceed the duration of such construction.
- (b) Temporary, portable and self-contained sanitary waste facility serving a construction site.
- (c) Temporary, portable moving containers for a period not to exceed 21 days. (Ord. 1575 § 17, 2016; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.016 Pedestrian plazas.

Repealed by Ord. 1667. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.017 Sidewalk cafes.

(a) Sidewalk cafes or other food or beverage-serving facility or establishment, when located on a public sidewalk or other public right-of-way area, are permitted in specified zoning districts subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC. At a minimum, the following factors shall be considered when evaluating any proposed outdoor seating area:

- (1) The type, size and location of the proposed facility or establishment;
- (2) The present use of adjoining properties, and the anticipated compatibility of the proposed facility or establishment with such uses;
- (3) The degree to which the proposed facility or establishment is compatible with residential uses in the vicinity; and
- (4) The degree to which the public sidewalk or other public right-of-way area will remain available and safe for general public use.

(b) Prior to approving the proposal, the applicant shall furnish the director with the following:

- (1) An agreement which indemnifies the city from any claims regarding the use of the sidewalk or right-of-way area as approved by the city;
- (2) A certificate from an insurance carrier verifying that the applicant/business operator has general liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 naming the city as additional insured;
- (3) A copy of any required permit from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department;
- (4) A copy of any required license from the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board. (Ord. 1575 § 18, 2016; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.018 Outdoor lighting.

(a) Approval Required. The installation or replacement of outdoor lighting fixtures shall require approval of the hearing examiner or director, as appropriate. Approval shall not be granted unless the proposed installation is found by the hearing examiner or director to conform to all applicable provisions of this section. Properties developed with single-family or duplex dwellings are exempt from this section, provided they are not located within a planned development approved subsequent to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section.

(b) General Requirements.

- (1) When the outdoor lighting installation or replacement is part of a development proposal for which hearing examiner review is required, the hearing examiner shall evaluate the proposed lighting installation as part of its discretionary review. The hearing examiner may grant approval of the installation, or it may approve the installation on a conceptual level and delegate to the director the responsibility to ensure that the final lighting installation design complies with this section.
- (2) When the outdoor lighting installation is not part of a development proposal for which hearing examiner review is required, the director shall evaluate and approve the proposed lighting installation design if it complies with this section.
- (3) The applicant shall submit to the department sufficient information, in the form of an overall exterior lighting plan, to enable the hearing examiner or director to determine that the applicable provisions will be satisfied. The lighting plan shall include at least the following:
 - (A) A site plan, drawn to a scale of one inch equaling no more than 20 feet, showing buildings, landscaping, parking areas, and all proposed exterior lighting fixtures.
 - (B) Specifications for all proposed lighting fixtures including photometric data, designation as IESNA "cut-off" fixtures, Color Rendering Index (CRI) of all lamps (bulbs), and other descriptive information on the fixtures.
 - (C) Proposed mounting height of all exterior lighting fixtures.
 - (D) Analyses and illuminance level diagrams showing that the proposed installation conforms to the lighting level standards in this section.
 - (E) Drawings of all relevant building elevations showing the fixtures, the portions of the walls to be illuminated, the illuminance levels of the walls, and the aiming points for any remote light fixtures.
- (4) Wherever practicable, lighting installations shall include timers, dimmers, and/or sensors to reduce overall energy consumption and eliminate unneeded lighting.
- (5) When an outdoor lighting installation is being modified, extended, expanded, or added to, the entire outdoor lighting installation shall be subject to the requirements of this section.
- (6) Expansions, additions, or replacements to outdoor lighting installations shall be designed to avoid harsh contrasts in color and/or lighting levels.
- (7) Electrical service to outdoor lighting fixtures shall be underground unless the fixtures are mounted directly on utility poles.
- (8) Proposed lighting installations that are not covered by the special provisions in this section may be approved only if the hearing examiner or director finds that they are designed to minimize glare, do not direct light beyond the boundaries of the area being illuminated or onto adjacent properties or streets, and do not result in excessive lighting levels.
- (9) For the purposes of these regulations, the mounting height of a lighting fixture shall be defined as the vertical distance from the grade elevation of the surface being illuminated to the bottom of the lighting fixture (i.e., luminaire).
- (10) Holiday lighting during the months of November, December and January shall be exempt from the provisions of this section; provided, that such lighting does not create dangerous glare on adjacent streets or properties.
- (11) The hearing examiner or director may modify the requirements of this section if it determines that in so doing it will not jeopardize achievement of the intent of these regulations.

(c) Parking Lot Lighting. Parking lot lighting shall be designed to provide the minimum lighting necessary to ensure adequate vision and comfort in parking areas, and to not cause glare or direct illumination onto adjacent properties or streets.

- (1) All lighting fixtures serving parking lots shall be cut-off fixtures as defined by the Illuminating Engineer Society of North America (IESNA).
- (2) Alternatives. The design for an area may suggest the use of parking lot lighting fixtures of a particular “period” or architectural style, as either alternatives or supplements to the lighting described above.
 - (A) If such fixtures are not “cut-off” fixtures as defined by IESNA, the maximum initial lumens generated by each fixture shall not exceed 2,000 (equivalent to a 150-watt incandescent bulb).
 - (B) Mounting heights of such alternative fixtures shall not exceed 15 feet.
- (3) Parking area lighting standards in the various lighting districts are shown in Table 1.
- (4) Parking areas in District 4 shall not be illuminated unless there exist specific hazardous conditions that make illumination necessary. In such cases, the lighting shall meet the standards for District 3.

Table 1: Parking Lot Lighting Standards

	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4
	MUN and MUU Districts	NO and NC Districts	R-20, R-30, PROS and GC Districts	R-4, R-4-C, R-6, R-8 and R-10-TCD Districts
Mounting Height (Maximum)*	25 ft.	20 ft.	20 ft.	Lighting Discouraged
Minimum Illumination Level (at darkest spot on the parking area)	No less than 0.3 fc No more than 0.5 fc	No less than 0.2 fc No more than 0.3 fc	No less than 0.2 fc No more than 0.3 fc	Lighting Discouraged
Uniformity Ratio **	4:1	4:1	4:1	Lighting Discouraged
Minimum CRI***	20	65	70	Lighting Discouraged

* Mounting height is the vertical distance between the surface being illuminated and the bottom of the lighting fixture.

** Uniformity ratio is the ratio of average illumination to minimum illumination.

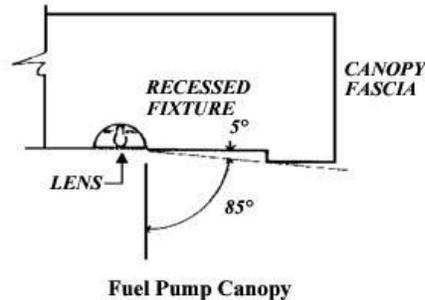
*** CRI is the Color Rendering Index.

(d) Lighting of Service Station/Convenience Store Aprons and Canopies. Lighting levels on service station/convenience store aprons and under canopies shall be adequate to facilitate the activities taking place in such locations. Lighting of such areas shall not be used to attract attention to the businesses. Signs allowed under Chapter 22.26 FMC shall be used for that purpose.

- (1) Areas on the apron away from the fuel pump islands used for parking or vehicle storage shall be illuminated in accordance with the requirements for parking areas in subsection (c) of this section. If no fuel pumps are provided, the entire apron shall be treated as a parking area.
- (2) Areas around the pump islands and under canopies shall be illuminated so that the minimum horizontal illuminance at grade level is at least one foot-candle and no more than five and one-half foot-candles. The uniformity ratio (ratio of average to minimum illuminance) shall be no greater than four to one, which yields an average illumination level of no more than 22 foot-candles.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(3) Light fixtures mounted on canopies shall be recessed so that the lens cover is recessed or flush with the bottom surface (ceiling) of the canopy and/or shielded by the fixture or the edge of the canopy so that light is restrained to no more than 85 degrees from vertical, as shown in the figure below.



(4) As an alternative (or supplement) to recessed ceiling lights, indirect lighting may be used where light is beamed upward and then reflected down from the underside of the canopy. In this case light fixtures must be shielded so that direct illumination is focused exclusively on the underside of the canopy.

(5) Lights shall not be mounted on the top or sides (fascias) of the canopy, and the sides (fascias) of the canopy shall not be illuminated.

(e) **Lighting of Exterior Display/Sales Areas.** Lighting levels on exterior display/sales areas shall be adequate to facilitate the activities taking place in such locations. Lighting of such areas shall not be used to attract attention to the businesses. Signs allowed under Chapter 22.26 FMC shall be used for that purpose. The applicant shall designate areas to be considered display/sales areas and areas to be used as parking or passive vehicle storage areas. This designation must be approved by the hearing examiner or director.

(1) Areas designated as parking or passive vehicle storage areas shall be illuminated in accordance with the requirements for parking areas in subsection (e) of this section.

(2) Areas designated as exterior display/sales areas shall be illuminated so that the average horizontal illuminance at grade level is no more than five foot-candles. The uniformity ratio (ratio of average to minimum illuminance) shall be no greater than four to one. The average and minimum shall be computed for only that area designated as exterior display/sales area.

(3) Light fixtures shall meet the IESNA definition of cut-off fixtures, and shall be located, mounted, aimed, and shielded so that direct light is not cast onto adjacent streets or properties.

(4) Fixtures shall be mounted no more than 25 feet above grade, and mounting poles shall be located either inside the illuminated area or no more than 10 feet away from the outside edge of the illuminated area.

(f) **Lighting of Outdoor Performance or Sports.** Outdoor nighttime performance events (concerts, athletic contests, etc.) have unique lighting needs. Illumination levels vary, depending on the nature of the event. The regulations in this section are intended to allow adequate lighting for such events while minimizing sky glow, reducing glare and unwanted illumination of surrounding streets and properties, and reducing energy consumption.

(1) **Design Plan.** A lighting design plan shall be submitted that shows in detail the proposed lighting installation. The design plan shall include a discussion of the lighting requirements of various areas and how those requirements will be met.

(2) Dual System. The main lighting of the event (spotlighting or floodlighting, etc.) shall be turned off no more than 45 minutes after the end of the event. A low-level lighting system shall be installed to facilitate patrons leaving the facility, cleanup, nighttime maintenance, etc. The low-level lighting system shall provide an average horizontal illumination level, at grade level, of no more than three foot-candles with a uniformity ratio (average to minimum) not exceeding four to one.

(3) Primary Playing Areas. Where playing fields or other special activity areas are to be illuminated, lighting fixtures shall be specified, mounted, and aimed so that their beams fall within the primary playing area and immediate surroundings, and so that no direct illumination is directed off the site.

(4) Parking Areas. Lighting for parking areas shall meet the requirements in subsection (c) of this section.

(5) Pedestrian Areas. Areas intended solely for pedestrian circulation shall be provided with a minimum level of illumination of no less than 0.1 foot-candles and no more than 0.2 foot-candles. A uniformity ratio of average illumination to minimum illumination shall not exceed four to one.

(6) Security Lighting. Security lighting shall meet the requirements in subsection (g) of this section.

(g) Security Lighting. The purpose of and need for security lighting (i.e., lighting for safety of persons and property) must be demonstrated as part of an overall security plan that includes at least illumination, surveillance, and response, and that delineates the area to be illuminated for security purposes. To the extent that the designated area is illuminated for other purposes, independent security lighting installations will be discouraged.

(1) In addition to the application materials required in subsection (b) of this section, applications for security lighting installations shall include a written description of the need for and purposes of the security lighting, a site plan showing the area to be secured and the location of all security lighting fixtures, specifications of all fixtures, the horizontal and vertical angles in which light will be directed, and adequate cross-sections showing how light will be directed only onto the area to be secured.

(2) All security lighting fixtures shall be shielded and aimed so that illumination is directed only to the designated area and not cast on other areas. In no case shall lighting be directed above a horizontal plane through the top of the lighting fixture, and the fixture shall include shields that prevent the light source or lens from being visible from adjacent properties and roadways. The use of general floodlighting fixtures shall be discouraged.

(3) Security lighting may illuminate vertical surfaces (e.g., building facade and walls) up to a level eight feet above grade or eight feet above the bottoms of doorways or entries, whichever is greater.

(4) Security lighting fixtures may be mounted on poles located no more than 10 feet from the perimeter of the designated secure area.

(5) Security lights intended to illuminate a perimeter (such as a fence line) shall include motion sensors and be designed to be off unless triggered by an intruder located within five feet of the perimeter.

(6) Security lighting standards in the various lighting districts are as shown in Table 2.

(7) Security lighting shall be allowed in District 4 areas only if unusual hazardous conditions make it necessary. In such cases, indirect and reflected lighting techniques shall be used to provide soft lighting under canopies, entry porches, or soffits. Lighting levels shall not exceed the standards established for District 3.

Table 2: Security Lighting Standards

	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4
	MUN and MUU Districts	NO and NC Districts	R-20, R-30, PROS and GC Districts	R-4, R-4-C, R-6, R-8 and R-10-TCD Districts
Mounting Height (Maximum)*	25 ft.	20 ft.	20 ft.	Discouraged
Average Horizontal Illumination Level on Ground	No more than 1.5 foot-candles	No more than 1.0 foot-candle	No more than 0.5 foot-candle	Discouraged
Average Illumination Level on Vertical Surface	No more than 1.5 foot-candles	No more than 1.0 foot-candle	No more than 0.5 foot-candle	Discouraged
Minimum CRI**	20	65	70	Discouraged

* Mounting height is the vertical distance between the surface being illuminated and the bottom of the lighting fixture.

** CRI is the Color Rendering Index.

(h) **Lighting of Building Facades and Landscaping.** With the exception of structures having exceptional symbolic (i.e., churches and/or public buildings) or historic significance in the community, exterior building facades shall not be illuminated.

When buildings having symbolic or historic significance are to be illuminated, a design for the illumination shall be approved by the hearing examiner or director and the following provisions shall be met:

- (1) The maximum illumination on any vertical surface or angular roof surface shall not exceed five foot-candles.
- (2) Lighting fixtures shall be carefully located, aimed, and shielded so that light is directed only onto the building facade. Lighting fixtures shall not be directed toward adjacent streets or roads.
- (3) Lighting fixtures mounted on the building and designed to “wash” the facade with light are preferred.
- (4) To the extent practicable, lighting fixtures shall be directed downward (i.e., below the horizontal) rather than upward.
- (5) When landscaping is to be illuminated, the hearing examiner or director shall first approve a landscape lighting plan that presents the purpose and objective of the lighting, shows the location of all lighting fixtures and what landscaping each is to illuminate, and demonstrates that the installation will not generate excessive light levels, cause glare, or direct light beyond the landscaping into the night sky.

(i) **Illuminated Signs.** See lighting standards in FMC 22.26.012.

(j) **Lighting of Walkways/Bikeways and Parks.** Where special lighting is to be provided for walkways, bikeways, or parks, the following requirements shall apply:

- (1) The walkway, pathway, or ground area shall be illuminated to a level of at least 0.3 foot-candles and no more than 0.5 foot-candles.
- (2) The vertical illumination levels at a height of five feet above grade shall be at least 0.3 and no more than 0.5 foot-candles.
- (3) Lighting fixtures shall be designed to direct light downward, and light sources shall have an initial output of no more than 1,000 lumens.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(4) In general, lighting shall be consistent with the guidelines presented in the IESNA Lighting Handbook, Eighth Edition.

(k) General Street Lighting Standards. (Reserved).

(l) Technological Change. The technology used in outdoor lighting applications is ever evolving in terms of efficiency, effectiveness, and other performance aspects. While the intent, goals, and objectives of this section remain constant, standards may become dated over time as lighting technology advances. Therefore, the hearing examiner or director, as appropriate, may exercise discretion in making determinations that will achieve equivalent lighting performance through the application of updated technology when codified standards become outdated. (Ord. 1667 § 22, 2020; Ord. 1562 § 41, 2015; Ord. 1322 § 3, 2003; Ord. 1311 § 30, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.019 Social card games.

The operation or conduct of social card games as defined by RCW 9.46.0282 is prohibited within the city of Fircrest. However, bona fide, charitable, or nonprofit organizations may operate or conduct social card games pursuant to RCW 9.46.0311. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.020 Development agreement.

(a) Hearing Examiner and City Council Authority. The hearing examiner is hereby authorized to conduct a public hearing for the consideration of a development agreement subject to RCW 36.70B.170 through 36.70B.200. The hearing examiner shall transmit its recommendations on the proposed agreement to the city council. The city council is hereby authorized to approve, approve with conditions, or deny a proposed development agreement after considering the hearing examiner's recommendations at a closed record hearing.

(b) Application. Development agreement applications must be submitted on forms provided by the director. The director may require any additional information necessary in order for the city to adequately review the proposed agreement.

(c) Required Findings. In addition to any required findings for the underlying action, the city council must be able to find that a development agreement:

- (1) Bears a substantial relationship to the public health, safety, morals and welfare;
- (2) Is consistent with the city's development regulations; and
- (3) Is consistent with the city's comprehensive plan. (Ord. 1638 § 26, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.021 Voluntary agreement.

(a) An applicant may enter into a voluntary agreement with the city to allow a payment in lieu of dedication of land or to mitigate a direct impact that has been identified as a consequence of a proposed development, subdivision, or plat. The voluntary agreement shall not be used for open space required to be in buffer yards, stormwater facilities, sensitive area management tracts, wetland buffers, required landscaping or any other open space required to be on-site.

(b) Payment Calculations and Provisions.

(1) Calculation for Payment in Lieu of Land Dedication. The payment in lieu of dedication of land shall be calculated based on the assessed land value of the entire property within the proposed development, subdivision, or plat. The assessed land value shall be the amount on record with the Pierce County assessor's office on the date when a complete project permit application is received by the director or the calendar year of final subdivision or plat approval. The payment shall be calculated by multiplying the percentage of total land that would have been dedicated by the applicant times the above mentioned assessed land value.

(2) Calculation for Payment in Lieu of Mitigation. The payment in lieu of mitigation shall be based on the actual cost of the proposed mitigation. The applicant shall submit a cost estimate for the proposed mitigation to the director for review and approval. The director may rely on other cost estimates or information if the applicant's estimate is not acceptable.

(3) Payment Provisions. The voluntary agreement is subject to the following provisions:

(A) The payment shall be received by the city prior to the issuance of a project permit or approval of a final subdivision or plat.

(B) The payment shall be held in a reserve account and may only be expended to fund a purchase or improvement of open space within 3,000 feet of the perimeter of the project site or expansion or improvement to a citywide park.

(C) The payment shall be expended in all cases within five years of collection.

(D) Any payment not so expended shall be refunded with interest at the rate applied to judgements to the property owners of record at the time of the refund. However, if the payment is not expended within five years due to delay attributable to the developer, the payment shall be refunded without interest. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.022 Siting of essential public facilities.

The purpose of this section is to establish and describe the city's process for identifying and siting essential public facilities. Essential public facilities include but are not limited to those facilities that are difficult to site, such as airports, state educational facilities, state and regional transportation facilities, state and local correctional facilities, solid waste handling facilities and in-patient facilities (including substance abuse, mental health and group home facilities). The Growth Management Act mandates that no local development regulation may preclude the siting of essential public facilities.

(a) Identification. The city recognizes the list of essential state public facilities, which is maintained and updated by the State Office of Financial Management. The director is authorized to determine if any additional proposed use within the city is an essential public facility.

(b) Siting. If an essential public facility is listed as either a permitted or conditional use within a zoning district, the use is restricted to those zoning districts. If an essential public facility is not expressly listed as either a permitted or conditional use within a zoning district, then the use shall be restricted to the Community Commercial zoning district. Essential public facilities that are not expressly listed within a zoning district are subject to a conditional use permit. All essential public facilities requiring a conditional use permit shall be subject to the additional requirements below:

(1) The federal, state, regional or local agency (applicant) shall provide a justifiable need for the public facility and for its location within Fircrest.

(2) The applicant shall provide a site selection analysis consisting of at least three proposed sites, one of which must be located outside of the Fircrest city limits. The applicant shall identify the reasons for the proposed site being more desirable than the other two identified sites.

(3) Based on the potential impact to the health, safety, morals and general welfare of the citizens of Fircrest, the planning commission may require a proposed facility to be located a sufficient distance from any residential district, residential use, park, children's school or day-care facility to mitigate the impact.

(4) The applicant shall provide a list and description of other similar facilities within Pierce County. At a minimum, each such description shall include the address, contact person, telephone number, size, scope and resident population (if any) of the other similar facilities. The planning commission may consider the fair distribution of similar essential public capital facilities within Pierce County. Fair distribution shall be based on a per capita analysis of Pierce County jurisdictions. If Fircrest is presently exceeding its fair share of such a facility, the planning commission may deny the request if the rationale for selecting Fircrest over another location is not a compelling one. (Ord. 1311 § 31, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.023 Nonconforming lots, uses and structures.

(a) Application. The provisions of this section shall apply to uses and structures which become nonconforming as a result of the application of this title to them, or from classification or reclassification of a property under this title or any subsequent amendments thereto.

(b) Continuation of Nonconforming Uses and Structures. Any lawful use of land and/or building or structure existing, under construction, or for which a building or use permit has been granted and was still in force at the time this title became effective may be continued, even though the use does not conform to the provisions of the district in which it is located, subject to the following conditions:

(1) Enlargement. No building, structure or land that is nonconforming by reason of use shall be enlarged or expanded; provided, that normal upkeep, repairing and maintenance of nonconforming buildings and structures are permitted outright, provided the activities do not increase the nonconformity of the buildings or structures.

(2) Replacement. Any building or structure nonconforming by reason of use which has been damaged or destroyed by fire, earthquake, flood, wind or other disaster may be restored and the occupancy or use of the building, structure or part thereof which existed at the time of damage or destruction may be continued subject to all provisions of this title, but the restoration of the nonconforming building or structure shall not serve to extend or increase the nonconformance of the original building, structure or use. Any reconstruction authorized by this section shall commence within one year of the damage and shall be substantially completed within 18 months of the date the damage occurred.

(3) Vacation. If any nonconforming use of land and/or building or structure is vacated for a period of one year, nonconforming rights shall automatically terminate and any future use of the land and/or building or structure shall conform to the zoning district in which it is located. Notwithstanding this one-year automatic termination, vacation may also be deemed to be an act or failure to act on the part of the property owner which indicates an intention that the property owner does not claim or retain any interest in the right to the nonconforming use.

(4) Structural Alteration – Enlargement of Nonconforming Building or Structure. A building or structure which is nonconforming only by reason of substandard yard or height may be structurally enlarged, provided the enlargement does not increase the nonconformance, and further provided the enlarged building or structure conforms with bulk regulations relating to lot coverage or impervious surface coverage.

(5) Structural Alteration – Replacement of Nonconforming Building or Structure. A building or structure which is nonconforming by reason of substandard yard, height, lot coverage, impervious surface coverage, or other bulk regulation may be restored or rebuilt as it originally existed upon the original foundation and perimeter, if it is damaged or destroyed by fire, earthquake, flood, wind or other natural disaster. Enlargement of the building or structure from the original design may occur in accordance with subsection (b)(4) of this section.

(6) Structural Alteration – Repair of Nonconforming Building or Structure. A building or structure which is nonconforming by reason of substandard yard, height, lot coverage, impervious surface coverage, or other bulk regulation may be repaired or restored to its original or comparable condition and design. Modifications to the original design of the building or structure may occur in accordance with subsection (b)(4) of this section.

(7) Change of Conforming Use. Whenever a nonconforming use has been changed to a conforming use, it shall not revert to the same or different nonconforming use.

(8) Change of Ownership. Change of ownership, tenancy or management of a nonconforming use shall not affect its legal, nonconforming status.

(9) Annexation Resulting in Nonconformity. Any lawfully existing use of land or building or structure located in an unincorporated area which, through annexation, becomes nonconforming shall be deemed a legal, nonconforming use, building or structure. (Ord. 1611 § 17, 2018; Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.024 Outdoor storage of vehicles.

(a) Outdoor Storage of Vehicles. The outdoor storage of vehicles or parts thereof is permitted in a residential district for a period not to exceed six days. Outdoor storage for a period exceeding six days is permitted in a residential zoning district, subject to the following provisions:

- (1) The outdoor storage of no more than three inoperable vehicles and vehicle parts is permitted when they are screened from neighboring properties and the public right-of-way by a solid fence or approved landscaping. Storage of inoperable vehicles is prohibited in required front or side yard setback areas. Open or unscreened storage of inoperable vehicles is permitted for a 14-day period while a vehicle is undergoing or awaiting repairs.
- (2) In no event shall any outdoor storage of commercial vehicles in excess of 10,000 GVW be permitted.
- (3) Approved landscaping is defined as follows:

(A) Vegetative Screen. The approved landscaping must consist of: evergreen shrubs, at a rate of one per five lineal feet of landscape strip; or closely spaced evergreen trees, at a rate of one per eight lineal feet of landscape strip, or a combination of the two in separate sections. The screen may consist of either overlapping clusters or a solid row of material. If overlapping clusters are used, the overlap should be at least one-half plant width. Spacing shall be as follows: evergreen trees for the landscape screen at no greater than eight feet on center, with no more than 10 feet on center between cluster; shrubs for the landscape screen shall be no greater than five feet on center, with no greater than seven feet on center between clusters. Vegetative screening materials shall have a minimum mature height of six feet. Installation of vegetative ground cover is encouraged but not required within the planting area; or

(B) Berm. The approved landscaping must consist of an earthen berm a minimum of four feet high, measured from street curb or the crown of the adjacent paved way for road frontages or existing grade for interior lot lines. Vegetative groundcover shall cover a minimum of 50 percent of the landscape strip area at maturity. Berms less than six feet in height shall be planted with evergreen shrubs, at a rate of one per four lineal feet of landscape strip, to a mature height equal to or greater than six-foot high berm. The screen may consist of either overlapping groupings or a solid row of material. If overlapping groupings are used, the overlap should be at least one-half plant width. Shrub spacing shall be no greater than four feet on center, with no greater than six feet on center between groupings; and

(C) Canopy Vegetation. In addition to the requirements of subsection (a)(3)(A) of this section, Vegetative Screen, and subsection (a)(3)(B) of this section, Berm, trees, at a rate of one per 25 lineal feet of lot line, shall be interspersed throughout the landscape strip in groupings or uniform rows. Spacing shall be no greater than 25 feet on center with uniform spacing or 50 feet on center between groupings. Minimum mature height shall be 20 feet;

(D) Screen Width. All approved landscaping shall be located adjacent to the lot line with no required vegetation located greater than 30 feet from the lot line. No buildings or impervious surfaces, with the exception of pedestrian walks connecting the site to adjacent property, shall be located between the interior edge of the screen width and the lot line.

(b) Outdoor Storage of Boats and Nonmotorized Recreation Vehicles. The outdoor storage of boats or nonmotorized recreation vehicles is permitted in a residential zoning district, subject to the following provisions:

- (1) Nonmotorized recreation vehicles include, but are not limited to, camper trailers, tent trailers, and boat and recreation vehicle trailers. Nonmotorized recreation vehicles do not include bicycles and similar sports equipment.
- (2) The combined limit on the number of boats and nonmotorized recreational vehicles that may be stored on a parcel is two, except as permitted in subsection (b)(3) of this section. A boat on a trailer shall be counted as one boat.

(3) Outdoor storage of additional boats and/or nonmotorized recreation vehicles shall be screened from neighboring properties and the public right-of-way by a solid fence or approved landscaping as defined in subsection (a)(3) of this section. Storage of additional vehicles is prohibited in required front or side yard setbacks. (Ord. 1246 § 15, 2000).

22.58.025 Electric vehicle charging stations.

To ensure an effective installation of electric vehicle charging stations, the regulations in this section provide a framework when a private property owner chooses to provide electric vehicle charging stations.

(a) Allowed Uses per Zoning District. The following table establishes the permitted uses:

	Residential (R-4, R-4-C, R-6, R-8, R-10-TCD, R-20, and R-30)	Recreation (PROS and GC)	Commercial and Mixed-Use (NC, MUN and MUU)	Commercial (NO)
EV Charging Station ¹	P	P	P	P
Rapid Charging Station ²	-	-	P	P
Battery Exchange Station	-	-	P	-

P: Allowed only as an accessory to an outright permitted or conditional use.

Absence of P: Use is not permitted in that district.

1: Level 1 and Level 2 charging only.

2: Level 3 and fast charging are used interchangeably.

(b) For all parking lots or garages located in nonresidential districts:

(1) Number. No minimum number of charging station spaces is required.

(2) Minimum Parking Requirements. An electric vehicle charging station space may be included in the calculation for minimum required parking spaces that are required pursuant to other provisions of code.

(3) Location and Design Criteria. The provision of electric vehicle parking will vary based on the design and use of the primary parking lot. The following required and additional locational and design criteria are provided in recognition of the various parking lot layout options:

(A) Where provided, parking for electric vehicle charging purposes is required to include the following:

(i) Signage. Each charging station space shall be posted with signage indicating the space is only for electric vehicle charging purposes. Days and hours of operations shall be included if time limits or tow-away provisions are to be enforced.

(ii) Maintenance. Charging station equipment shall be maintained in all respects, including the functioning of the charging equipment. A phone number or other contact information shall be provided on the charging station equipment for reporting when the equipment is not functioning or other problems are encountered.

(iii) Accessibility. Where charging station equipment is provided within an adjacent pedestrian circulation area, such as a sidewalk or accessible route to the building entrance, the charging equipment shall be located so as not to interfere with accessibility requirements of WAC 51-50-005.

(iv) Lighting. Where charging station equipment is installed, adequate site lighting shall exist, unless charging is for daytime purposes only.

(B) Parking for electric vehicles should also consider the following:

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

(i) Notification. Information on the charging station, identifying voltage and amperage levels and any time of use, fees, or safety information.

(ii) Signage. Installation of directional signs at the parking lot entrance and at appropriate decision points to effectively guide motorists to the charging station space(s).

(c) Where electric vehicle charging stations are provided in parking lots or parking garages, accessible electric vehicle charging stations shall be provided as follows:

(1) Accessible electric vehicle charging stations shall be provided in the ratios shown on the following table:

Number of EV Charging Stations	Minimum Accessible EV Charging Stations
1 – 50	1
51 – 100	2
101 – 150	3

(2) Accessible electric vehicle charging stations should be located in close proximity to the building or facility entrance and shall be connected to a barrier-free accessible route of travel. It is not necessary to designate the accessible electric vehicle charging station exclusively for the use of disabled persons. Below are two options for providing for accessible electric vehicle charging stations:

Figure: Off-Street Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Station – Option 1

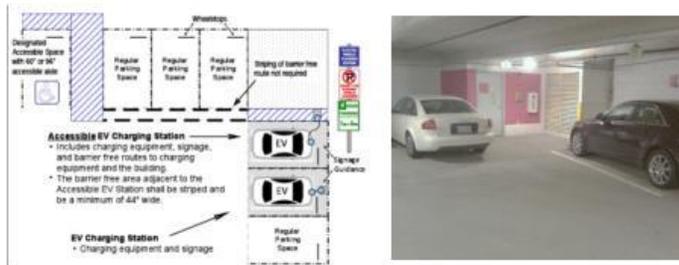
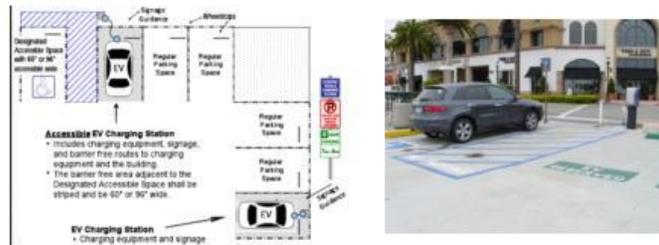


Figure: Off-Street Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Station – Option 2



(d) Signage, Directional. Off-street parking lot or parking garage:

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.



12" x 12"



12" x 6"

(e) Off-Street EV Parking – Parking Space with Charging Station Equipment.



12" x 18"



12" x 18"

(Ord. 1667 § 23, 2020; Ord. 1562 § 42, 2015; Ord. 1509 § 13, 2011).

22.58.026 Floor area ratio (FAR) standards.

(a) The intent of FAR standards is to ensure the size of detached single family dwellings will be scaled proportionally to the size of the lots on which they are situated so that new infill development will be generally consistent in scale and proportion with previously constructed homes and neighborhoods in the city. FAR standards

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

should be used in conjunction with other bulk requirements and design standards and guidelines to be effective in achieving this intent.

(b) FAR is the ratio of the total floor area of buildings on a site to the size of the land at that location. FAR is the total building square footage divided by the total site area square footage, except as noted below.

(c) Floor area for purposes of calculating FAR and maximum floor area does not include the following:

(1) Attic floor area with less than five feet of ceiling height, as measured between the finished floor and the supporting members for the roof, and attics with structural roof trusses and usable attic space that is completely contained within the roof area (excluding dormers).

(2) Basement floor area with a ceiling height less than four feet above the finished grade, as defined in FMC 22.98.321. Ceiling height will be measured to the top of the structural members of the floor above.

(3) The first 600 square feet of detached accessory building floor area on a lot.

(4) Uncovered and covered decks, porches, and walkways.

(d) Floor area with a ceiling height greater than 16 feet shall be calculated at twice the actual floor area toward allowable FAR.

(e) FAR is calculated using a site's buildable area, excluding critical areas and their required associated buffers. (Ord. 5162 § 43, 2015).

22.58.027 Cottage housing.

(a) Purpose and Intent. The provisions of this section are available as alternatives to the development of typical detached single-family homes. In the event of a conflict between the standards in this section and other standards in this title, the standards in this section shall control. These standards are intended to address the changing composition of households and the need for smaller, more diverse, and, often, more affordable housing choices. Providing for a variety of housing types also encourages innovation and diversity in housing design and site development, while ensuring compatibility with surrounding single-family residential development. These provisions support the growth management goal of more efficient use of urban residential land.

(b) Housing Types Defined. The following definitions apply to the housing types allowed through the provisions in this section:

(1) "Cottage" means a detached, single-family dwelling unit containing 1,500 square feet or less of gross floor area.

(2) "Carriage unit" means a single-family dwelling unit, not to exceed 800 square feet in gross floor area, located above a garage structure in a cottage housing development.

(3) "Two-/three-unit home" means a structure containing two dwelling units or three dwelling units, not exceeding 1,000 square feet per unit on average, designed to look like a detached single-family home.

(c) Applicable Use Zones. Cottages, carriage units and two-/three-unit homes as described in this section may be located in the R-4-C, GC and MUN zones.

(d) Parameters for Cottages, Carriage Units and Two-/Three-Unit Homes.

(1) Cottage.

Unit Size	Maximum: 1,500 square feet, excluding garage. Cottages may not exceed 1,000 square feet on the main floor. Any additions or increases in unit sizes after initial construction shall be subject to compliance
-----------	---

	with all cottage housing development standards.
Maximum Density	8 units per acre.
Minimum Lot Size	None. Lot sizes shall be determined through administrative design review process.
Maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	0.35. FAR is calculated using a site's buildable area, including private street area and excluding critical areas and their required associated buffers. FAR for individual lots may vary. See FMC 22.58.026 for FAR standards.
Development Size ¹	Minimum: 6 units. Maximum: 24 units. Minimum cluster size: 6 units. Maximum cluster size: 12 units. Cottage clusters may be integrated into small lot developments where the combined number of cottage and small lot units may exceed 24.
Minimum Setback for Yards Abutting the Exterior Boundary of the Development	See underlying zoning district. Required setbacks for yards not abutting an exterior boundary shall be determined through the administrative design review process.
Maximum Impervious Surface Coverage	50%. Coverage is calculated using a cottage housing site's entire buildable area, including private street area and excluding critical areas and their required associated buffers.
Maximum Height for Dwellings	27 feet (where minimum roof slope of 6:12 for all parts of the roof above 18 feet is provided). Otherwise, 18 feet.
Maximum Height for Accessory Structures	One story, not to exceed 18 feet.
Maximum Developable Slope	15%
Open Space	400 square feet common open space required per unit. 300 square feet private open space required per unit. See subsections (e)(2) and (3) of this section.
Community Buildings	At least one community building shall be provided. See subsection (e)(4) of this section.
Attached Covered Porches	Each unit must have a covered porch with a minimum area of 64 square feet and a minimum dimension of 8 feet.
Parking Requirements	Units ≤ 800 square feet: 1 space per unit minimum. Units > 800 square feet: 1.5 spaces per unit minimum. Must be provided on the subject property. Additional shared guest parking may not exceed 0.5 spaces per unit.
Garage Requirements	Private garages: 250-square-foot maximum floor area. Shared garages: 1,200-square-foot maximum floor area. Front loaded garages shall be recessed ≥10 feet from the front facade of the cottage and their visual impact shall be minimized through the use of architectural design elements.
Driveway Requirements	Driveways providing access to front loaded garages shall consist of paved runner strips or pervious surfacing approved by the city.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)	Not permitted as part of a cottage housing development.
Development Options	Subdivision, condominium, rental or ownership.
Review Process	Administrative design review. See Chapter 22.66 FMC.

¹ Cluster size is intended to encourage a sense of community among residents. Homes within a cluster generally orient toward each other, community open space, or pathways and are not separated by roads or critical areas. A development site may contain more than one cluster provided there is a clear separation between clusters. Clusters shall be connected via pedestrian pathway(s).

(2) Carriage Unit.

Unit Size	Maximum 800 square feet.
Maximum Density	8 units per acre for all cottages, carriage units, and two-/three-unit homes located within a cottage housing development. The number of carriage units and two-/three-unit homes combined shall not exceed 20% of the total number of units in a cottage housing project. Carriage units are allowed only when included in a cottage housing project.
Minimum Lot Size	None. Determined through administrative design review process.
Maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	0.35. FAR is calculated using a cottage housing site's buildable area, including private street area and excluding critical areas and their required associated buffers. See FMC 22.58.026 for FAR standards.
Minimum Setback for Yards Abutting the Exterior Boundary of the Development	See underlying zoning district. Required setbacks for yards not abutting an exterior boundary shall be determined through the administrative design review process.
Maximum Height	18 feet.
Maximum Developable Slope	15%
Parking Requirements	1 space per unit minimum. Must be provided on the subject property. Additional shared guest parking may not exceed 0.5 spaces per carriage unit.
Garage Requirements	Carriage units allowed only above detached shared garages, which shall not exceed a 1,200-square-foot maximum footprint area.
Review Process	Administrative design review. See Chapter 22.66 FMC.

(3) Two-/Three-Unit Home.

Unit Size	Average unit size: 1,000 square feet, excluding garage. Maximum structure total floor area: two-unit: 2,000 square feet, excluding garages. Three-unit: 3,000 square feet, excluding garages.
Maximum Density	8 units per acre for all cottages, carriage units, and two-/three-unit homes located

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	within a cottage housing development. The number of carriage units and two-/three-unit homes combined shall not exceed 20% of the total number of units in a cottage housing project. Carriage units are allowed only when included in a cottage housing project.
Minimum Lot Size	None. Determined through administrative design review process.
Maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	0.35. FAR is calculated using a cottage housing site's buildable area, including private street area and excluding critical areas and their required associated buffers. See FMC 22.58.026 for FAR standards.
Minimum Setback for Yards Abutting the Exterior Boundary of the Development	See underlying zoning district. Required setbacks for yards not abutting an exterior boundary shall be determined through the administrative design review process.
Maximum Height	27 feet (where minimum roof slope of 6:12 for all parts of the roof above 18 feet is provided). Otherwise, 18 feet.
Parking Requirements	Units ≤ 800 square feet: 1 space per unit minimum. Units > 800 square feet: 1.5 spaces per unit minimum. Must be provided on the subject property. Additional shared guest parking may not exceed 0.5 spaces per unit.
Garage Requirements	A two-unit home may include attached or detached garages, not to exceed an additional 500 square feet combined. A three-unit home may include attached or detached garages, not to exceed an additional 750 square feet combined. Front loaded attached garages shall be recessed ≥10 feet from the front facade of the principal structure and their visual impact shall be minimized through the use of architectural design elements. No more than three single garage doors may be visible on any facade.
Driveway Requirements	Driveways providing access to front loaded garages shall consist of paved runner strips or pervious surfacing approved by the city.
Development Options	Subdivision, condominium, rental or ownership.
Review Process	Administrative design review. See Chapter 22.66 FMC.

(e) Design Standards and Guidelines.

(1) Orientation of Dwelling Units. Dwellings within a cottage housing development should be oriented to promote a sense of community, both within the development and, with respect to the larger community, outside of the cottage project. A cottage housing development should not be designed to “turn its back” on the surrounding neighborhood.

(A) Each dwelling unit shall have a primary entry and/or covered porch oriented to the common open space or pathway connecting to the common open space.

(B) Each dwelling unit abutting a public right-of-way (not including alleys) shall have an inviting facade, such as a primary or secondary entrance or porch, oriented to the public right-of-way. If a dwelling unit

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

abuts more than one public right-of-way, the city shall determine to which right-of-way the inviting facade shall be oriented.

(C) Each dwelling unit abutting a public right-of-way (not including alleys) shall incorporate facade modulation, windows, and roofline variations to avoid blank walls that orient to the public right-of-way.

(2) Required Common Open Space. Common open space shall provide a sense of openness, visual relief, and community for cottage developments. The space must be located outside of critical areas and their buffers and developed and maintained to provide for passive and/or active recreational activities for the residents of the development.

(A) Each area of common open space shall be in one contiguous and usable piece with a minimum dimension of 20 feet on all sides.

(B) Land located between dwelling units and an abutting right-of-way or access easement may not serve as required common open space, unless the area is reserved as a separate tract, and does not contain pathways leading to individual units or other elements that detract from its appearance and function as a shared space for all residents.

(C) Required common open space may be divided into no more than two separate areas per cottage cluster.

(D) Common open space shall be located in a centrally located area and be easily accessible, physically and visually, to all dwellings within the cottage cluster.

(E) Sight-obscuring privacy fences that discourage interaction between neighbors may not be located within required open space areas. If fences are used to enclose common open space, they shall have at least 50 percent visually permeable elements, such as pickets, cedar split rails, iron work, or trellis treatment, and shall not exceed two feet in height.

(F) Landscaping located in common open space areas shall be designed to allow for easy access and use of the space by all residents, and to facilitate maintenance needs. Existing mature trees should be retained in accordance with FMC 22.62.009.

(G) Unless the shape or topography of the site precludes the ability to locate units adjacent to the common open space, the following standards must be met:

(i) The open space shall be located so that it will be surrounded by cottages or common buildings on at least three sides when located in a bungalow court configuration, or two sides when located in a rosewalk configuration, per form-based standards adopted pursuant to Chapter 22.57 FMC;

(ii) At least 50 percent of the units in the development shall abut a common open space. A cottage is considered to "abut" an area of open space if there is no structure, road or critical area between the unit and the open space.

(H) Surface water management facilities shall be limited within common open space areas. Low impact development (LID) features are permitted, provided they do not adversely impact access to or use of the common open space for a variety of activities. Conventional stormwater collection and conveyance tools, such as flow control and/or water quality vaults, are permitted if located underground.

(3) Private Open Space.

(A) Each cottage unit shall have a covered porch with a minimum area of 64 square feet per unit and a minimum dimension of eight feet on all sides. Porches shall be associated with primary point of entry.

(B) Each carriage unit shall have a deck or balcony, oriented toward the common open space.

(C) In addition to porches, at least 300 square feet of private, contiguous, usable open space adjacent to each individual dwelling unit shall be provided to contribute positively to the visual appearance of the development, promote diversity in planting materials, and utilize generally accepted good landscape design. The private open space shall be oriented toward the common open space to the extent possible and have no dimension less than 10 feet. The private open space shall define private residences from common areas, trails, and parking areas. If fences are used to enclose private open space, they shall have at least 50 percent visually permeable elements through the use of pickets, cedar split rails, iron work, or trellis treatment, and shall not exceed two feet in height.

(4) Community Buildings. At least one community building is required for each cottage development.

(A) Community buildings shall be at least 500 square feet on the main floor and shall have an architectural character similar to that of the dwelling units.

(B) Building height for community buildings shall not exceed the height standard for cottages.

(C) Outdoor patio space is encouraged to be provided in conjunction with community buildings.

(D) Community buildings must be located on the same site as the cottage housing development and be commonly owned by the residents.

(5) Shared Detached Garages and Surface Parking Design. Parking areas should be located so their visual presence is minimized, and associated noise or other impacts are minimized, both within and outside the development. These areas should also maintain the single-family character along public streets.

(A) Shared detached garage structures may not exceed four single garage doors per building, and a total of 1,200 square feet. Carriage units are preferred above these garage structures.

(B) For shared detached garages, the design of the structure must be similar to and compatible with that of the dwelling units within the development. Garage doors shall be painted to match, or minimize contrast with, the building's body color in order to minimize their visual impact.

(C) Shared detached garage structures and surface parking areas must be screened from streets and adjacent residential uses by landscaping or architectural screening.

(D) Shared detached garage structures shall be reserved through a covenant for the parking of vehicles owned by the residents of the development. Storage of items which preclude the use of the parking spaces for vehicles is prohibited.

(E) Surface parking areas may not be located in clusters of more than four spaces. Clusters must be separated by a distance of at least 20 feet.

(F) Carports are not permitted.

(6) Low Impact Development. The proposed site design shall incorporate the use of low impact development (LID) strategies to meet stormwater management standards. LID is a set of techniques that mimic natural watershed hydrology by slowing, evaporating/transpiring, and filtering water, which allows water to soak into the ground closer to its source. The design should seek to meet the following objectives:

(A) Preservation of natural hydrology.

(B) Reduced impervious surfaces.

(C) Treatment of stormwater in numerous small, decentralized structures.

(D) Use of natural topography for drainageways and storage areas.

(E) Preservation of portions of the site in undisturbed, natural conditions.

(F) Reduction of the use of piped systems. Whenever possible, site design should use multifunctional open drainage systems such as vegetated swales or filter strips which also help to fulfill landscaping and open space requirements.

(7) Two-/Three-Unit Homes and Carriage Units within Cottage Projects. Two-/three-unit homes and carriage units may be included within a cottage housing development. Design of these units should be compatible with that of the cottages included in the project.

(8) Variation in Unit Sizes, Building and Site Design. Cottage projects shall establish building and site design that promote variety and visual interest.

(A) Projects shall include a variety of unit sizes within a single development.

(B) Proposals shall provide a variety of building styles, features, colors, and site design elements within a cottage housing development.

(C) Dwellings with a similar combination of features and treatments may be clustered around a shared common open space. Developments containing two or more clusters of cottages shall use distinctively unique exterior finish materials and architectural design elements for each cottage cluster to avoid repetition.

(9) Pedestrian Flow through Development. Pedestrian connections should link all buildings to the public right-of-way, common open space, parking areas and other cottage clusters in the development.

(10) Storage Space. Storage space may be provided as follows:

(A) Detached sheds designed to be similar in character to the cottage units, using similar building materials and design elements.

(B) Storage space within detached parking structures that does not conflict with parking of vehicles in the garages.

(C) Storage space within a dwelling unit, accessible only through an external door.

(D) Designated storage space attached to a community building that is not counted toward the 500-square-foot minimum area for such buildings.

(E) Other storage space options approved through the administrative site plan review process.

(11) Landscaping. Cottage housing developments shall incorporate a landscape master plan, designed and stamped by a professional landscape architect. The design shall comply with applicable landscape standards and guidelines that address landscape components included in a cottage housing development.

(f) Review Process.

(1) Approval Process. Developments shall be processed under Chapter 22.66 FMC, Administrative Design Review. Public notice for developments proposed through this section shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 22.06 FMC applicable to Type II project permit applications.

(2) Requests for Modifications to Standards. Applicants may request minor modifications to the general parameters and design standards set forth in this section. The director may modify the requirements if all of the following criteria are met:

(A) The site is constrained due to unusual shape, topography, easements, or sensitive areas.

(B) The modification is consistent with the objectives of this section.

(C) The modification will not result in a development that is less compatible with neighboring land uses.

(3) Review Criteria. In addition to the criteria established for review of development proposals in FMC 22.66.006, the applicant must demonstrate that:

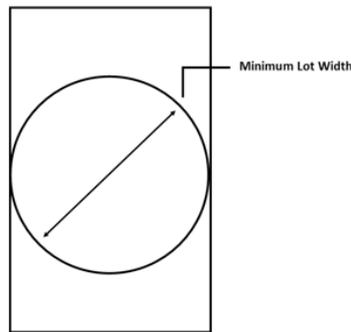
(A) The proposal is compatible with and is not larger in scale than surrounding development with respect to size of units, building heights, roof forms, setbacks between adjacent buildings and between buildings and perimeter property lines, number of parking spaces, parking location and screening, access and lot coverage.

(B) Any proposed modifications to provisions of this section are important to the success of the proposal as an alternative housing project and are necessary to meet the intent of these regulations.

(g) Additional Standards. The city's approval of a cottage housing or two-/three-unit home development does not constitute approval of a subdivision, a short plat, or a binding site plan. A lot that has cottage, carriage or two-/three-unit homes may not be subdivided unless all of the requirements of the Fircrest Municipal Code are met. A lot containing a two-/three-unit home may not be subdivided in a manner that results in the dwelling units being located on separate lots. (Ord. 1667 § 24, 2020; Ord. 1562 § 44, 2015).

22.58.028 Lot development standards.

Newly created lots shall be of such shape that a circle with a diameter equal to the minimum lot width specified for the zone in which the lot is located can fit within the boundary of the lot, as shown below:



(Ord. 1562 § 45, 2015).

22.58.029 Establishments serving liquor for on-premises consumption.

(a) Establishments licensed by the State of Washington Liquor and Cannabis Board to serve beer, beer and wine, or spirits, beer and wine for on-premises consumption are permitted in specified zoning districts. Such establishments providing outdoor customer seating are subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC.

(b) At a minimum, the following performance standards shall apply to establishments serving beer, beer and wine, or spirits, beer and wine for on-premises consumption within the NC district. Additional requirements may be imposed in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC for those establishments providing outdoor customer seating in the NC district. Establishments operating out of compliance with the following provisions are subject to enforcement action under Chapter 22.95 FMC:

(1) Hours of Operation. The sale, service, and consumption of alcohol are prohibited after 10:00 p.m.

(2) Outdoor Customer Seating. Outdoor seating may be provided for customer use no later than 8:00 p.m. on Sundays through Thursdays, and no later than 9:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Outdoor seating areas shall

be closed to customers during other times. A 30-minute grace period is allowed for staff to clean the outdoor premises after customer seating hours have ended. The city may limit the amount of outdoor customer seating to minimize potential impacts on residentially zoned properties.

(3) Speakers. Music or other programming emanating from any outdoor speakers on the premises shall only be allowed during approved outdoor customer seating hours.

Sounds coming from speakers on the premises, whether located inside or outside the building, shall not be audible from residentially zoned properties.

(4) Bottle Handling. Bottles and other trash and recyclable materials shall not be deposited in any exterior refuse or recycling totes, dumpsters, or other receptacles during the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

(5) Exterior Appearance. The business establishment shall maintain the exterior of its premises in a neat and clean condition at all times. All refuse collection containers, including recycling containers, shall be screened in accordance with FMC 22.58.008(d). This provision shall apply to new establishments as well as establishments existing on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section that expand business operations to include the sale of liquor by the drink for on-premises consumption.

(6) Exterior Lighting. Exterior lighting shall comply with the outdoor lighting regulations in FMC 22.58.018 to ensure that it does not impact nearby properties.

(7) Sidewalk Cafes. A business establishment intending to establish outdoor business seating on a public sidewalk or other public right-of-way area shall comply with the sidewalk cafe regulations in FMC 22.58.017.

(c) The performance standards listed in subsection (b) of this section shall apply to establishments in the MUN and MUU districts serving beer, beer and wine, or spirits, beer and wine for on-premises consumption, except that for subsections (b)(1), (2), and (4) of this section, alternative hours of operation, outdoor customer seating hours, and bottle handling hours may be authorized through the administrative use permit approval process in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC. Additional requirements may be imposed in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC for those establishments providing outdoor customer seating. (Ord. 1667 § 25, 2020; Ord. 1611 § 18, 2018; Ord. 1568 § 4, 2015).

22.58.030 Permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, emergency shelters.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of allowing permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, and emergency shelters is to expand on the types of housing that may be developed in Fircrest, with a particular focus on allowing housing types that are likely more affordable or those that intentionally provide temporary shelter and services to transition a person into stable, permanent housing.

(b) Approval. Permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, and emergency shelters may be approved by the director subject to administrative use permit approval in accordance with Chapter 22.70 FMC, provided the standards and criteria in subsection (c) of this section are met by the proposal.

(c) Standards and Criteria. Permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, and emergency shelters shall meet the following standards and criteria:

(1) There shall be no more than one permanent supportive housing facility, transitional housing facility, emergency housing facility, or emergency shelter allowed on any given lot.

(2) Prior to the start of operation for a permanent supportive housing facility, transitional housing facility, emergency housing facility, or emergency shelter, an Operational Agreement shall be prepared by the facility and submitted to the city meeting the following requirements. The city shall review and determine that the Operational Agreement meets the following requirements before approving an administrative use permit for the facility:

(A) Permanent supportive housing facilities and transitional housing facilities are limited to a maximum of four adult residents at any one time, plus up to two resident staff.

(B) Off-street parking shall be provided as set forth in FMC Chapter 22.60.

(C) Names and 24-hour available contact information for onsite staff. The operator of the facility shall notify the city of any staff changes and changed contact information as an agreed component of the operational agreement.

(D) Description of services to be provided onsite, including ancillary support services.

(E) Rules and/or Code of Conduct describing resident expectations and consequences for failing to comply.

(F) A plan for avoiding potential impacts on nearby residences, including a proposed mitigation approach that addresses items such as parking, security, and refuse collection.

(G) Description of eligibility for residency and resident screening process. Each facility shall conduct a criminal background investigation and shall disallow residency or facility use to any person convicted of felony assault, arson, illegal drug manufacturing, burglary, kidnapping, or other violent offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030 as existing or hereafter amended or recodified.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Chapter 22.60

PARKING AND CIRCULATION

Sections:

- 22.60.001 Purpose and intent.
- 22.60.002 Chapter application.
- 22.60.003 Parking space requirements per activity.
- 22.60.004 Parking demand reduction credit.
- 22.60.005 Shared parking facilities.
- 22.60.006 Maximum parking space provisions.
- 22.60.007 Location of off-street spaces.
- 22.60.008 Parking and driveway design standards.
- 22.60.009 Barrier-free parking requirements.
- 22.60.010 Bicycle parking facilities.
- 22.60.011 Loading space requirements.
- 22.60.012 Stacking spaces for drive-through facilities.
- 22.60.013 Pedestrian circulation and access.
- 22.60.014 Transit facilities.
- 22.60.015 Parking reductions for temporary outdoor sales events.
- 22.60.016 Micromobility vehicles and facilities.

22.60.001 Purpose and intent.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to provide for adequate, convenient and safe off-street parking, loading and circulation areas for the permitted land uses described in this title; to protect neighborhoods from the effects of vehicular noise, traffic, and light and glare associated with parking and loading facilities; to reduce the amount of impervious surfaces associated with parking facilities; to reduce demand for parking by encouraging alternative means of transportation including public transit, rideshare and bicycles; and to increase pedestrian mobility within the community.

(b) Intent. The demand for parking responds to changing market forces, technology, and societal preferences. Minimum parking standards have resulted in development patterns dominated by expanses of parking perceived as visual blight, damaging to the environment, and low value in terms of tax base. The amount of parking provided on a site frequently exceeds parking demand – at considerable cost to property and business owners – and the community. In response, municipalities have adopted parking standards that restrict the amount of off-street parking provided for certain uses or locations. These constraints, however, may limit the viability of retail and other uses in some markets. Other municipalities have eliminated minimum parking space requirements and relied on the market to provide an appropriate number.

This chapter supports a transition toward relying on the market to determine parking supply but also reflects community concern that neighborhoods may be impacted by individual market-based decisions that collectively result in an undersupply of off-street parking. The intent of this chapter, therefore, is to balance market considerations with minimum and maximum numerical standards to ensure a sufficient, but not excessive, supply of parking – and authorize the city to approve an increase, or decrease, in the amount of parking being provided relative to a specified standard when a proposal can meet criteria. (Ord. 1667 § 26, 2020; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.002 Chapter application.

New development, alteration to or an expansion of an existing development, and a change in use of a structure or lot, shall comply with the applicable requirements of this chapter.

(a) New Construction. Parking, loading and circulation shall be provided in accordance with this chapter for all new construction and lot development.

(b) Existing Development or Use. Parking, loading and circulation area requirements for alteration or expansion of existing developments or for a change or increase in intensity of use, shall be in accordance with the following:

(1) If the alteration, expansion or increase in intensity would require the addition of 20 percent or five or more additional off-street parking spaces, then the entire parking, loading and circulation area must be brought into conformance with this chapter.

(2) If the alteration, expansion or increase in intensity would require the addition of less than 20 percent or five parking spaces, then only the additional area devoted to parking, loading and circulation must conform with this chapter. (Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.003 Parking space requirements per activity.

The following tables identify the minimum number of parking spaces required to be provided for each activity unless a reduction is authorized in accordance with this chapter. The director or hearing examiner, as specified in this chapter, shall determine the actual required spaces for a proposed activity based on the tables below, the requirements of this chapter and on actual field experience.

If the formula for determining the number of off-street parking spaces results in a fraction, the number of spaces shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with fractions greater than or equal to one-half rounding up and fractions less than one-half rounding down. In the following tables, “sf” means square feet of gross floor area, and “du” means dwelling unit, unless otherwise noted.

(a) Residential and Lodging Activities.

Use	Required Spaces
Single-family (detached)	2 per du.
Duplex	1.5 per du.
Cottage housing	1 per du ≤ 800 sf; 1.5 per du > 800 sf. Shared guest parking not to exceed 0.5 per du.
Single-family (detached) in small lot development	2 per du + 1 guest stall.
Single-family (attached) in small lot development	1.5 per du + 1 guest stall.
Multifamily	1.00 per du.
Multifamily – Efficiency units (250 – 450 sf in size), student housing, and affordable senior housing*	0.6 per du.
Congregate care facility	0.5 per du.
Group residences, including hospice care center, residential care facility, and residential treatment facility	0.5 per bedroom.
<u>Permanent supportive housing and transitional housing</u>	<u>0.5 per bedroom</u> ± 1 per staff.
<u>Emergency housing and emergency shelters</u>	<u>0.5 per bed + 1 per staff.</u>
Accessory dwelling unit (ADU)	None.
Short-term rentals	See FMC 22.58.011.
Hotel/motel	1 per guest room.

Commented [KM1]: At their January meeting, the Planning Commission asked that a parking reduction be allowed for facilities that exclusively serve those with medical disabilities to drive. I do not recommend this language, for the following reasons:
 1. In general, unenforceable code is not ideal to codify. The City would be challenged in enforcing this kind of provision, both in identifying a violation and in enforcing corrective action.
 2. The persons occupying this type of housing can change regularly, and there may not be the opportunity to add parking should persons able to drive wish to take place of a prior non-driving resident.
 3. Requiring confirmation of medical disabilities to drive could violate protected information.

Commented [JE2R1]: I agree with Kim's assessment here.

Commented [KM3]: Fircrest is not required to comply with recent statutes requiring a reduction in off-street parking for certain uses (HB 1491 & SB 5184). This footnote is being added to address feedback from Planning Commission and borrows on proximal distances and definitions sourced from these recent laws.

Formatted: Not Highlight

¹ Emergency housing and emergency shelters within 0.25 miles of a major transit stop are required to only provide 0.25 parking spaces per bed.

* “Affordable” means dwelling units priced, rented, or leased only to those households earning 80 percent or less of the median household income for Pierce County, Washington. “Senior” means dwelling units specifically designed for and occupied by elderly persons under a federal, state or local government program or occupied solely by persons who are 62 or older or houses at least one person who is 55 or older in at least 80 percent of the occupied units, and adheres to a policy that demonstrates intent to house persons who are 55 or older.

(b) Commercial Activities.

Use	Required Spaces
Commercial use, including retail, service, office, and financial institution	1 per 400 sf.
Mixed use, including a combination of retail, office, service, recreational and/or residential uses	See subsection (i) of this section, Joint Use.
Laboratory, including medical, dental, and optical	1 per 500 sf.
Food-serving establishment	1 per 200 sf.
Uncovered commercial area, including vehicle lots and plant nursery	1 per 5,000 sf of retail sales + any parking requirements for buildings.
Motor vehicle repair and services	1 per 400 sf (indoor maintenance bays shall not be considered parking spaces).
Child day-care	2 per facility + 1 per 20 children.
Veterinary clinic	1 per 400 sf.
Mortuary or funeral home	1 per 100 sf of floor area used for services.

(c) Educational Activities.

Use	Required Spaces
Elementary, intermediate, middle or junior high school	1 per classroom + 1 per 50 students.
High school	1 per classroom + 1 per 10 students.
Vocational school	1 per classroom + 1 per 5 students.
Preschool	1 per 6 children.

(d) Industrial Activities.

Use	Required Spaces
Manufacturing	1 per 1,000 sf (less office and display space) + 1 per 400 sf of office space + 1 per 500 sf of display space.
Technological or biotechnological laboratory or testing facility	1 per 1,000 sf (less office space) + 1 per 400 sf of office space.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Use	Required Spaces
Speculative light industrial building with multiple use or tenant potential	1 per 1,500 sf for initial 100,000 sf + 1 per 2,000 sf for remainder of building (less office space). 1 per 400 sf of office space.
NOTE: For each new use or tenant the property owner shall submit a scaled parking plan indicating the assigned parking for the applicable building.	NOTE: This is a minimum requirement valid for construction purposes only. Parking requirements shall be based upon actual occupancy.
Outdoor storage area	1 per 5,000 sf of storage area.

(e) Recreational, Amusement and Assembly Activities.

Use	Required Spaces
Auditorium, theater, place of public assembly, stadium or outdoor sports arena	1 per 4 fixed seats or 1 per 175 sf of main auditorium or of principal place of assembly not containing fixed seats + 1 per 300 sf of office.
Bowling alley	3 per lane.
Skating rink	1 per 200 sf.
Golf course	4 per hole, plus as required for associated uses including clubhouse, pro shop and maintenance facility.
Golf driving range	1 per driving station.
Miniature golf course	1 per hole.
Health club, dance studio	1 per 300 sf.

(f) Public, Institutional, Medical and Religious Activities.

Use	Required Spaces
Government facility	1 per 300 sf of office space; 1 per 1,000 sf of indoor storage or repair area associated with public agency yard. Other use areas shall be calculated based on the above requirements and, if applicable, the shared parking facilities provisions in FMC 22.60.005.
Library, museum, or gallery	1 per 500 sf.
Civic, labor, social or fraternal organization	1 per 300 sf.
Convalescent, nursing or rest home	1 per 3 beds + 0.5 per employee.
Religious institution	1 per 8 seats in the main sanctuary including balconies and choir lofts. Other use areas shall be calculated based on the above requirements and, if applicable, the shared parking

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

Use	Required Spaces
	facilities provisions in FMC 22.60.005.

(g) Other Uses. For uses not specifically identified in this chapter, the amount of parking required shall be based on the requirements for similar uses as determined by the director or hearing examiner, as appropriate.

(h) Speculative Use. When the city has received an application for a site plan approval or other permits for a building shell without tenant uses being specified, off-street parking requirements shall be based on the possible tenant improvements or uses authorized by the zone designation and compatible with the limitations of the site plan or other permit. When the range of possible uses results in different parking requirements, the director or hearing examiner, as appropriate, will establish the amount of parking based on a likely range of uses.

(i) Joint Use. In the case of two or more uses in the same building or on the same lot, for example within a mixed-use development that includes retail, residential and other uses, the total requirements for off-street parking facilities shall be the sum of the requirements for the various uses computed separately. Off-street parking facilities for one use shall not be considered as providing required parking facilities for any other use. However, an applicant may request a parking demand reduction credit per FMC 22.60.004 and/or a shared parking facilities credit per FMC 22.60.005 to reduce the overall parking requirement. The director or hearing examiner, as appropriate, shall be responsible for determining the various uses within a building or on a lot and the resulting parking requirements for each use. (Ord. 1667 § 27, 2020; Ord. 1638 § 27, 2019; Ord. 1562 § 46, 2015; Ord. 1506 § 1, 2011; Ord. 1470 § 1, 2009; Ord. 1311 § 32, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.004 Parking demand reduction credit.

A property owner may request a reduction from the minimum required off-street parking by substantiating that parking demand will be reduced for the life of the project. This request shall be reviewed in conjunction with a site plan, conditional use permit, or preliminary development plan application. In such cases, the hearing examiner may approve a reduction of up to 50 percent of the minimum required number of spaces if a parking demand study prepared by a professional traffic engineer (see Urban Land Institute – Shared Parking: Second Edition for a recommended parking demand analysis methodology) substantiates that:

- (a) Because of the unique nature of the use, the characteristics of the site and surrounding neighborhood, the availability of alternative means of transportation, proximity to regional transit facilities, the provision of car share, rideshare or micromobility facilities, or other relevant local factors, parking demand can be met with a reduced number of spaces; or
- (b) A shared parking facility designed in accordance with FMC 22.60.005 will effectively reduce parking demand to a level below the minimum required parking; or
- (c) A combined parking facility for two or more complementary uses which have similar hours of operation will reduce parking demand to a level below the minimum required parking. The hearing examiner may authorize a five percent reduction for two complementary uses, a 10 percent reduction for three uses, and a 15 percent reduction for four or more uses; or
- (d) An employee-sponsored commute trip reduction program designed in accordance with state law will effectively reduce parking demand below the minimum required parking; or
- (e) Additional public on-street parking will be provided as part of the project. (Ord. 1667 § 28, 2020; Ord. 1638 § 28, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.005 Shared parking facilities.

A property owner may submit a request for a shared parking facility as part of a site plan, conditional use permit, or preliminary development plan application. In such case, the hearing examiner may reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces when shared parking facilities for two or more uses are proposed, provided:

- (a) The total parking area exceeds 5,000 square feet;

(b) The parking facilities are designed and developed as a single on-site common parking facility, or as a system of on-site and off-site facilities, if all parking facilities are connected with improved pedestrian walkways, and no building or use involved is more than 600 feet from the most remote shared facility unless transportation is provided between the parking generator and parking facility;

(c) The amount of the reduction shall not exceed 10 percent for each use, unless:

(1) The normal hours of operation for each use are separated by at least one hour; or

(2) A parking demand study prepared by a professional traffic engineer documents that the hours of actual parking demand for the proposed uses will not conflict and that uses will be served by adequate parking if shared parking reductions are authorized;

(d) The total number of parking spaces in the common parking facility is not less than the minimum required spaces for any single use;

(e) A covenant or other contract for shared parking between the cooperating property owners is approved by the hearing examiner and city attorney. This covenant or other contract must be recorded with the Pierce County auditor as a deed restriction on both properties and cannot be modified or revoked without the consent of the hearing examiner and city attorney; and

(f) If any requirements for shared parking are violated, the affected property owners must provide a remedy satisfactory to the hearing examiner and city attorney or provide the full amount of required off-street parking for each use, in accordance with the requirements of this chapter. (Ord. 1638 § 29, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.006 Maximum parking space provisions.

For multifamily residential, commercial and industrial uses, the number of off-street parking spaces provided shall not exceed 120 percent of the minimum required number of spaces specified in FMC 22.60.003. A property owner may submit a request as part of a site plan, conditional use permit, or preliminary development plan application to provide parking spaces in excess of the maximum allowable number. The hearing examiner may approve an increase of up to 50 percent of the minimum required number of spaces if:

(a) A parking demand study prepared by a professional traffic engineer (see Urban Land Institute – Shared Parking: Second Edition for a recommended parking demand analysis methodology) supports the need for increased parking and demonstrates that:

(1) Shared and combined parking opportunities in FMC 22.60.005 have been fully explored and will be utilized to the extent practicable;

(2) On-site park and ride facilities have been fully explored and will be provided to the extent practicable;

(3) Commute trip reduction measures will be implemented, if required by state law, to the extent practicable.

(b) The project has been designed to include the following design elements, facilities, and programs to the satisfaction of the hearing examiner. In those instances where site constraints impede compliance with the design requirements, written findings of fact shall be made identifying site and project constraints and included in the final notice of decision. In its findings, the hearing examiner shall determine if a good faith effort has been made in building and site design to accommodate the following design elements, facilities, and programs:

(1) The excess parking spaces shall be located within an enclosed parking structure or constructed of enhanced paving materials such as permeable interlocking pavers, pervious concrete, or porous asphalt that support stormwater infiltration and/or achieve a superior appearance.

(2) Alternative parking lot designs shall be utilized to reduce impervious surface, e.g., one-way instead of two-way access aisles.

(3) The amount of required landscaping within the area of additional parking shall be doubled. This additional landscape area may be dispersed throughout the parking lot.

(4) A minimum of 75 percent of the parking spaces shall be located behind the building, and the remainder shall not be located within the minimum and maximum yard setback areas adjoining a street. Parking lots located along flanking streets shall have added landscape and a superior design to strengthen pedestrian qualities, e.g., low walls, street furniture, seating areas, public art, etc.

(5) Preferential parking shall be located near primary building entrances for employees who rideshare and for high occupancy vehicles, if applicable.

(6) The developer shall create a transit/rideshare information center and place it in a conspicuous location on the premises.

(7) For sites located adjacent to or within 600 feet of a Pierce Transit bus or van route, the developer shall fund the purchase and installation of a transit shelter package, including seating, trash receptacle and related facilities for each side of the street which has a transit route, consistent with Pierce Transit operational needs in accordance with FMC 22.60.014. (Ord. 1667 § 29, 2020; Ord. 1638 § 30, 2019; Ord. 1562 § 47, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.007 Location of off-street spaces.

(a) For single-family and duplex dwellings, the parking spaces shall be located on the same lot as the associated dwelling unit.

(b) For multifamily dwellings, the parking spaces shall be located on the same lot as associated dwelling units. The spaces may also be located on a contiguous lot if within 600 feet of the dwelling units and if the lot is legally encumbered by an easement or other appropriate means approved by the director and city attorney to ensure continuous use of the parking facilities.

(c) For nonresidential uses, the parking spaces shall be located on the same lot as the associated use. The spaces may also be located on a contiguous or noncontiguous lot if within 600 feet of the associated use and authorized as a shared parking facility in accordance with FMC 22.60.005. (Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.008 Parking and driveway design standards.

(a) Parking Space and Driveway/Aisle Dimensions. The parking space and aisle dimensions for the most common parking angles are shown in the accompanying table. For parking angles other than those shown on the table, the parking space and aisle dimensions shall be determined by the director or hearing examiner, as appropriate. Regardless of the parking angle, one-way aisles shall be at least 12 feet wide, and two-way aisles shall be at least 19 feet wide.

Space and Driveway/Aisle Dimensions

	<i>Space Angle (degrees)</i>				
	0° (parallel)	30°	45°	60°	90°
<i>Space Width (ft)</i>					
Regular space	8.5 – 9	8.5 – 9	8.5 – 9	8.5 – 9	8.5 – 9
Compact space	8 – 8.5	8 – 8.5	8 – 8.5	8 – 8.5	8 – 8.5
<i>Space Depth (ft)</i>					
Regular space	22	18	18	18	18
Compact space	19	16	16	16	16
<i>Driveway/ Aisle (ft)</i>					
One-way	12	13	13	17	24

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

	<i>Space Angle (degrees)</i>				
Two-way	19	20	20	20	24
* See FMC 22.60.009 for information on the accessible parking space dimensions.					

(b) Compact Car Space Requirements. The installation of compact spaces is required so that impervious surface coverage associated with parking facilities is minimized and the appearance of sites is enhanced by increasing the proportion of landscaping relative to pavement. No less than 40 percent and no more than 50 percent of the total number of spaces provided for a multifamily residential, mixed-use, or nonresidential development shall be sized to accommodate compact cars. Each space shall be clearly identified as a compact car space by painting the word “COMPACT” in capital letters, a minimum of eight inches high, on the pavement at the base of the parking space and centered between the striping. Aisle widths shall conform to the standards set for standard size cars.

(c) Extra Width Adjoining Landscaped Areas. Parking spaces abutting a landscaped area or raised walkway on the drive or passenger side of the vehicle shall provide an additional 18 inches above the minimum space width requirement. This additional space will provide a place to step other than in the landscaped area or allow for easier ingress and egress next to a vehicle. The additional width shall be separated from the adjacent landscaped area by a parking space division stripe.

(d) Parking Space Depth Reduction.

(1) Where parking spaces abut a walkway, parking space depth may be reduced by up to 18 inches and a portion of the walkway utilized for vehicle overhang; provided, that wheelstops or curbs are installed and the remaining walkway provides a minimum of five feet of unimpeded passageway for pedestrians.

(2) To minimize impervious surface and enhance landscaping, parking space pavement depth may be reduced by up to 18 inches when the pavement at the front end of a space is replaced by a landscaped area containing groundcovers which do not exceed a maximum height of six inches above parking space grade. Wheel stops or curbs shall be installed to protect this area from vehicular damage.

(e) Driveway Widths and Locations. Driveways for single-family detached dwellings shall not exceed 20 feet in width unless the director approves an alternative design that uses enhanced paving materials such as permeable interlocking pavers, pervious concrete, or porous asphalt that support stormwater infiltration and/or achieve a superior appearance. In no case shall the driveway exceed 20 feet within the public right-of-way or exceed the minimum width necessary to provide reasonable access to the dwelling. No more than one driveway is permitted to provide access to a single-family detached dwelling. Driveways for all other developments may cross required setbacks or landscaped areas to provide access between the off-street parking areas and the street; provided, that driveway width does not exceed the minimum necessary to provide safe vehicular and pedestrian circulation. Driveways oriented parallel to a street shall not be located within the minimum and maximum yard setback areas adjoining the street unless there is no other practicable alternative to provide access to the interior of a site.

(f) Lighting. Lighting shall be provided in accordance with FMC 22.58.018.

(g) Tandem Parking. Tandem or end-to-end parking is allowed in single-family detached residential developments. Duplex and multifamily developments may have tandem parking areas for each dwelling unit but shall not combine parking for separate dwelling units in tandem parking areas.

(h) Parking Surface. All required vehicle parking and storage must be in a garage, carport or on an approved, dust-free, all-weather surface. Use of enhanced paving materials such as permeable interlocking pavers, pervious concrete, or porous asphalt that support stormwater infiltration and/or achieve a superior appearance are encouraged for spaces which are used infrequently. Any surface used for vehicle parking or storage must have direct and unobstructed driveway access. (Ord. 1667 § 30, 2020; Ord. 1638 § 31, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.009 Barrier-free parking requirements.

Off-street parking for physically handicapped persons shall be provided in accordance with Section 7503 of the regulations adopted pursuant to Chapter 19.27 RCW, State Building Code, and Chapter 70.92 RCW, Public Buildings – Provisions for Aged and Handicapped. Any change in the state’s handicapped parking requirements shall preempt the affected requirements of this section.

(a) Accessible Parking Required. Accessible parking spaces shall be provided per the following table:

Number of Accessible Parking Spaces	
Total Parking Spaces in Lot or Garage	Minimum Required Number of Accessible Spaces
1 – 25	1
26 – 50	2
51 – 75	3
76 – 100	4
101 – 150	5
151 – 200	6
201 – 300	7
301 – 400	8
401 – 500	9
501 – 1,000	2% of total spaces
Over 1,000	20 spaces plus 1 space every 100 spaces, or fraction thereof, over 1,000

One of every eight accessible spaces or fraction thereof shall be designed to be accessible to wheelchair side loading vans.

Exceptions:

- (1) Inpatient Medical Facilities. Twenty percent of parking spaces provided shall be accessible.
- (2) Outpatient Medical Care Facilities. Ten percent of parking spaces provided shall be accessible.
- (3) Multifamily Buildings. One accessible parking space for each fully accessible unit shall be provided. When total parking provided on site exceeds one parking space per unit, two percent of the additional parking shall be accessible.

(b) Design and Construction.

(1) Location. Accessible parking spaces shall be located on the shortest possible accessible route of travel to an accessible building entry. In facilities with multiple accessible building entries with adjacent parking, accessible parking spaces shall be dispersed and located near the accessible entrances. Wherever practical, the accessible route of travel shall not cross lanes of vehicular traffic. Where crossing traffic lanes is necessary, the route of travel shall be designated and marked as a crosswalk.

(2) Size. Accessible parking spaces shall be no less than eight feet wide and shall have an adjacent access aisle no less than five feet wide. Where two adjacent accessible spaces are provided, the access aisle may be shared between the two spaces. Access aisles shall be marked so that the aisles will not be used as parking space. Van

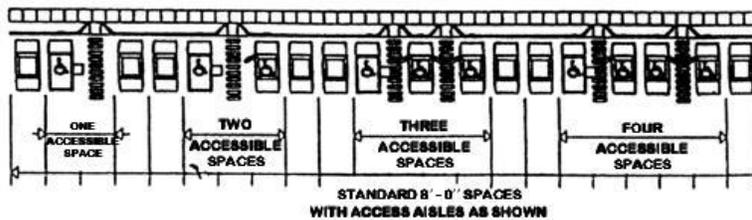
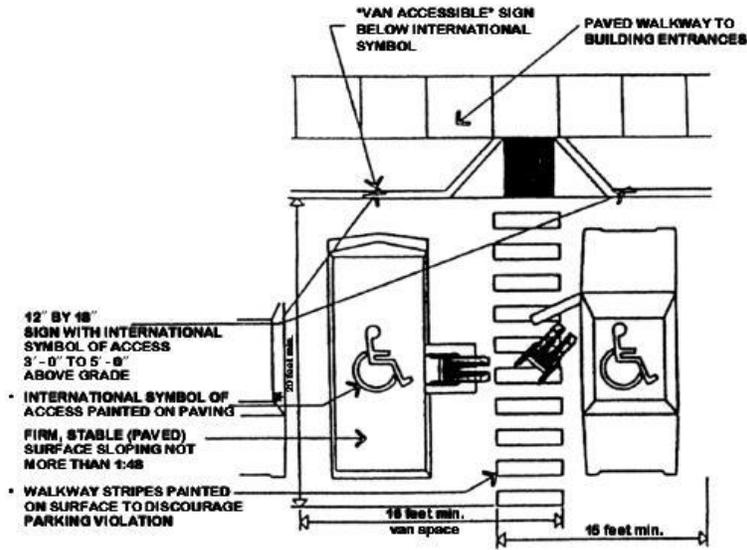
accessible spaces shall have an adjacent access aisle no less than eight feet wide or a total width of 16 feet including the parking space. See Figure 1.

(3) Vertical Clearance. Where accessible parking spaces are required for vans, the vertical clearance shall be no less than nine and one-half feet.

(4) Slope. Accessible parking spaces and access aisles shall be located on a surface with a slope not to exceed one vertical in 48 horizontal.

(5) Surface. Parking spaces and access aisles shall be firm, stable, smooth and slip resistant.

(6) Signs. Accessible spaces must be identified by signs with the international symbol of accessibility (ISA). Signs identifying van spaces must include the term "van accessible." Signs must be at least 60 inches high measured to the bottom edge so that they are visible while vehicles are parked in a space.



(Ord. 1667 § 31, 2020; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.010 Bicycle parking facilities.

(a) In any development required to provide 12 or more parking spaces, bicycle parking shall be provided. Bicycle parking shall be bike rack or locker-type parking facilities unless otherwise specified.

(b) Off-street parking areas shall contain at least one bicycle parking space for every 12 spaces required for motor vehicles except as follows:

- (1) The hearing examiner may reduce bike rack or locker-type parking facilities for patrons when it is demonstrated that bicycle activity will not occur at that location.
- (2) The hearing examiner may require additional spaces when it is determined that the use or its location will generate a high volume of bicycle activity. Such a determination will include but not be limited to the following uses:

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- (A) Park and playfield;
- (B) Library, museum, and arboretum;
- (C) Elementary or secondary school; or
- (D) Recreational or amusement facility.

(c) Bicycle facilities for patrons shall be located on site, designed to allow either a bicycle frame or wheels to be locked to a structure attached to the pavement, or allow for the entire bicycle to be enclosed within a locker.

(d) All bicycle parking and storage shall be located in safe, visible areas that do not impede pedestrian or vehicle traffic flow, well lighted for nighttime use, and located in covered areas or otherwise be protected from the elements where practicable. (Ord. 1638 § 32, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.011 Loading space requirements.

(a) Applicability. For all new development or uses, adequate permanent off-street loading space and associated maneuvering area shall be provided if the use requires deliveries or shipment of people, materials, and/or merchandise. Structures and uses which require loading space and associated maneuvering area include but are not limited to the following: warehouses, supermarkets, department stores, office buildings greater than or equal to 20,000 square feet, industrial or manufacturing uses, mortuary and other commercial and industrial buildings or uses which, in the judgement of the director or the hearing examiner as specified in this chapter, are similar in nature in regard to loading space and maneuvering area requirements.

(b) Quantity. One loading space shall be provided for each 12,000 square feet of floor area or fraction thereof within a building intended to be used for merchandising, manufacturing, warehousing, or processing purposes. If the building contains more than 24,000 square feet of floor area used for these purposes, then one additional space shall be provided for each additional 24,000 square feet of floor area so used. The hearing examiner may authorize a reduction or waiver based on the quantity of pick-up and delivery vehicles associated with the given structure or use.

(c) Dimensions and Location. Each loading space required by this section shall be a minimum of 10 feet wide and 30 feet long, shall have an unobstructed vertical clearance of 14 feet, six inches, and shall be surfaced, improved, and maintained as required by this chapter. Loading spaces shall be located so that trucks will not obstruct pedestrian or vehicle traffic movement or project into any public right-of-way. All loading space and maneuvering areas shall be separated from required parking areas and shall be designated as truck loading spaces. For developments with buffer yards, the loading space and maneuvering area shall be:

- (1) Located at the farthest distance from the buffer yard as practicable; and
- (2) If possible, located in such a manner that the primary building is between the buffer yard and the loading and maneuvering area.

(d) Impact Mitigations. Any loading space located within 100 feet of areas zoned for residential use shall be screened and operated as necessary to reduce noise and visual impacts. Noise mitigation measures may include architectural or structural barriers, berms, walls, or restrictions on the hours of operation.

(e) Self-Service Storage Facilities. Multi-story self-service storage facilities shall provide two loading spaces, and single-story facilities, one loading space, adjacent to each building entrance that provides common access to interior storage units. (Ord. 1638 § 33, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.012 Stacking spaces for drive-through facilities.

(a) A stacking space shall be an area measuring eight feet by 20 feet with direct forward access to a service window of a drive-through facility. A stacking space shall be located to prevent any vehicle from extending onto the public right-of-way, or interfering with any pedestrian circulation, traffic maneuvering, or other parking space areas. Stacking spaces for drive-through or drive-in uses may not be counted as required parking spaces.

(b) Uses providing drive-up or drive-through services shall provide vehicle stacking spaces as follows:

(1) For each drive-up window of a bank or financial institution, business service, or other drive-through use not listed, a minimum of five stacking spaces shall be provided; and

(2) For each service window of a drive-through restaurant, a minimum of seven stacking spaces shall be provided.

(c) Generally, to reduce congestion and turning lane conflicts, drive-through facilities shall not take access from a principal arterial street. Drive-through facilities must be provided access from a secondary street or road unless a traffic and circulation study, which includes a vehicle stacking analysis, clearly demonstrates that the proposed use and site design will not result in vehicles encroaching onto the public right-of-way, or interfering with any pedestrian circulation, traffic maneuvering, or other parking space areas. (Ord. 1611 § 19, 2018; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.013 Pedestrian circulation and access.

The following general pedestrian design standards shall apply to all developments throughout the city in addition to those outlined elsewhere within special planning areas and design overlay districts:

(a) All uses, except detached single-family dwellings, shall provide pedestrian access onto the site. Pedestrian access points shall be provided at all pedestrian arrival points to the development including the property edges, adjacent lots, abutting street intersections, crosswalks, and at transit stops. Pedestrian access shall be located as follows:

(1) Access points at property edges and to adjacent lots shall be coordinated with existing development to provide circulation connections between developments; and

(2) Residential developments shall provide links between cul-de-sacs or groups of buildings and nearby streets to allow pedestrian access from within the development and from adjacent developments to activity centers, parks, common tracts, open spaces, schools, or other public facilities, transit stops, and public streets.

(b) Pedestrian walkways shall form an on-site circulation system that minimizes the conflict between pedestrians and vehicular traffic at all points of pedestrian access to on-site parking and building entrances. Pedestrian walkways shall be provided when the pedestrian access point or any parking space is more than 75 feet from the building entrance or principal on-site destination and as follows:

(1) All developments which contain more than one building shall provide walkways between the principal entrances of the buildings;

(2) All nonresidential buildings set back more than 100 feet from the public right-of-way shall provide for reasonably direct pedestrian access from the building to buildings on adjacent lots; and

(3) Pedestrian walkways across parking areas shall be located as follows:

(A) Walkways running parallel to the parking rows shall be provided at a minimum of every four rows; and

(B) Walkways running perpendicular to the parking rows shall be no further than 20 parking spaces.

(c) Pedestrian access and walkways shall meet the following minimum design standards:

(1) Access and walkways shall be physically separated from driveways and parking spaces by landscaping, berms, barriers, grade separation or other means to protect pedestrians from vehicular traffic;

(2) Access and walkways shall be a minimum of five feet of unobstructed width and meet the city's surfacing standards for walkways or sidewalks;

(3) Access shall be usable by mobility-impaired persons and shall be designed and constructed to be easily located by the sight-impaired pedestrian by either grade change, texture or other equivalent means;

(4) Wherever walkways are provided, raised crosswalks or speed bumps shall be located at all points where a walkway crosses the lane of vehicle travel; and

(5) Lighting shall be provided to an intensity where the access and walkways can be used at night by the employees, residents, and customers. Lighting shall be height appropriate to a pedestrian pathway system.

(d) Blocks in excess of 900 feet in length shall be provided with a crosswalk at the approximate midpoint of the block, or as the hearing examiner determines to be appropriate. (Ord. 1638 § 34, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.014 Transit facilities.

For uses which generate a parking demand of greater than or equal to 25 parking spaces per FMC 22.60.003 and which are subject to site plan, conditional use permit or preliminary development plan review, the developer shall fund the purchase and installation of one or more transit shelters and related facilities consistent with Pierce Transit operational needs.

(a) Transit shelters and related facilities shall be provided for transit stops which are located adjacent to or within 600 feet of the development site on each side of the street which has a transit route. This requirement may be waived by Pierce Transit or the city when it has been determined by either agency that there is insufficient space for the installation of a transit shelter at the appropriate location. This requirement may also be waived when Pierce Transit has determined that current and projected transit ridership do not warrant the installation of a shelter within the 600-foot distance.

(b) When a transit shelter is required to be installed, seating, garbage receptacles, and lighting shall be provided. Sidewalks next to transit stops shall be at least 10 feet wide and extend to the curb. A transit shelter may be constructed on up to five feet of the sidewalk.

(c) When a transit shelter is not required to be installed, transit stops shall include design features or changes in materials that demarcate the stop. These features may include pavement changes, lighting fixtures, unique designs for nearby walls, or graphics.

(d) Transit pullouts shall be provided if Pierce Transit and the city determine that a pullout is necessary to provide a safe refuge for transit vehicles or to minimize conflicts with other vehicles. (Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.015 Parking reductions for temporary outdoor sales events.

(a) A property owner or business owner may submit a request for a temporary reduction in the number of off-street parking spaces provided on a commercial site when a proposed outdoor sales event will be located within the off-street parking facility associated with the business and the number of parking spaces will be reduced below the minimum required in FMC 22.60.003.

(b) The request shall be processed in accordance with the administrative use permit procedures in Chapter 22.70 FMC. The director shall consider the potential impacts of the sales event on adjoining uses and may limit the number of sales events or their duration, or impose other restrictions, in order to mitigate these impacts.

(c) The director may authorize a parking reduction for one or more temporary sales events if the following standards are met:

(1) At least 50 percent of the off-street parking spaces required in FMC 22.60.003 for the commercial use is maintained during the sales event.

(2) If less than 50 percent of the off-street parking spaces required in FMC 22.60.003 for the commercial use will remain available for customer or employee use during the sales event, the number of spaces needed to meet the 50 percent threshold will be provided at a nearby off-site parking facility. In such case, the applicant shall provide a written statement from the owner/operator of the off-site parking facility agreeing to make available the necessary number of spaces to the operator of the sales event for the duration of the event.

(3) If off-site parking is required in subsection (c)(2) of this section, directional signs will be installed by the applicant, to the satisfaction of the city, to inform the public of the availability of the off-site parking facility.

(d) Temporary outdoor sales events authorized prior to the effective date of this section shall comply with the 50 percent parking threshold and directional signage requirement to the extent possible. (Ord. 1667 § 32, 2020; Ord. 1638 § 35, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 16, 2000).

22.60.016 Micromobility vehicles and facilities.

(a) Micromobility refers to small, manually or electrically powered vehicles used to travel short distances. Also known as little vehicles, micromobility examples include electric pedal assisted (pedelec) bicycles, scooters, velomobiles, motorized skateboards, and other small, human- or battery-powered low-speed alternatives to the automobile.

(b) Battery-powered electric motors make micromobility a viable mode of transportation for more people, whether this is for fun or utility. These vehicles may be used for the “first mile” and “last mile” of longer trips that include transit; for example, the connection between a person’s home or place of employment and a transit facility.

(c) The provision of micromobility facilities can support increased usage of smaller vehicles that require less space for parking and storage compared to larger motor vehicles. The provision of little vehicle parking and storage corrals and dedicated travel lanes within new development can be used to reduce automobile parking demand, if residents, employees, or visitors to an area are successfully encouraged to rely less on private auto ownership and use.

(d) New development within higher density and intensity neighborhoods, especially within the city’s mixed-use districts, is encouraged to provide facilities that support micromobility. Their provision may justify a reduction in the amount of off-street parking provided for autos and other motor vehicles. (Ord. 1667 § 33, 2020).

Chapter 22.70
ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMITS

Sections:

- 22.70.001 Purpose.
- 22.70.002 Authority.
- 22.70.003 Criteria for administrative use permit approval.
- 22.70.004 Application procedures.
- 22.70.005 Submittal requirements.
- 22.70.006 Amendment of administrative use permit.
- 22.70.007 Performance bond.
- 22.70.008 Duration of an administrative use permit.

22.70.001 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to establish decision criteria and procedures for uses which, due to their unique qualities, may require additional regulation or other special degrees of control. An administrative review process is required to ensure that the activity, if established, will be in full compliance with applicable regulations and that such uses are compatible with the comprehensive plan, adjacent uses, and the character of the vicinity. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.002 Authority.

The director may approve, approve with conditions, modify and approve with conditions, or deny, an administrative use permit. An administrative use permit shall be approved when the director has determined that the criteria listed in FMC 22.70.003 are met by the proposal. The director may impose specific conditions upon the use, including an increase in the standards of this title, which will enable the director to make the required findings in FMC 22.70.003. These conditions may include, but are not limited to restrictions in hours of operations; restrictions on locations of structures and uses; structural requirements which address safety, noise, light and glare, vibration, odor, views, aesthetics and other impacts; production of an operational agreement stipulating limitations on the use of the land or facilities thereon; and increased buffering requirements, including open space, berms, fencing and landscaping. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.003 Criteria for administrative use permit approval.

Before any administrative use permit may be granted, the director shall adopt written findings showing that the following criteria are met by the proposal:

- (a) The proposed use will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare; injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity; or adversely affect the established character of the surrounding vicinity.
- (b) The proposed use will meet or exceed all applicable development, design and performance standards and guidelines required for the specific use, location, or zoning classification.
- (c) The proposed use will be consistent and compatible with the goals, objectives and policies of the comprehensive plan.
- (d) All conditions necessary to lessen any impacts of the proposed use are measurable and can be monitored and enforced. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.004 Application procedures.

An administrative use permit is classified as a Type II application. The processing procedures for this application are described in Chapters 22.05, 22.06, 22.07, 22.08, 22.09 and 22.10 FMC. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.005 Submittal requirements.

Application for an administrative use permit shall be submitted on forms provided by the department. A minimum of two sets of plans, materials and other applicable information specified in FMC 22.06.002 shall be submitted with the application. Applications for an administrative use permit to develop or operate a facility for permanent

Commented [KM4]: This criteria allows for fluidity in reviewing STEP Housing proposals. If an application is received for Perm. Supportive Housing in an existing residence that is in keeping with the neighborhood context, this criterion will be met and will support an approved administrative decision.

It also leaves room for findings of contextual inconsistency with the surrounding neighborhood or the zoning standards that can prompt a denied decision from the Administrator, which could be appealed to the Hearing Examiner (creating the same effect as a Conditional Use Permit).

supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency shelters, or emergency housing shall submit a draft Operational Agreement as set forth in FMC 22.58.030 with their application. Based on a preliminary review of the proposal, the director may determine that additional information, including the items listed in FMC 22.72.009 (site plan review submittal requirements), is necessary to complete the review and shall be provided by the applicant. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.006 Amendment of administrative use permit.

An applicant may request an amendment to an approved administrative use permit by submitting to the department a description of the proposed amendment and accurate plans which clearly identify the proposed changes to the approved design, if applicable. The director may determine that:

- (a) The proposed amendment is exempt from further review because it represents a minor change from the terms of the original approval or the originally approved plans and the criteria listed in FMC 22.70.003 continue to be met; or
- (b) The proposed amendment is subject to additional review because it represents a major change from the terms of the original approval or to the originally approved plans.

A request to amend an approved conditional use permit which has been determined to be subject to additional review shall be processed using the same procedures applicable to the original administrative use permit process. The director may impose conditions on the proposed amendment to ensure that the intent and conditions of the original approval are met. Deviations from an approved administrative use permit are not permitted unless an applicant first obtains approval in accordance with this section. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.007 Performance bond.

The director may require as a condition of administrative use permit approval that the applicant furnish the city with a performance bond, or other form of guarantee deemed acceptable by the city attorney, to secure the applicant's obligation to complete the provisions and conditions of the permit as approved. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

22.70.008 Duration of an administrative use permit.

In the event that an administrative use permit is not exercised within one year from the effective date of approval, it shall automatically become null and void; provided, however, that for good cause, the director may grant a one-time extension of one year if an extension request is filed with the department no less than 15 days prior to the date of expiration for the administrative use permit. A properly filed application for a time extension shall stay the effective date of expiration until action on the request has become final. The process for taking action on the request shall be the same used for the original administrative use permit application. Before taking action to grant an extension, the director shall adopt written findings showing that the following circumstances exist:

- (a) The proposal approved under the terms of the administrative use permit originally granted remains in conformance with current development standards contained in this title. (If the proposal no longer conforms to this title as a result of more restrictive standards being adopted subsequent to the original approval, the director may consider a modified proposal which would comply with the more restrictive standards.)
- (b) The findings adopted in support of the original administrative use permit request remain valid and supportive of the time extension request. (Ord. 1246 § 21, 2000).

Chapter 22.98

DEFINITIONS

Sections:

- 22.98.003 Definition of any word not listed.
- 22.98.006 Abandonment of telecommunications facility.
- 22.98.009 Accessory building or structure.
- 22.98.012 Accessory dwelling unit.
- 22.98.015 Accessory use.
- 22.98.016 Adaptive management.
- 22.98.017 Adjacent.
- 22.98.018 Adult bathhouse.
- 22.98.021 Adult bookstore.
- 22.98.024 Adult cabaret.
- 22.98.027 Adult entertainment.
- 22.98.030 Adult entertainment establishment.
- 22.98.033 Adult family home.
- 22.98.036 Adult live entertainment establishment.
- 22.98.039 Adult massage parlor.
- 22.98.042 Adult motion picture theater.
- 22.98.045 Adult retail store.
- 22.98.048 Adult sauna parlor.
- 22.98.051 Adult video store.
- 22.98.052 Advance mitigation.
- 22.98.053 Advertising copy.
- 22.98.054 Alley.
- 22.98.057 Alteration.
- 22.98.060 Amendment.
- 22.98.062 Anadromous fish.
- 22.98.063 Antenna.
- 22.98.066 Antenna height.
- 22.98.069 Antenna support structure.
- 22.98.072 Applicant.
- 22.98.075 Antique.
- 22.98.078 Antique store.
- 22.98.079 Aquifer.
- 22.98.080 Aquifer, confined.
- 22.98.081 Aquifer recharge areas.
- 22.98.082 Aquifer, sole source.
- 22.98.083 Aquifer susceptibility.
- 22.98.084 Aquifer, unconfined.
- 22.98.085 Area of shallow flooding.
- 22.98.087 Articulation.
- 22.98.090 Assisted living facility.
- 22.98.091 Available capacity.
- 22.98.091.1 Barbeque.
- 22.98.092 Base flood.
- 22.98.093 Basement.
- 22.98.094 Battery charging station.
- 22.98.094.1 Battery electric vehicle (BEV).
- 22.98.094.2 Battery exchange station.
- 22.98.095 Best available science.
- 22.98.096 Best management practices (BMPs).
- 22.98.097 Biodiversity.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.099 Block.
- 22.98.100 Breakaway wall.
- 22.98.102 Buffer.
- 22.98.105 Buildable area.
- 22.98.108 Building.
- 22.98.111 Building, detached.
- 22.98.114 Building envelope.
- 22.98.114.1 Building elevation.
- 22.98.114.2 Building facade.
- 22.98.114.3 Building fascia.
- 22.98.114.4 Building frontage.
- 22.98.117 Building height.
- 22.98.120 Building line.
- 22.98.123 Building, principal or main.
- 22.98.126 Bulk regulations.
- 22.98.126.1 Burn barrel.
- 22.98.129 Business or commerce.
- 22.98.132 Caliper.
- 22.98.135 Camouflaged facility.
- 22.98.138 Carport.
- 22.98.141 Cell site.
- 22.98.142 Certificate of capacity.
- 22.98.143 Channel migration zone (CMZ).
- 22.98.144 Character.
- 22.98.145 Charging levels.
- 22.98.147 Child day-care center.
- 22.98.148 City engineer.
- 22.98.150 Clearing.
- 22.98.153 Compensation.
- 22.98.154 Compensation project.
- 22.98.155 Compensatory mitigation.
- 22.98.156 Club.
- 22.98.159 Co-location.
- 22.98.160 Concurrency facilities.
- 22.98.161 Concurrency test.
- 22.98.162 Conditional use.
- 22.98.165 Conditional use permit.
- 22.98.166 Conservation easement.
- 22.98.168 Correctional group home.
- 22.98.171 Covenant.
- 22.98.174 COW.
- 22.98.177 Creation.
- 22.98.179 Critical aquifer recharge area.
- 22.98.180 Critical area inventory maps.
- 22.98.183 Critical areas.
- 22.98.184 Critical area tract.
- 22.98.185 Critical facility.
- 22.98.185.1 Critical root zone.
- 22.98.186 Critical species.
- 22.98.188 Cumulative impacts or effects.
- 22.98.189 Curb level.
- 22.98.192 Dedication.
- 22.98.193 Developable area.
- 22.98.194 Development.
- 22.98.195 Development permit.
- 22.98.196 Development permit, final.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.197 Development permit, preliminary.
- 22.98.197.1 Diameter at breast height.
- 22.98.198 Director.
- 22.98.201 Drip line.
- 22.98.204 Drive-thru.
- 22.98.207 Dwelling.
- 22.98.210 Dwelling, duplex.
- 22.98.213 Dwelling, multifamily.
- 22.98.216 Dwelling, single-family.
- 22.98.219 Dwelling unit.
- 22.98.222 Early notice.
- 22.98.225 Ecosystem.
- 22.98.228 EIA.
- 22.98.228.1 Electric scooters and motorcycles.
- 22.98.228.2 Electric vehicle.
- 22.98.228.3 Electric vehicle charging stations.
- 22.98.229 Elevated building.
- 22.98.229.1 Eligible facilities request.
- ~~22.98.229.2 Emergency housing.~~
- ~~22.98.229.3 Emergency shelter.~~
- 22.98.230 Emergent wetland.
- 22.98.231 Enhancement.
- 22.98.234 Equipment enclosure.
- 22.98.237 Erosion.
- 22.98.240 Erosion hazard areas.
- 22.98.243 Escort agency.
- 22.98.246 Essential public facilities.
- 22.98.249 Establishment, business or commercial.
- 22.98.252 Excavation.
- 22.98.255 Existing and ongoing agricultural activities.
- 22.98.257 Exotic.
- 22.98.258 Extirpation.
- 22.98.261 FAA.
- 22.98.264 FCC.
- 22.98.265 Facility and service provider.
- 22.98.266 Facility modification.
- ~~22.98.267 Family- *Repealed*.~~
- 22.98.270 Family day-care facility.
- 22.98.273 Family group home.
- 22.98.276 Fence.
- 22.98.279 Fenestration.
- 22.98.282 Fill.
- 22.98.284 Final plat.
- 22.98.285 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas.
- 22.98.286 Fish habitat.
- 22.98.286.1 Flag.
- 22.98.286.2 Flag canopy.
- 22.98.287 Flood or flooding.
- 22.98.288 Flood insurance map.
- 22.98.289 Flood insurance study.
- 22.98.290 Floodplain.
- 22.98.291 Flood protection elevation.
- 22.98.292 Flood-resistant material.
- 22.98.293 Floodway.
- 22.98.294 Floor area, gross.
- 22.98.295 Forested wetland.

Formatted: Font: Italic

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.296 Formation.
- 22.98.297 Formation, confining.
- 22.98.298 Frequently flooded areas.
- 22.98.299 Frontage.
- 22.98.300 Functions and values.
- 22.98.303 Garage, private.
- 22.98.306 Garage, side entry.
- 22.98.309 Geologically hazardous areas.
- 22.98.312 Geologist.
- 22.98.315 Geotechnical engineer.
- 22.98.318 Governing authority.
- 22.98.321 Grade, finished.
- 22.98.322 Grade, natural.
- 22.98.324 Grading.
- 22.98.325 Groundcover.
- 22.98.326 Ground water.
- 22.98.327 Ground water management area.
- 22.98.328 Ground water management program.
- 22.98.329 Ground water, perched.
- 22.98.330 Habitat.
- 22.98.331 Habitats of local importance.
- 22.98.332 Halo illuminated.
- 22.98.333 Hazardous substance.
- 22.98.336 Hazardous waste.
- 22.98.338 Hedge.
- 22.98.339 High intensity land use.
- 22.98.340 High quality wetlands.
- 22.98.341 Historic condition.
- 22.98.342 Home occupation.
- 22.98.345 Hotel.
- 22.98.346 Hydraulic project approval (HPA).
- 22.98.348 Hydric soil.
- 22.98.350 Hydrologic soil groups.
- 22.98.351 Hydrophyte.
- 22.98.352 Hyporheic zone.
- 22.98.354 Impervious surface.
- 22.98.357 Impervious surface coverage.
- 22.98.360 Impound.
- 22.98.363 Impound yard.
- 22.98.365 Infiltration.
- 22.98.366 In-kind compensation.
- 22.98.369 Inoperable vehicle.
- 22.98.369.1 Inter-rill.
- 22.98.370 Isolated wetlands.
- 22.98.371 Joint aquatic resource permits application (JARPA).
- 22.98.372 Junk or salvage yard.
- 22.98.375 Kennel.
- 22.98.378 Kitchen.
- 22.98.381 Landslide.
- 22.98.382 Landslide hazard areas.
- 22.98.384 Large retail establishment.
- 22.98.385 Level of service standard.
- 22.98.386 Logo.
- 22.98.387 Logo shield.
- 22.98.388 Lot.
- 22.98.390 Lot, corner.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.393 Lot, flag.
- 22.98.396 Lot, interior.
- 22.98.399 Lot, substandard.
- 22.98.402 Lot, through.
- 22.98.405 Lot area, gross.
- 22.98.408 Lot area, net.
- 22.98.411 Lot coverage.
- 22.98.414 Lot depth.
- 22.98.417 Lot frontage.
- 22.98.420 Lot line.
- 22.98.423 Lot line, front.
- 22.98.426 Lot line, rear.
- 22.98.429 Lot line, side.
- 22.98.432 Lot of record, legal.
- 22.98.435 Lot width.
- 22.98.436 Low intensity land use.
- 22.98.437 Lowest floor.
- 22.98.437.1 Luminance.
- 22.98.437.2 Mansard.
- 22.98.437.3 Major transit stop.
- 22.98.438 Manufactured home.
- 22.98.441 Marquee.
- 22.98.441.1 Master sign plan.
- 22.98.444 Medical or dental clinic.
- 22.98.445 Microbeverage production facility.
- 22.98.445.1 Microbrewery.
- 22.98.445.2 Microdistillery.
- 22.98.445.3 Microwinery.
- 22.98.447 Mitigation.
- 22.98.450 Mini-storage or mini-warehouse (indoor).
- 22.98.451 Mini-storage or mini-warehouse (outdoor).
- 22.98.452 Moderate intensity land use.
- 22.98.453 Modification.
- 22.98.456 Modulation.
- 22.98.459 Monitoring.
- 22.98.461 Motion.
- 22.98.462 Mount.
- 22.98.463 Multiple building complex.
- 22.98.464 Multiple tenant building.
- 22.98.465 Native growth protection area (NGPA).
- 22.98.466 Native vegetation.
- 22.98.467 Nighttime hours.
- 22.98.467.1 Nits.
- 22.98.468 Nonconforming lot, use, or structure.
- 22.98.469 Nonresidential zone.
- 22.98.471 Noxious element.
- 22.98.474 Nude or semi-nude.
- 22.98.475 Off-site compensation.
- 22.98.476 On-site compensation.
- 22.98.476.05 Opaque.
- 22.98.476.1 Open fire.
- 22.98.477 Open space.
- 22.98.480 Open space, common.
- 22.98.483 Open space, private.
- 22.98.486 Open space, public.
- 22.98.489 Ordinance.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.492 Ordinary high water mark (OHM).
- 22.98.495 Outdoor storage.
- 22.98.496 Out-of-kind compensation.
- 22.98.498 Owner-occupied.
- 22.98.501 Panorama or peepshow.
- 22.98.504 Panorama premises.
- 22.98.506 Parapet.
- 22.98.507 Parcel.
- 22.98.510 Parking area.
- 22.98.513 Patio, covered.
- 22.98.516 Patio, uncovered.
- 22.98.518 Perimeter.
- 22.98.518.1 Permanent Supportive Housing
- 22.98.519 Permeability.
- 22.98.520 Person.
- 22.98.522 Personal wireless service, personal wireless service facilities, and facilities.
- 22.98.525 Personal wireless service facility design.
- 22.98.528 Pet shop.
- 22.98.531 Pharmaceuticals.
- 22.98.533 Planned capacity.
- 22.98.534 Planned development.
- 22.98.537 Planning commission.
- 22.98.540 Plat.
- 22.98.543 Porch.
- 22.98.544 Porous soil types.
- 22.98.544.1 Portable fire device.
- 22.98.545 Potable water.
- 22.98.546 Practical alternative.
- 22.98.549 Preliminary plat.
- 22.98.551 Premises.
- 22.98.552 Preschool.
- 22.98.555 Preschool, accredited.
- 22.98.557 Primary association area.
- 22.98.558 Priority habitat.
- 22.98.561 Printing, large-scale.
- 22.98.564 Printing, small-scale.
- 22.98.565 Private road or driveway.
- 22.98.567 Processed materials.
- 22.98.570 Professional office.
- 22.98.571 Project area.
- 22.98.573 Provider.
- 22.98.576 Public or quasi-public utility.
- 22.98.579 Qualified professional.
- 22.98.581 Raceway.
- 22.98.582 Reasonable use alternatives.
- 22.98.583 Recharge.
- 22.98.584 Reclaimed water.
- 22.98.585 Recorded.
- 22.98.588 Recreation, active.
- 22.98.591 Recreation, passive.
- 22.98.591.1 Recreational fire.
- 22.98.594 Recreational vehicle.
- 22.98.597 Recyclable material.
- 22.98.600 Recycling collection center.
- 22.98.603 Regulated activities.
- 22.98.604 Religious institution.

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.605 Repair or maintenance.
- 22.98.606 Restoration.
- 22.98.607 Retail establishment.
- 22.98.608 Rills.
- 22.98.609 Riparian habitat.
- 22.98.610 Roadway.
- 22.98.611 Roofline.
- 22.98.612 Scientific process.
- 22.98.613 Screening.
- 22.98.614 Scrub-shrub wetland.
- 22.98.615 Secondary use.
- 22.98.616 Section 404 Permit.
- 22.98.618 Security barrier.
- 22.98.621 Second-hand store.
- 22.98.622 Seeps.
- 22.98.623 Seismic hazard areas.
- 22.98.624 Sense of place.
- 22.98.627 Sensitive receptor.
- 22.98.630 SEPA rules.
- 22.98.632 Serviceable.
- 22.98.633 Service station.
- 22.98.634 Setback.
- 22.98.635 Shorelines.
- 22.98.636 Shorelines of the state.
- 22.98.637 Shorelines of statewide significance.
- 22.98.638 Shorelands or shoreland areas.
- 22.98.639 Short plat.
- 22.98.642 Short subdivision.
- 22.98.644 Sidewalk.
- 22.98.645 Sidewalk cafe.
- 22.98.648 Sign.
 - 22.98.648.1 Sign, abandoned.
 - 22.98.648.2 Sign, accessory.
 - 22.98.648.3 Sign alteration.
 - 22.98.648.4 Sign area.
 - 22.98.648.5 Sign, awning, canopy or marquee.
 - 22.98.648.6 Sign, changeable copy.
 - 22.98.648.7 Sign, digital.
 - 22.98.648.8 *Repealed.*
 - 22.98.648.9 *Repealed.*
 - 22.98.648.10 Sign, flashing.
 - 22.98.648.11 Sign, freestanding.
 - 22.98.648.12 *Repealed.*
 - 22.98.648.13 Sign height.
 - 22.98.648.14 *Repealed.*
 - 22.98.648.15 Sign, monument.
 - 22.98.648.16 Sign, neon.
 - 22.98.648.17 Sign, nonconforming.
 - 22.98.648.18 Sign, pan channel.
 - 22.98.648.19 Sign, permanent.
 - 22.98.648.20 Sign, pole-mounted.
 - 22.98.648.21 Sign, portable.
 - 22.98.648.22 *Repealed.*
 - 22.98.648.23 Sign, projecting.
 - 22.98.648.24 *Repealed.*
 - 22.98.648.25 *Repealed.*

The Fircrest Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1738, passed March 25, 2025.

- 22.98.648.26 *Repealed.*
- 22.98.648.27 Sign, revolving.
- 22.98.648.28 Sign, roof-mounted.
- 22.98.648.29 Sign, sandwich board.
- 22.98.648.30 Sign, service island.
- 22.98.648.31 Sign, special event.
- 22.98.648.32 Sign, temporary.
- 22.98.648.33 Sign, under-canopy.
- 22.98.648.34 Sign, wall.
- 22.98.648.35 Sign width.
- 22.98.648.36 Sign, window.
- 22.98.650 Significant portion of its range.
- 22.98.651 Significant tree.
- 22.98.652 Site.
- 22.98.654 Slope.
- 22.98.657 Social card game.
- 22.98.658 Soil survey.
- 22.98.658.1 Spandrel.
- 22.98.659 Special flood hazard areas.
- 22.98.660 Special protection areas.
- 22.98.661 Species.
- 22.98.662 Species, endangered.
- 22.98.663 Species of local importance.
- 22.98.664 Species, priority.
- 22.98.665 Species, threatened.
- 22.98.666 Specified sexual activities.
- 22.98.667 Specified anatomical areas.
- 22.98.669 Stand.
- 22.98.672 Stock-in-trade.
- 22.98.675 Story.
- 22.98.678 Stream corridor.
- 22.98.681 Street.
- 22.98.684 Street furniture.
- 22.98.687 Street right-of-way.
- 22.98.690 Streetscape.
- 22.98.693 Subdivision.
- 22.98.694 Subdrainage basin or subbasin.
- 22.98.695 Substantial damage.
- 22.98.696 Structural alteration.
- 22.98.697 Substantial improvement.
- 22.98.697.1 Substantially change.
- 22.98.698 Tenant space.
- 22.98.699 Toe of slope.
- 22.98.702 Tot lot.
- 22.98.705 Tower.
- 22.98.706 Transitional housing.
- 22.98.708 Tree topping.
- 22.98.711 Unavoidable.
- 22.98.714 Unlicensed wireless services.
- 22.98.715 Unshielded lighting.
- 22.98.717 Use.
- 22.98.720 Use, principal.
- 22.98.723 Use, accessory.
- 22.98.726 Use type.
- 22.98.729 Variance.
- 22.98.730 Variance, de minimis.

Formatted: French (France)

- 22.98.732 Vehicle repair, major.
- 22.98.735 Vehicle repair, minor.
- 22.98.738 Vehicle wash.
- 22.98.741 Vehicle wrecker.
- 22.98.744 Veterinary clinic.
- 22.98.745 Vulnerability.
- 22.98.746 Warehouse/warehousing.
- 22.98.747 Water dependent.
- 22.98.748 Water resource inventory area (WRIA).
- 22.98.749 Water table.
- 22.98.750 Water typing system.
- 22.98.751 Watercourse.
- 22.98.752 Well.
- 22.98.753 Wellhead protection area (WHPA).
- 22.98.754 Wetland classes, classes of wetlands, or wetland types.
- 22.98.755 Wetland edge.
- 22.98.756 Wetlands.
- 22.98.759 Wetlands mitigation bank.
- 22.98.760 Window.
- 22.98.762 Wrecked vehicle.
- 22.98.765 Yard, automobile wrecking.
- 22.98.768 Yard.
- 22.98.771 Yard, front.
- 22.98.774 Yard, rear.
- 22.98.777 Yard, required.
- 22.98.780 Yard, side.
- 22.98.783 Yard, side street side.
- 22.98.785 Zone of contribution.
- 22.98.786 Zone or zoning district.
- 22.98.789 Zoning map.

22.98.003 Definition of any word not listed.

The definition of any word or phrase not listed in this chapter which is in question when administering this title shall be as defined from one of the following sources which are incorporated herein by reference. These sources shall be utilized by finding the desired definition from source (a), but if it is not available there, then source (b) may be used and so on. Sources are as follows:

- (a) City development regulations;
- (b) Any city resolution, ordinance, code or regulation;
- (c) Any statute or regulation of the state of Washington (i.e., the most applicable);
- (d) Legal definitions from case law or a law dictionary;
- (e) The common dictionary. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.006 Abandonment of telecommunications facility.

“Abandonment of telecommunications facility” means: (a) to cease operation for a period of 60 or more consecutive days; (b) to reduce the effective radiated power of an antenna by 75 percent for 60 or more consecutive days; (c) to relocate an antenna at a point less than 80 percent of the height of an antenna support structure; or (d) to reduce the number of transmissions from an antenna by 75 percent for 60 or more consecutive days. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.009 Accessory building or structure.

“Accessory building or structure” means a building or structure, attached or detached from a principal building located on the same lot, the use of which is incidental, related and clearly subordinate to the principal use of the land

or building. With the exception of an accessory dwelling unit, an accessory building or structure is used by the occupants of the principal building. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.012 Accessory dwelling unit.

“Accessory dwelling unit” means a second dwelling unit added to a single-family detached dwelling or created within and on the same lot as a single-family detached dwelling unit, which is designed as a completely independent unit which provides for living, sleeping, cooking and sanitation. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.015 Accessory use.

“Accessory use” means a use incidental, related and clearly subordinate to the principal use of a lot or main building. An accessory use is only located on the same lot as a permitted principal use. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.016 Adaptive management.

“Adaptive management” relies on scientific methods to evaluate how well regulatory and nonregulatory actions protect the critical area. An adaptive management program is a formal and deliberate scientific approach to taking action and obtaining information in the face of uncertainty. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.017 Adjacent.

“Adjacent” means immediately adjoining (in contact with the boundary of the influence area) or within a distance that is less than that needed to separate activities from critical areas to ensure protection of the functions and values of the critical areas. “Adjacent” shall mean any activity or development located:

- (a) On a site immediately adjoining a critical area;
- (b) A distance equal to or less than the required critical area buffer width and building setback;
- (c) A distance equal to or less than 800 feet from a bald eagle nest;
- (d) A distance equal to or less than 300 feet upland from a stream, wetland, or water body;
- (e) Bordering or within the floodway, floodplain, or channel migration zone; or
- (f) A distance equal to or less than 200 feet from a critical aquifer recharge area. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.018 Adult bathhouse.

“Adult bathhouse” means a commercial bathhouse which excludes any person by virtue of age from all or any portion of the premises. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.021 Adult bookstore.

“Adult bookstore” means a retail establishment in which:

- (a) Thirty percent or more of the stock-in-trade consists of books, magazines, posters, pictures, periodicals, or other printed materials distinguished by an emphasis on matter depicting, describing or relating to “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas.”
- (b) Any person is excluded by virtue of age from all or part of the premises generally held open to the public where such materials are displayed or sold. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.024 Adult cabaret.

“Adult cabaret” means a commercial establishment that presents go-go dancers, strippers, male or female impersonators, or similar types of entertainment and which excludes any person by virtue of age from all or any portion of the premises. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.027 Adult entertainment.

“Adult entertainment” means:

- (a) Any exhibition, performance or dance of any type conducted in a premises where such exhibition, performance or dance involves a person who is unclothed or in such costume, attire or clothing as to expose any portion of the

nipple, the areola, or the lower half of the female breast or any portion of the pubic region, anus, buttocks, vulva or genitals, or wearing any device or covering exposed to view which simulates the appearance of any portion of the nipple, the areola, or the lower half of the female breast or any portion of the pubic region, anus, buttocks, vulva or genitals, or human male genitals in a discernibly turgid state, even if completely and opaquely covered; or

(b) Any exhibition, performance or dance of any type conducted in a premises where such exhibition, performance or dance is distinguished or characterized by a predominant emphasis on the depiction, description, simulation or relation to the following specified sexual activities:

- (1) Human genitals in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal;
- (2) Acts of human masturbation, sexual intercourse or sodomy;
- (3) Fondling or other erotic touching of human genitals, pubic region, buttocks or female breast;

(c) Any exhibition, performance or dance intended to sexually stimulate any patron and conducted in a premises where such exhibition, performance or dance is performed for, arranged with or engaged in with fewer than all patrons on the premises at that time, with separate consideration paid, either directly or indirectly, for such performance, exhibition or dance. For purposes of example and not limitation, such exhibitions, performances or dances are commonly referred to as table dancing, couch dancing, taxi dancing, lap dancing, private dancing or straddle dancing. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.030 Adult entertainment establishment.

“Adult entertainment establishment” means any commercial premises which is one of the following: adult motion picture theater, adult drive-in theater, adult bookstore, adult cabaret, adult video store, adult retail store, adult massage parlor, adult sauna parlor or adult bathhouse. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.033 Adult family home.

“Adult family home” means as defined in Chapter 70.128A RCW, Adult Family Homes, as amended: a regular family abode in which a person or persons provide personal care, special care, room and board to more than one but not more than six adults who are not related by blood or marriage to the person or persons providing the services. An adult family home is considered a family group home as defined in FMC 22.98.273. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.036 Adult live entertainment establishment.

“Adult live entertainment establishment” means a commercial premises to which a member of the public is invited or admitted and where an entertainer provides live adult entertainment to a member of the public on a regular basis or as a substantial part of the premises activity. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.039 Adult massage parlor.

“Adult massage parlor” means a commercial establishment in which massage or other touching of the human body is provided for a fee and which excludes any person by virtue of age from all or any portion of the premises. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.042 Adult motion picture theater.

“Adult motion picture theater” means a building, enclosure, or portion thereof, used for presenting material distinguished or characterized by an emphasis on matter depicting, describing or relating to “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas” for observation by the patrons therein. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.045 Adult retail store.

“Adult retail store” means a retail establishment in which 30 percent or more of the stock-in-trade consists of items, products, or equipment distinguished or characterized by an emphasis on or a simulation of “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas”, and/or any person is excluded by virtue of age from all or part of the premises generally held open to the public where such items, products, or equipment are sold. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.048 Adult sauna parlor.

“Adult sauna parlor” means a commercial sauna establishment which excludes any person by virtue of age from all or any portion of the premises. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.051 Adult video store.

“Adult video store” means a retail establishment in which 30 percent or more of the stock-in-trade consists of prerecorded video tapes, discs, or similar material distinguished or characterized by an emphasis on matter depicting, describing or relating to “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas”; and/or any person is excluded by virtue of age from all or part of the premises generally held open to the public where such prerecorded video tapes, disks, or similar material are displayed or sold. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.052 Advance mitigation.

“Advance mitigation” means mitigation of an anticipated critical area impact or hazard completed according to an approved critical area report and prior to site development. (Ord 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.053 Advertising copy.

“Advertising copy” means any sign graphics, background colors, logos or trademarks that identify or promote the sign user or any product or service; or that provides information about the sign user, the building or the products or services available. (Ord. 1322 § 5, 2003).

22.98.054 Alley.

“Alley” means a public right-of-way or city-approved private way, providing secondary access to adjacent property, which has less than 200 average daily trips and is no more than 30 feet in width. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.057 Alteration.

“Alteration” means any human-induced change in an existing condition of a critical area or its buffer. Alterations include, but are not limited to, grading, filling, channelizing, dredging, clearing (vegetation), construction, compaction, excavation, or any other activity that changes the character of the critical area. (Ord. 1375 § 10, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.060 Amendment.

“Amendment” means a change in the wording, context or substance of this title or the comprehensive plan; a change in the official zoning map or comprehensive plan map; or a change to a condition of approval or modification of a permit or plans reviewed or approved by the director, hearing examiner, planning commission, or city council. (Ord. 1638 § 65, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.062 Anadromous fish.

“Anadromous fish” means fish that spawn and rear in freshwater and mature in the marine environment. While Pacific salmon die after their first spawning, adult char (bull trout) can live for many years, moving in and out of saltwater and spawning each year. The life history of Pacific salmon and char contains critical periods of time when these fish are more susceptible to environmental and physical damage than at other times. The life history of salmon, for example, contains the following stages: upstream migration of adults, spawning, intergravel incubation, rearing, smoltification (the time period needed for juveniles to adjust their body functions to live in the marine environment), downstream migration, and ocean rearing to adults. (Ord 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.063 Antenna.

“Antenna” means any exterior apparatus designed for telephonic, radio, data, Internet, or television communication through the sending and/or receiving of electromagnetic waves, and includes equipment attached to a tower or building for the purpose of providing personal wireless services, including unlicensed wireless telecommunications services, wireless telecommunications services utilizing frequencies authorized by the Federal Communications Commission for cellular, enhanced specialized mobile radio and personal communications services, telecommunications services, and its attendant base station. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.066 Antenna height.

“Antenna height” means the vertical distance measured from the base of the antenna support structure at grade to the highest point of the structure even if said highest point is an antenna. Measurement of tower height shall include antenna, base pad, and other appurtenances and shall be measured from the finished grade of the parcel. If the

support structure is on a sloped grade, then the average between the highest and lowest grades shall be used in calculating the antenna height. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.069 Antenna support structure.

“Antenna support structure” means any pole, telescoping mast, tower, tripod, or other structure which supports a device used in the transmitting or receiving of radio frequency signals. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.072 Applicant.

“Applicant” means the person, party, firm, corporation, or other legal entity that proposes any activity. The applicant is either the owner of the land on which the proposed activity would be located, a contract vendee, a lessee of the land, the person who would actually control and direct the proposed activity, or the authorized agent of such a person. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.075 Antique.

“Antique” means a work of art, piece of furniture or decorative object made at least 50 years ago and having a retail value greater than \$75.00. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.078 Antique store.

“Antique store” means a second-hand dealer in which at least 25 percent of the total retail value of the items for sale are antiques as defined in FMC 22.98.075. See FMC 22.98.621, Second-hand store. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.079 Aquifer.

“Aquifer” means a geologic formation that contains sufficient saturated permeable material to conduct ground water and to yield sufficient quantity of water to serve as a private or public water supply. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.080 Aquifer, confined.

“Aquifer, confined” means an aquifer bounded above and below by beds of distinctly lower permeability than that of the aquifer itself and that contains ground water under sufficient pressure for the water to rise above the top of the aquifer. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.081 Aquifer recharge areas.

“Aquifer recharge areas” means areas that, due to the presence of certain soils, geology, and surface water, act to recharge ground water by percolation. (Ord. 1375 § 11, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.082 Aquifer, sole source.

“Aquifer, sole source” means an area designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, Section 1424(e). The aquifer(s) must supply 50 percent or more of the drinking water for an area without a sufficient replacement available. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.083 Aquifer susceptibility.

“Aquifer susceptibility” means the ease with which contaminants can move from the land surface to the aquifer based solely on the types of surface and subsurface materials in the area. Susceptibility usually defines the rate at which a contaminant will reach an aquifer unimpeded by chemical interactions with the vadose zone media. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.084 Aquifer, unconfined.

“Aquifer, unconfined” means an aquifer not bounded above by a bed of distinctly lower permeability than that of the aquifer itself and containing ground water under pressure approximately equal to that of the atmosphere. This term is synonymous with the term “water table aquifer.” (Ord. 1375 § 12, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.085 Area of shallow flooding.

“Area of shallow flooding” means an area designated AO or AH zone on the flood insurance map(s). The base flood depths range from one to three feet; a clearly defined channel does not exist; the path of flooding is unpredictable and indeterminate; and velocity flow may be evident. AO is characterized as sheet flow and AH indicates ponding. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.087 Articulation.

“Articulation” means the giving of emphasis to architectural elements such as windows, balconies, entries, etc., that create a complementary pattern of rhythm, dividing large buildings into smaller identifiable pieces. Articulating a building to divide up its mass and reduce its apparent size may be accomplished through facade modulation (see FMC 22.98.456) and other design techniques. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.090 Assisted living facility.

“Assisted living facility” means any of the following:

(a) Congregate Care Facility. A building or complex of dwellings specifically designed for occupancy by senior citizens which provides for shared use of facilities, such as kitchens, dining areas, and recreation areas. Such complexes may also provide kitchens and dining space in individual dwelling units, and practical nursing care.

(b) Convalescent Home. Any home, place, institution or facility which provides convalescent or chronic care, or both, for a period in excess of 24 consecutive hours for three or more patients not related by blood or marriage to the operator, who by reason of illness or infirmity, are unable to properly care for themselves. A convalescent home shall be licensed as a “nursing home” pursuant to Chapter 18.51 RCW.

(c) Hospice Care Center. A facility licensed under Chapter 70.41 RCW which provides for the emotional and physical care of terminally ill patients. Such centers provide food, lodging, and palliative care on a 24-hour basis for two or more people, unrelated to the center’s operator, who are in the latter stages of a disease expected to cause death.

(d) Nursing Home. See convalescent home.

(e) Residential Care Facility. A facility that cares for at least five, but not more than 15 functionally disabled persons, that is not licensed pursuant to Chapter 70.128 RCW.

(f) Residential Treatment Facility. A residential building that is licensed by the state to provide residential and domiciliary care to five or more individuals, or to provide rehabilitative treatment or services to individuals. Residential treatment facilities generally provide a limited term living arrangement for their residents in a family-like setting. Such facilities also provide rehabilitative services other than basic living skills training, often intended to provide residents with the future ability to live independently. Such facilities may provide medical treatment as an integral part of a rehabilitative program.

(g) Rest Home. See congregate care facility. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.091 Available capacity.

“Available capacity” means capacity for a public facility that is currently available for use. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.091.1 Barbeque.

“Barbeque” means a cooking appliance that may be portable or permanent. (Ord. 1507 § 6, 2011).

22.98.092 Base flood.

“Base flood” means a flood event having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, also referred to as the 100-year flood. Designations of base flood areas on flood insurance map(s) always include the letters A or V. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.093 Basement.

“Basement” means any area of the building having its floor below ground level on all sides, when used in the context of a frequently flooded area. (Ord. 1375 § 13, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.094 Battery charging station.

“Battery charging station” means an electrical component assembly or cluster of component assemblies designed specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles, which meet or exceed any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by Chapter 19.28 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540. (Ord. 1509 § 14, 2011).

22.98.094.1 Battery electric vehicle (BEV).

“Battery electric vehicle (BEV)” means any vehicle that operates exclusively on electrical energy from an off-board source that is stored in the vehicle’s batteries, and produces zero tailpipe emissions or pollution when stationary or operating. (Ord. 1509 § 15, 2011).

22.98.094.2 Battery exchange station.

“Battery exchange station” means a fully automated facility that will enable an electric vehicle with a swappable battery to enter a drive lane and exchange the depleted battery with a fully charged battery through a fully automated process, which meets or exceeds any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by Chapter 19.27 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540. (Ord. 1509 § 16, 2011).

22.98.095 Best available science.

“Best available science” means current scientific information used in the process to designate, protect, or restore critical areas, which is derived from a valid scientific process as defined by WAC 365-195-900 through 365-195-925. Sources of the best available science are included in Citations of Recommended Sources of Best Available Science for Designating and Protecting Critical Areas published by the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.096 Best management practices (BMPs).

“Best management practices (BMPs)” means conservation practices or systems of practices and management measures that:

- (a) Control soil loss and reduce water quality degradation caused by high concentrations of nutrients, animal waste, toxics, and sediment;
- (b) Minimize adverse impacts to surface water and ground water flow and circulation patterns and to the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of wetlands;
- (c) Protect trees and vegetation designated to be retained during and following site construction and use native plant species appropriate to the site for revegetation of disturbed areas; and
- (d) Provide standards for proper use of chemical herbicides within critical areas. (Ord. 1375 § 14, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.097 Biodiversity.

“Biodiversity” means the variety of animal and plant life and its ecological processes and interconnections – represented by the richness of ecological systems and the life that depends on them, including human life and economies. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.099 Block.

“Block” is a group of lots, tracts, or parcels within well defined and fixed boundaries. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.100 Breakaway wall.

“Breakaway wall” means a wall that is not part of the structural support of the building and is intended through its design and construction to collapse under specific lateral loading forces, without causing damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.102 Buffer.

“Buffer” means an area contiguous or adjacent to a critical area that provides a naturally vegetated zone surrounding a critical area. A buffer provides for the continued maintenance, function, and structural stability of a critical area. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.105 Buildable area.

“Buildable area” means the area of a lot remaining after the minimum yard and open space requirements of this title have been met. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.108 Building.

“Building” means any structure having a roof supported by columns, posts, or walls for the shelter, housing, or enclosure of any individual, animal, process, equipment, goods, or materials of any kind. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

Building, accessory.

See FMC 22.98.009, Accessory building or structure.

22.98.111 Building, detached.

“Building, detached” means a building surrounded by open space on the same lot. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.114 Building envelope.

“Building envelope” means the three-dimensional space within which a structure is permitted to be built on a lot and that is defined by maximum height regulations and minimum yard setbacks. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.114.1 Building elevation.

“Building elevation” means the visible vertical plane of the side of a building from ground level to the roofline. (Ord. 1598 § 29, 2017).

22.98.114.2 Building facade.

“Facade” means the elevation of a building extending from the ground level up to the bottom of the fascia on a pitched roof building, and up to the top of the wall or parapet on a flat roof building. The area of a building facade for purposes of calculating allowable wall signage includes the area of the windows and doors but excludes openings that do not have solid coverings, such as breezeways, colonnades and gateways that extend through, or to the back side of, the building. (Ord. 1598 § 30, 2017).

22.98.114.3 Building fascia.

“Building fascia” means any flat horizontal member or molding with little projection, or any relatively narrow vertical surface (frieze) or board under a roof edge or which forms the outer surface of a cornice, visible to an observer. (Ord. 1598 § 31, 2017).

22.98.114.4 Building frontage.

“Building frontage” means the ground floor horizontal distance of a building or portion thereof occupied by a tenant. Building frontage shall only be measured along a ground floor wall that has a customer entrance that faces and has access onto a public open space, such as a courtyard or plaza; or is adjacent to a public street, or adjacent to a driveway or parking lot that serves that use. If any building frontage does not consist of one straight line, the frontage of any offset portion shall be projected, for computation purposes, to the extension of the line of the most forward face of the building. (Ord. 1598 § 32, 2017).

22.98.117 Building height.

“Building height” means the average vertical distance between the finished grade on each exterior wall and a horizontal plane level with the highest point of the coping of a flat roof, the deck of a mansard roof, or the highest ridge line of a pitched roof. The height of a stepped or terraced building is measured for each segment of the building. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.120 Building line.

“Building line” means a line extending across that part of a building closest to, and fronting, the street. (Ord. 1417 § 12, 2006; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.123 Building, principal or main.

“Building, principal or main” means a building devoted to the principal use of the lot on which it is situated; where a permissible use involves more than one building or structure designed or used for the principal purpose, each such permissible building on a lot shall be classified as a principal building. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.126 Bulk regulations.

“Bulk regulations” means standards and controls that establish the maximum size of buildings and structures on a lot and the buildable area within which the building or structure can be located, including lot coverage, setbacks, height, floor area ratio, and yard requirements. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.126.1 Burn barrel.

“Burn barrel” means a barrel or other container used to burn rubbish and other debris. (Ord. 1507 § 6, 2011).

22.98.129 Business or commerce.

“Business or commerce” means the purchase, sale or other transaction involving the handling or disposition of any article, service, substance or commodity for livelihood or profit; or the management of office buildings, offices, recreational or amusement enterprises; or the maintenance and use of buildings, offices, structures and premises by professions and trades rendering services. See FMC 22.98.249, Establishment, business or commercial. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.132 Caliper.

“Caliper” means the diameter of tree trunk measured at 12 inches above soil level. This measurement is used when sizing a tree for purchase and installation. (Ord. 1562 § 54, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.135 Camouflaged facility.

“Camouflaged facility” means a personal wireless service facility that is disguised, hidden, or integrated with an existing structure that is not a monopole or tower, or a personal wireless service facility that is placed within an existing or proposed structure, or new structure, tower, or mount within trees so as to be significantly screened from view. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.138 Carport.

“Carport” means a roofed structure providing space for the parking of motorized and nonmotorized vehicles and enclosed on not more than three sides. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.141 Cell site.

“Cell site” means a tract or parcel of land that contains personal wireless service facilities including any antenna, support structure, accessory buildings, and parking, and may include other uses associated with and ancillary to personal wireless services. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.142 Certificate of capacity.

“Certificate of capacity” means a document issued by the city of Fircrest indicating the quantity of capacity for each concurrency facility that has been reserved for a specific development project on a specific property. The document may have conditions and an expiration date associated with it. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.143 Channel migration zone (CMZ).

“Channel migration zone (CMZ)” means the lateral extent of likely movement along a stream or river during the next 100 years as determined by evidence of active stream channel movement over the past 100 years. Evidence of active movement over the 100-year time frame can be inferred from aerial photos or from specific channel and valley bottom characteristics. The time span typically represents the time it takes to grow mature trees that can provide functional large woody debris to streams. A CMZ is not typically present if the valley width is generally less than two bankfull widths, if the stream or river is confined by terraces, no current or historical aerial photographic evidence exists of significant channel movement, and there is no field evidence of secondary channels with recent scour from stream flow or progressive bank erosion at meander bends. Areas separated from the active channel by legally existing artificial channel constraints that limit bank erosion and channel avulsion without hydraulic connections shall not be considered within the CMZ. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.144 Character.

“Character” means the distinctive features or attributes of buildings, uses and site design on adjacent properties and in the vicinity, including but not limited to building facade, building length, building modulation, building height, building location, roof form, building exterior finish materials, tree cover, types of flora, location of landscaping, size and location of signs, setbacks, amount of parking, location of parking, fencing type, fencing height, location of fencing, and intensity of uses. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.145 Charging levels.

“Charging levels” means the standardized indicators of electrical force, or voltage, at which an electric vehicle’s battery is recharged. The terms 1, 2, and 3 are the most common EV charging levels, and include the following specifications:

- (a) Level 1 is considered slow charging.
- (b) Level 2 is considered medium charging.
- (c) Level 3 is considered fast or rapid charging. (Ord. 1509 § 17, 2011).

22.98.147 Child day-care center.

“Child day-care center” means a facility licensed by the state providing regularly scheduled care for a group of 13 or more children within one month of age through 12 years of age range exclusively for periods less than 24 hours. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.148 City engineer.

“City engineer” means the city engineer of the city of Fircrest or person appointed by the city manager to act in such a role. (Ord. 1575 § 21, 2016).

22.98.150 Clearing.

“Clearing” means the destruction, disturbance or removal of logs, scrub-shrub, stumps, trees or any vegetative material by burning, chemical, mechanical or other means. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.153 Compensation.

“Compensation” means replacement by creation, enhancement, or restoration of critical areas or buffers equivalent in size, function and value to the one being altered or lost from development. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.154 Compensation project.

“Compensation project” means actions necessary to replace project-induced critical area and buffer losses, including land acquisition, planning, construction plans, monitoring, and contingency actions. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.155 Compensatory mitigation.

“Compensatory mitigation” means replacing project-induced losses or impacts to a critical area, and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Restoration – Actions performed to reestablish wetland functional characteristics and processes that have been lost by alterations, activities, or catastrophic events within an area that no longer meets the definition of a wetland.

Creation – Actions performed to intentionally establish a wetland at a site where it did not formerly exist.

Enhancement – Actions performed to improve the condition of existing degraded wetlands so that the functions they provide are of a higher quality.

Preservation – Actions taken to ensure the permanent protection of existing, high-quality wetlands. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.156 Club.

“Club” means an association of persons for some common purpose, including social, civic, charitable, or recreational activities, operated by a private nonprofit institution or organization, but excluding groups organized primarily to render a service which is customarily carried on by a business. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.159 Co-location.

“Co-location” means the use of a personal wireless service facility or cell site by more than one personal wireless service provider. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.160 Concurrency facilities.

“Concurrency facilities” means facilities for which concurrency is required in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 22.12 FMC. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.161 Concurrency test.

“Concurrency test” means the comparison of an applicant’s impact on all public facilities to the capacity including available and planned capacity of the facilities. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.162 Conditional use.

“Conditional use” means a use identified within the zoning district regulations of this title, that because of size, location with respect to surroundings, equipment, unique characteristics and effects and/or demands on public facilities, requires a special degree of control in order to ensure compatibility with the vicinity. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.165 Conditional use permit.

“Conditional use permit” means the documented evidence of authority granted by the hearing examiner in accordance with Chapter 22.68 FMC to establish a conditional use at a specific location. (Ord. 1638 § 66, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.166 Conservation easement.

“Conservation easement” means a legal agreement that the property owner enters into to restrict uses of the land. Such restrictions can include, but are not limited to, passive recreation uses such as trails or scientific uses and fences or other barriers to protect habitat. The easement is recorded on a property deed, runs with the land, and is legally binding on all present and future owners of the property, therefore providing permanent or long-term protection. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.168 Correctional group home.

“Correctional group home” means a dwelling structure consisting of more than one adult within a halfway-house, pre-release, training-release, work-release or other similar program under the supervision of a local, state or federal criminal justice system. Additionally, the dwelling structure is operated or contracted by a local, state or federal criminal justice system. A correctional group home includes staff who supervise the residents. A correctional facility which consists solely of individuals below the age of 18 under the supervision of a local, state or federal criminal justice system and correctional staff shall be classified as a family group home and not a correctional group home. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.171 Covenant.

“Covenant” means a restriction or condition placed upon the use of property by private instrument recorded by the Pierce County Auditor. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.174 COW.

“COW” means an acronym for “cell on wheels,” an antenna as defined in FMC 22.98.063, which is portable. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.177 Creation.

“Creation” means bringing a wetland, stream corridor, fish and wildlife habitat, or other critical area, when possible, into existence at a site in which the critical area did not formerly exist. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.179 Critical aquifer recharge area.

“Critical aquifer recharge area” means areas designated by WAC 365-190-080(2) that are determined to have a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water as defined by WAC 365-190-030(2). (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.180 Critical area inventory maps.

“Critical area inventory maps” means those maps and documents housed by the department which contain information on the general location of critical areas. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.183 Critical areas.

“Critical areas” includes the following areas and ecosystems:

- (a) Wetlands;
- (b) Aquifer recharge areas;
- (c) Fish and wildlife habitats;

(d) Frequently flooded areas; and

(e) Geologically hazardous areas. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.184 Critical area tract.

“Critical area tract” means land held in private ownership and retained in an open condition in perpetuity for the protection of critical areas. Lands within this type of dedication may include, but are not limited to, portions and combinations of forest habitats, grasslands, shrub steppe, on-site watersheds, 100-year floodplains, shorelines or shorelines of statewide significance, riparian areas, and wetlands. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.185 Critical facility.

“Critical facility” means a facility for which even a slight chance of flooding, inundation, or impact from a hazard event might be too great. Critical facilities include, but are not limited to, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, police, fire and emergency response installations, and installations that produce, use, or store hazardous materials or hazardous waste. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.185.1 Critical root zone.

“Critical root zone (CRZ)” means an area where a tree’s roots are located. This root zone is generally the area surrounding a tree at a distance that is equal to a one-foot radius for every one inch DBH. The CRZ may extend further from a tree depending on tree species, age, soil type and other factors. (Ord. 1562 § 55, 2015).

22.98.186 Critical species.

“Critical species” means all animal and plant species listed by the state or federal government as threatened or endangered. (Ord. 1375 § 15, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.188 Cumulative impacts or effects.

“Cumulative impacts or effects” means the combined, incremental effects of human activity on ecological or critical areas functions and values. Cumulative impacts result when the effects of an action are added to or interact with other effects in a particular place and within a particular time. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.189 Curb level.

“Curb level” for any building means the level of the established curb in front of such building measured at the center of such front. Where no curb elevation has been established, the mean elevation of the finished lot grade immediately adjacent to a building shall be considered the curb level. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.192 Dedication.

“Dedication” is the transfer of property by the owner to another party for a specific use such as roads, utilities and open space. A dedication is conveyed by written instrument and is completed with an acceptance. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.193 Developable area.

“Developable area” means a site or portion of a site that may be utilized as the location of development. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.194 Development.

“Development” means any activity upon the land consisting of construction or alteration of structures, earth movement, dredging, dumping, grading, filling, mining, removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals, driving of piles, drilling operations, bulkheading, clearing of vegetation, or other land disturbance. Development includes the storage or use of equipment or materials inconsistent with the existing use. Development also includes approvals issued by the city that binds land to specific patterns of use, including, but not limited to, subdivisions, short subdivisions, zone changes, conditional use permits, and binding site plans. When used in the context of critical areas regulations, development activity does not include the following activities:

(a) Interior building improvements.

(b) Exterior structure maintenance activities, including painting and roofing.

(c) Routine landscape maintenance of established, ornamental landscaping, such as lawn mowing, pruning, and weeding.

(d) Maintenance of the following existing facilities that does not expand the affected area: septic tanks (routine cleaning); wells; individual utility service connections; and individual cemetery plots in established and approved cemeteries. (Ord. 1375 § 16, 2005; Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.195 Development permit.

“Development permit” means a building permit or project permit as classified in FMC 22.05.003. (Ord. 1275 § 3, 2001; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.196 Development permit, final.

“Development permit, final” means a building permit or any other development permit that results in an immediate and continuing impact on public facilities. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.197 Development permit, preliminary.

“Development permit, preliminary” means a preliminary site plan, preliminary development plan, preliminary plat or conditional use permit. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.197.1 Diameter at breast height.

“Diameter at breast height (DBH)” means the diameter of a tree trunk in inches at four and one-half feet above the ground. On multistemmed or multitrunked trees, the diameter shall be the diameter equivalent to the sum of trunk areas measured at four and one-half feet above ground. This measurement is used when sizing a mature tree. (Ord. 1562 § 56, 2015).

22.98.198 Director.

“Director” means the planning/building director of the city of Fircrest or person appointed by the city manager to act in such a role. (Ord. 1562 § 57, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.201 Drip line.

“Drip line” means an imaginary ground line around the perimeter of a tree that defines the outer limits of the tree canopy, where precipitation falling from the branches of that tree lands on the ground. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.204 Drive-thru.

“Drive-thru” means a lane or window which is intended to serve customers who remain in their motor vehicles during the business transactions, or which are designed in such a manner that customers must leave their automobiles temporarily in a driving line located adjacent to the facility. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.207 Dwelling.

“Dwelling” means a building or portion thereof designed exclusively for human habitation; including, single-family, duplex, and multifamily dwellings, accessory dwellings, modular homes, designated manufactured homes, but not including hotel or motel units having no kitchens. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.210 Dwelling, duplex.

“Dwelling, duplex” means a building designed exclusively for occupancy by two families living separately from each other and containing two dwelling units. A single-family dwelling which includes an accessory dwelling unit is not classified as a duplex dwelling. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.213 Dwelling, multifamily.

“Dwelling, multifamily” means a building designed exclusively for occupancy by three or more families living separately from each other and containing three or more dwelling units. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.216 Dwelling, single-family.

“Dwelling, single-family” means a detached building designed exclusively for occupancy by one family and containing one dwelling unit. Includes family group homes and manufactured homes, as defined in FMC 22.98.273 and 22.98.438 respectively, but excludes manufactured homes which are not designated. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.219 Dwelling unit.

“Dwelling unit” means one or more rooms designed for or occupied by one family for sleeping and living purposes and containing kitchen, sleeping and sanitary facilities for use solely by one family. All rooms comprising a dwelling unit shall have access through an interior door to other parts of the dwelling unit. Includes apartments, hotel rooms available on a month-to-month basis with kitchen facilities, designated manufactured and group homes, but excludes recreational vehicles. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.222 Early notice.

“Early notice” means the city’s written response to an applicant stating whether it considers issuance of a SEPA determination of significance likely for the applicant’s proposal. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.225 Ecosystem.

“Ecosystem” means the system of interrelationships within and between a biological community and its physical environment. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.228 EIA.

“EIA” is an acronym for the Electronics Industry Association. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.228.1 Electric scooters and motorcycles.

“Electric scooters and motorcycles” means any two-wheel vehicle that operates exclusively on electrical energy from an off-board source that is stored in the vehicle’s batteries and produces zero emissions or pollution when stationary or operating. (Ord. 1509 § 18, 2011).

22.98.228.2 Electric vehicle.

“Electric vehicle” means any vehicle that operates, either partially or exclusively, on electrical energy from the grid, or an off-board source, that is stored on-board for motive purpose. “Electric vehicle” includes: (a) a battery electric vehicle; (b) a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle; (c) a neighborhood electric vehicle; and (d) a medium-speed electric vehicle. (Ord. 1509 § 19, 2011).

22.98.228.3 Electric vehicle charging stations.

“Electric vehicle charging stations” means a public or private parking space located together with battery charging station equipment that has as its purpose the transfer of electric energy (by conductive or inductive means) to a battery or other storage device in an electric vehicle. (Ord. 1509 § 20, 2011).

22.98.229 Elevated building.

“Elevated building” means a building that has no basement and its lowest elevated floor is raised above ground level by foundation walls, shear walls, posts, piers, pilings, or columns. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.229.1 Eligible facilities request.

“Eligible facilities request” means any request for facility modification of an existing wireless tower or base station that involves:

- (a) Co-location of new transmission equipment;
- (b) Removal of transmission equipment; or
- (c) Replacement of transmission equipment. (Ord. 1667 § 47, 2020).

22.98.229.2 Emergency housing.

“Emergency housing” means temporary indoor accommodations for individuals or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless that is intended to address the basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs of individuals or families, as defined in RCW 36.70A.030 as existing or is hereafter amended or recodified.

22.98.229.3 Emergency shelter.

“Emergency shelter” means a facility that provides a temporary shelter for individuals or families who are currently homeless. Emergency shelter may not require occupants to enter into a lease or an occupancy agreement.

[Emergency shelter facilities may include day and warming centers that do not provide overnight accommodations, as defined in RCW 36.70A.030 as existing or is hereafter amended or recodified.](#)

22.98.230 Emergent wetland.

“Emergent wetland” means a wetland with at least 30 percent of the surface area covered by erect, rooted, herbaceous vegetation extending above the water surface as the uppermost vegetative strata. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.231 Enhancement.

“Enhancement” means the actions performed to improve the condition of existing wetlands and/or buffers so that the functions they provide are of a higher quality (e.g., increasing plant diversity, increasing wildlife habitat, installing environmentally compatible erosion controls, removing nonindigenous plant or animal species, removing fill material or garbage). (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.234 Equipment enclosure.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “equipment enclosure” means a structure, shelter, cabinet, or vault used to house and protect the electronic equipment necessary for processing wireless communication signals. Associated equipment may include air conditioning, backup power supplies and emergency generators. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.237 Erosion.

“Erosion” means the wearing away of earth’s surface as a result of movement of wind, water, ice. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.240 Erosion hazard areas.

“Erosion hazard areas” means at least those areas identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service as having a “severe” rill and inter-rill erosion hazard. (Ord. 1375 § 17, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.243 Escort agency.

“Escort agency” means a person or business association who furnishes, offers to furnish, or advertises to furnish escorts as one of its primary business purposes for a fee, tip or other consideration. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.246 Essential public facilities.

“Essential public facilities” means those facilities that are typically difficult to site, such as airports, state education facilities and state or regional transportation facilities, state and local correctional facilities, solid waste handling facilities and inpatient facilities including substance abuse facilities, mental health facilities and group homes. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.249 Establishment, business or commercial.

“Establishment, business or commercial” means a place of business carrying on operations, the ownership and management of which are separate and distinct from those of any other place of business located on the same lot and where direct access to each “business or commercial establishment” is separate and distinct from direct access to any other business or commercial establishment. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.252 Excavation.

“Excavation” means the mechanical removal of earth material. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.255 Existing and ongoing agricultural activities.

“Existing and ongoing agricultural activities” means those activities conducted on lands defined in RCW 84.34.020(2), and those activities involved in the production of crops and livestock, including but not limited to operation and maintenance of farm and stock ponds or drainage ditches, irrigation systems, changes between agricultural activities, and normal operation, maintenance or repair of existing serviceable structures, facilities or improved areas. Activities which bring an area into agricultural use are not part of an ongoing activity. An operation ceases to be ongoing when the area on which it was conducted has been converted to a nonagricultural use or has lain idle both more than five years and so long that modifications to the hydrological regime are necessary to resume operations, unless the idle land is registered in a federal or state soils conservation program. For the purposes of this definition, if a large lot subdivision or other subdivision of land results in the creation of one or more lots five acres

or larger, any such lot of five or more acres shall not be considered to be converted to a nonagricultural use. Forest practices are not included in this definition. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.257 Exotic.

“Exotic” means any species of plants or animals which are foreign to the planning area. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.258 Extirpation.

“Extirpation” means the elimination of a species from a portion of its original geographic range. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.261 FAA.

“FAA” is an acronym for the Federal Aviation Administration. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.264 FCC.

“FCC” is an acronym for the Federal Communications Commission. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.265 Facility and service provider.

As used in Chapter 22.12 FMC, “facility and service provider” means the department, district, or agency responsible for providing a specific concurrency facility. Examples include, but are not limited to the city of Fircrest, Pierce Transit, Tacoma School District, and University Place School District. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.266 Facility modification.

“Facility modification” means any modification of an existing wireless tower or base station that does not substantially change the physical dimensions of such tower or base station. (Ord. 1667 § 48, 2020).

~~**22.98.267 Family.**~~

~~“Family” means an individual, individuals related by blood, marriage, or adoption, up to and including six individuals who are not related by blood, marriage, or adoption, residing in a single-family dwelling unit (including family group home), individuals with a handicap as defined in the Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (42 USCS Section 3602) as amended and residing in a group home or children residing in a group home. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000). Repealed.~~

22.98.270 Family day-care facility.

“Family day-care facility” means a facility licensed by the state carried on in the family residence of the licensee providing regularly scheduled care for 12 or fewer children, including children who reside at the family residence, within a birth through 11 years of age range exclusively, for periods of less than 24 hours. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.273 Family group home.

“Family group home” means a dwelling unit consisting of individuals with a handicap as defined in the Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (42 USCS Section 3602) as amended, or children under the legal custody of an institution or an adult and any necessary staff for the care of individuals mentioned herein. An adult family home as defined in FMC 22.98.033 is a family group home. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.276 Fence.

“Fence” means a wall or barrier for the purpose of enclosing space, separating property, reducing noise and/or visual impacts, and composed of bricks, concrete, masonry blocks, or posts connected by boards, rails, panels, or wire. The term fence does not include retaining wall. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.279 Fenestration.

“Fenestration” means window treatment in a building or building facade. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.282 Fill.

“Fill” means any material dumped or placed, by any means, from, to or on any soil or sediment surface including temporary stockpiling of material. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

Commented [KM5]: I recommend repealing this definition so as to avoid any attempt at calculating the number of people who may reside in a single-family dwelling or multi-family dwelling, including when those dwelling types are used for STEP housing. HB 5235 prohibits cities from limiting the number of unrelated persons who can reside in a dwelling, other than based on occupancy load (as calculated by the Building Official).

Commented [JE6R5]: I agree. Plus this sort of limitation is wholly unenforceable.

22.98.284 Final plat.

“Final plat” is the final drawing of the subdivision and dedication prepared for filing of record with the Pierce County auditor, and containing all elements and requirements set forth in Chapter 22.21 FMC. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.285 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas.

“Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas” means areas necessary for maintaining species in suitable habitats within their natural geographic distribution so that isolated subpopulations are not created as designated by WAC 365-190-080(5). These areas include:

- (a) Areas with which state or federally designated endangered, threatened, and sensitive species have a primary association;
- (b) Habitats of local importance, including but not limited to areas designated as priority habitat by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- (c) Naturally occurring ponds under 20 acres and their submerged aquatic beds that provide fish or wildlife habitat, including those artificial ponds intentionally created from dry areas in order to mitigate impacts to ponds;
- (d) Waters of the state, including lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, underground waters, salt waters, and all other surface waters and watercourses within the jurisdiction of the state of Washington;
- (e) Lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers planted with game fish by a governmental or tribal entity;
- (f) State natural area preserves and natural resource conservation areas; and
- (g) Land essential for preserving connections between habitat blocks and open spaces. (Ord. 1375 § 18, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.286 Fish habitat.

“Fish habitat” means habitat that is used by fish at any life stage at any time of the year, including potential habitat likely to be used by fish that could be recovered by restoration or management and includes off-channel habitat. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.286.1 Flag.

“Flag” means a piece of cloth, attached to a staff, with distinctive colors, patterns or symbols, used as a national or state symbol. (Ord. 1598 § 33, 2017).

22.98.286.2 Flag canopy.

“Flag canopy” means a line of flags, or a series of lines of flags, suspended above a site. (Ord. 1598 § 34, 2017).

22.98.287 Flood or flooding.

“Flood” or “flooding” means the general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland waters and/or the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.288 Flood insurance map.

“Flood insurance map” means the official map on which the Federal Insurance Administration has delineated the areas of special flood hazards and included the risk premium zones applicable to the community. Also known as “flood insurance rate map” or “FIRM.” (Ord. 1375 § 19, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.289 Flood insurance study.

“Flood insurance study” means the official report provided by the Federal Insurance Administration that includes flood profiles, the Flood Boundary-Floodway Map, and the water surface elevation of the base flood. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.290 Floodplain.

“Floodplain” means the total land area adjoining a river, stream, watercourse, or lake subject to inundation by the base flood. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.291 Flood protection elevation.

“Flood protection elevation” means the elevation that is two feet above the base flood elevation. (Ord. 1375 § 20, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.292 Flood-resistant material.

“Flood-resistant material” means materials designed to be resistant to the impacts associated with flooding and defined and described in detail in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Technical Bulletin No. 2-93, 1993, and FEMA publication FEMA-348, Protecting Building Utilities from Flood Damage. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.293 Floodway.

“Floodway” means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land area that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the surface water elevation more than two feet. Also known as the “zero rise floodway.” (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.294 Floor area, gross.

“Floor area, gross” means the sum of the gross horizontal areas of the floor(s) of a building or portion thereof, measured from the exterior face of exterior walls and from the centerline of walls dividing uses or establishments. Gross floor area includes basement space, elevator shafts and stairwells at each floor, mechanical equipment rooms or attic space with headroom of 7.5 feet or more, penthouse floors, interior balconies and mezzanines, enclosed porches and malls. Gross floor area shall not include accessory water tanks and cooling towers, mechanical equipment or attic spaces with headroom of less than 7.5 feet, exterior steps or stairs, terraces, breeze ways and open space. (Ord. 1375 § 21, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.295 Forested wetland.

“Forested wetland” means a wetland with at least 30 percent of the surface area covered by woody vegetation greater than 20 feet in height that is at least partially rooted within the wetland. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.296 Formation.

“Formation” means an assemblage of earth materials grouped together into a unit that is convenient for description or mapping. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.297 Formation, confining.

“Formation, confining” means the relatively impermeable formation immediately overlying a confined aquifer. (Ord. 1375 § 21(2), 2005; Ord. 1322 § 6, 2003; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.298 Frequently flooded areas.

“Frequently flooded areas” means lands in the floodplain subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year and those lands that provide important flood storage, conveyance, and attenuation functions, as determined by the director in accordance with WAC 365-190-080(3). Frequently flooded areas perform important hydrologic functions and may present a risk to persons and property. Classifications of frequently flooded areas include, at a minimum, the 100-year floodplain designations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Flood Insurance Program. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.299 Frontage.

“Frontage” means the property line of an individual lot, tract or parcel that abuts a public or private street right-of-way, excluding alleys and private driveways. The number of frontages on a lot is the same as the number of public or private street rights-of-way that the lot abuts. (Ord. 1598 § 35, 2017; Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.300 Functions and values.

“Functions and values” means the beneficial roles served by critical areas including, but not limited to, water quality protection and enhancement; fish and wildlife habitat; food chain support; flood storage, conveyance and attenuation; ground water recharge and discharge; erosion control; protection from hazards; historical,

archaeological, and aesthetic value protection; educational opportunities; and recreation. (Ord. 1375 § 22, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.303 Garage, private.

“Garage, private” means an accessory building or an accessory portion of the main building, enclosed on not less than three sides and designed and primarily used for the shelter or storage of vehicles, including boats. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.306 Garage, side entry.

“Garage, side entry” means a private garage where the sole vehicular garage door or opening is perpendicular to the lot line used for vehicular access. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.309 Geologically hazardous areas.

“Geologically hazardous areas” means areas that may not be suited to development consistent with public health, safety, or environmental standards, because of their susceptibility to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events as designated by WAC 365-190-080(4). Types of geologically hazardous areas include: erosion, landslide and seismic hazards. (Ord. 1375 § 23, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.312 Geologist.

“Geologist” means a person who has earned a bachelor’s degree in geology and has at least one year of professional experience as a practicing geologist. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.315 Geotechnical engineer.

“Geotechnical engineer” means a practicing, geotechnical civil engineer licensed as a professional civil engineer with the state of Washington with at least four years’ experience in landslide evaluation, soils and soils hydrology. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.318 Governing authority.

“Governing authority” means the city council of the city of Fircrest. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.321 Grade, finished.

“Grade, finished” means the finished elevation of the ground level after development, measured at a horizontal distance of five feet from a building foundation wall. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.322 Grade, natural.

“Grade, natural” means the topographic condition or elevation of a site or portion of a site over the past five years, or the finished grade of an approved site development plan. Changes to grade or elevation resulting from fill, mounding or berming within five years preceding any requested permit other than a site development plan shall not be considered natural grade for permitting purposes. (Ord. 1598 § 36, 2017).

22.98.324 Grading.

“Grading” means clearing of trees, brush, scrubs or grass or excavating, filling or leveling of surface contours. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.325 Groundcover.

“Groundcover” means low growing vegetative materials with a mounding or spreading manner of growth that provide solid cover within three years after planting. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.326 Ground water.

“Ground water” means water in a saturated zone or stratum beneath the surface of land or a surface water body. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.327 Ground water management area.

“Ground water management area” means a specific geographic area or subarea designated pursuant to Chapter 173-100 WAC for which a ground water management program is required. (Ord. 1375 § 24, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.328 Ground water management program.

“Ground water management program” means a comprehensive program designed to protect ground water quality, to ensure ground water quantity, and to provide for efficient management of water resources while recognizing existing ground water rights and meeting future needs consistent with local and state objectives, policies, and authorities within a designated ground water management area or subarea and developed pursuant to Chapter 173-100 WAC. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.329 Ground water, perched.

“Ground water, perched” means ground water in a saturated zone is separated from the underlying main body of ground water by an unsaturated rock zone. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

Group home, correctional.

See FMC 22.98.168, Correctional group home.

Group home, family.

See FMC 22.98.273, Family group home.

22.98.330 Habitat.

“Habitat” means the specific area or environment in which a particular type of plant or animal lives. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.331 Habitats of local importance.

“Habitats of local importance” means areas that include a seasonal range or habitat element with which a given species has a primary association, and which, if altered may reduce the likelihood that the species will maintain and reproduce over the long-term. These might include areas of high relative density or species richness, breeding habitat, winter range, and movement corridors. These might also include habitats that are of limited availability or high vulnerability to alterations such as cliffs, talus, and wetlands. (WAC 365-190-030) (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.332 Halo illuminated.

“Halo illuminated” means a light source placed behind totally opaque letter or symbol so that the light reflects off the wall or background to which the letters or symbols are mounted rather than emanating through the letters or symbols, creating a halo effect that leaves the letters or symbols viewable in silhouette form only. (Ord. 1598 § 37, 2017).

22.98.333 Hazardous substance.

“Hazardous substance” means any liquid, solid, gas, or sludge, including any material, substance, product, commodity, or waste, regardless of quantity, that exhibits any of the characteristics or criteria of hazardous waste; and including waste oil and petroleum products. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.336 Hazardous waste.

“Hazardous waste” means all dangerous waste and extremely hazardous waste as designated pursuant to Chapter 70.105 RCW and Chapter 173-303 WAC. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.338 Hedge.

“Hedge” means a row of small trees, shrubs, or other vegetation planted as a fence or boundary. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

Height, building.

See FMC 22.98.117, Building height.

22.98.339 High intensity land use.

“High intensity land use” means land uses that are associated with high levels of human disturbance or substantial habitat impacts including, but not limited to, single-family and multifamily residential, commercial and industrial land uses, when used in the context of critical areas regulations. (Ord. 1375 § 25, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.340 High quality wetlands.

“High quality wetlands” means those wetlands that meet the following criteria:

- (a) No, or isolated, human alteration of the wetland topography;
- (b) No human-caused alteration of the hydrology or the wetland appears to have recovered from the alteration;
- (c) Low cover and frequency of exotic plant species;
- (d) Relatively little human-related disturbance of the native vegetation, or recovery from past disturbance;
- (e) If the wetland system is degraded, it still contains a viable and high quality example of a native wetland community; and
- (f) No known major water quality problems. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.341 Historic condition.

“Historic condition” means a condition of the land, including, flora, fauna, soil, topography, and hydrology, that existed before the area and vicinity were developed or altered by human activity. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.342 Home occupation.

“Home occupation” means any activity conducted for financial gain or profit in a dwelling unit, and which activity is clearly incidental or secondary to the residential use of a dwelling unit or an associated accessory building. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.345 Hotel.

“Hotel” means a building or group of buildings in which there are five or more guest rooms where lodging with or without meals is provided for compensation, and where no provision is made for cooking in any individual room or suite. Motels and bed-and-breakfasts are considered hotels under this title. Hotels with guest rooms that contain kitchen facilities shall be considered multifamily dwelling units subject to the provisions and requirements of this title governing such units for the zone in which the establishment is located. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.346 Hydraulic project approval (HPA).

“Hydraulic project approval (HPA)” means a permit issued by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife for modifications to waters of the state in accordance with Chapter 75.20 RCW. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.348 Hydric soil.

“Hydric soil” means soil that is saturated, flooded or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper portion. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.350 Hydrologic soil groups.

“Hydrologic soil groups” means soils grouped according to their runoff-producing characteristics under similar storm and cover conditions. Properties that influence runoff potential are depth to seasonally high water table, intake rate and permeability after prolonged wetting, and depth to a low permeable layer. Hydrologic soil groups are normally used in equations that estimate runoff from rainfall, but can be used to estimate a rate of water transmission in soil. There are four hydrologic soil groups:

Low runoff potential and a high rate of infiltration potential;

Moderate infiltration potential and a moderate rate of runoff potential;

Slow infiltration potential and a moderate to high rate of runoff potential; and

High runoff potential and very slow infiltration and water transmission rates. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.351 Hydrophyte.

“Hydrophyte” means an aquatic plant growing in water or on a substrate (hydric soil) that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen where the saturated soil is too wet for most plants to survive. Examples of hydrophytes include plants such as cattails, sedges, and bulrush. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.352 Hyporheic zone.

“Hyporheic zone” means the saturated zone located beneath and adjacent to streams that contains some portion of surface waters, serves as a filter for nutrients, and maintains water quality. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.354 Impervious surface.

“Impervious surface” means a hard surface area that either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil mantle as under natural conditions prior to development or that causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from the flow present under natural conditions prior to development. Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, rooftops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots or storage areas, concrete or asphalt paving, gravel roads, packed earthen materials, and oiled macadam or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of stormwater. (Ord. 1375 § 26, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.357 Impervious surface coverage.

“Impervious surface coverage” means the area of a lot that is covered by impervious surfaces, measured by percentage. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.360 Impound.

“Impound” means to take and hold a vehicle in legal custody. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.363 Impound yard.

“Impound yard” means any area or enclosure established and used solely and exclusively for the parking and storage of impounded vehicles. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.365 Infiltration.

“Infiltration” means the downward entry of water into the immediate surface of soil. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.366 In-kind compensation.

“In-kind compensation” means to replace critical areas with substitute areas whose characteristics and functions closely approximate those destroyed or degraded by a regulated activity. It does not mean replacement “in-category.” (Ord. 1375 § 27, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.369 Inoperable vehicle.

“Inoperable vehicle” means a motor vehicle which is apparently inoperable or which requires repairs in order to be legally operated on the public roads, such as repair or replacement of a window, windshield, wheel, tire, motor or transmission. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.369.1 Inter-rill.

“Inter-rill” means areas subject to sheet wash. (Ord. 1375 § 28, 2005).

22.98.370 Isolated wetlands.

“Isolated wetlands” means those wetlands that are outside of and not contiguous to any 100-year floodplain of a lake, river, or stream and have no contiguous hydric soil or hydrophytic vegetation between the wetland and any surface water. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.371 Joint aquatic resource permits application (JARPA).

“Joint aquatic resource permits application (JARPA)” means a single application form that may be used to apply for hydraulic project approvals, shoreline management permits, approvals of exceedance of water quality standards, water quality certifications, Coast Guard bridge permits, Washington State Department of Natural Resources use authorization, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.372 Junk or salvage yard.

“Junk or salvage yard” means a lot where nonhazardous waste or scrap materials are bought, sold, exchanged, stored, baled, packaged, disassembled or handled, but excludes recycling and vehicle wrecking activities. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.375 Kennel.

“Kennel” means a house, enclosure, or other structure in which five or more dogs, five or more cats, or any combination of eight or more cats and dogs, which individually exceed seven months of age, are kept for breeding, sale, training, boarding, or sporting purposes, or are kept or cared for as pets or for any other purpose. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.378 Kitchen.

“Kitchen” means any room or rooms, or portion of a room or rooms, used or intended or designed to be used for cooking or the preparation of food, including any room having a sink and provisions for a gas or electric stove, oven or range. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.381 Landslide.

“Landslide” means an episodic downslope movement of a mass of soil, rock, and/or snow. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.382 Landslide hazard areas.

“Landslide hazard areas” means areas that are potentially subject to risk of mass movement due to geologic landslide resulting from a combination of geologic, topographic, and hydrologic factors. These areas are typically susceptible to landslides because of a combination of factors including: bedrock, soil, slope gradient, slope aspect, geologic structure, ground water, or other factors. (Ord. 1375 § 29, 2005; Ord. 1311 § 36, 2002; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000. Formerly 22.98.384).

22.98.384 Large retail establishment.

“Large retail establishment” means a retail establishment, or any combination of retail establishments in a single building, occupying more than 25,000 gross square feet of floor area. (Ord. 1311 § 37, 2002).

22.98.385 Level of service standard.

“Level of service standard” means the level of service standards specified in the comprehensive plan. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.386 Logo.

“Logo” means an identifying emblem or insignia containing sign graphics, symbols or colors typically used for identification and/or advertisement. (Ord. 1322 § 7, 2003).

22.98.387 Logo shield.

“Logo shield” means a logo contained within an area no greater than four square feet, incorporated into a larger sign face or designed as an individual sign or a component of a sign containing individually mounted sign graphics. (Ord. 1322 § 8, 2003).

22.98.388 Lot.

“Lot” means a division of land having fixed boundaries, which has been created by a subdivision or short subdivision; or is a parcel of property that was exempt from subdivision requirements or was established prior to the requirement that lots be created by a subdivision or short subdivision. (Ord. 1322 § 9, 2003).

22.98.390 Lot, corner.

“Lot, corner” means a lot abutting upon two or more streets at their intersection, or upon two portions of the same street forming an interior angle of less than 135 degrees within the lot lines. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.393 Lot, flag.

“Lot, flag” means a lot that does not meet minimum frontage requirements and where access to the public road is by a narrow, private right-of-way or driveway. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.396 Lot, interior.

“Lot, interior” means a lot other than a corner lot. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.399 Lot, substandard.

“Lot, substandard” means a parcel of land that has less than the minimum area or minimum dimensions required in the zone in which the lot is located. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.402 Lot, through.

“Lot, through” means a lot that fronts upon two parallel streets or that fronts upon two streets that do not intersect at the boundaries of the lot. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.405 Lot area, gross.

“Lot area, gross” means the entire horizontal land space, including land covered by water, contained within the fixed boundaries of any described lot or parcel of land. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.408 Lot area, net.

“Lot area, net” means the area of a lot, excluding future dedications, critical areas and associated buffers, and other specified land features. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.411 Lot coverage.

“Lot coverage” means the area of a lot that is covered by buildings. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.414 Lot depth.

“Lot depth” means the mean horizontal distance between the front lot line and the rear lot line of a lot measured within the lot boundaries. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.417 Lot frontage.

“Lot frontage” means the length of the front lot line measured at the street right-of-way line. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.420 Lot line.

“Lot line” means a line of record bounding a lot that divides one lot from another lot or from a public or private street or any other public space. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.423 Lot line, front.

“Lot line, front” means the boundary of a lot which abuts a public street right-of-way or private ingress and/or egress easement. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.426 Lot line, rear.

“Lot line, rear” means the lot line opposite and most distant from the front lot line. In the case of triangular or otherwise irregularly shaped lots, a line 10 feet in length entirely within the lot, parallel to and at a maximum distance from the front lot line. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.429 Lot line, side.

“Lot line, side” means any lot line other than a front or rear lot line. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.432 Lot of record, legal.

“Lot of record, legal” means a lot that has been legally established and recorded or registered pursuant to statute with the Pierce County Auditor. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.435 Lot width.

“Lot width” means the horizontal distance between the side line of a lot measured at right angles to its depth along a straight line parallel to the front lot line at the minimum required front yard setback line. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.436 Low intensity land use.

“Low intensity land use” means land uses that are associated with low levels of human disturbance or low habitat impacts, including, but not limited to, passive recreation, open space, or forest management land uses, when used in the context of critical areas regulations. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.437 Lowest floor.

“Lowest floor” means the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area, including the basement, when used in the context of a frequently flooded area. An unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement area, which is not considered a building’s lowest floor; provided, that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable requirements of this title. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.437.1 Luminance.

“Luminance” means the photometric quality most closely associated with the perception of brightness. Luminance is measured in candelas per square meters or “nits.” (Ord. 1598 § 38, 2017).

22.98.437.2 Mansard.

“Mansard” means a roof with two slopes on each side of the four sides, the lower steeper than the upper. (Ord. 1598 § 39, 2017).

22.98.437.3 Major transit stop.

“Major transit stop” means the same as is has the same meaning as defined in RCW 36.70A.030, as existing or as hereafter amended or recodified.

22.98.438 Manufactured home.

“Manufactured home” means a factory-assembled structure intended solely for human habitation, which has sleeping, eating, and plumbing facilities, which is being used for residential purposes, which was constructed in accordance with the HUD federal manufactured housing construction and safety standards act in effect at the time of construction, and that is constructed in a way suitable for movement along public highways. A manufactured home is limited to those structures assembled after June 15, 1976, in accordance with state and federal requirements for manufactured homes, which are comprised of at least two fully enclosed parallel sections each of not less than 12 feet wide by six feet long; were originally constructed with and now have a composition or wood shake or shingle, coated metal, or similar roof of not less than three to 12 pitch; and have exterior siding similar in appearance to siding materials commonly used on conventional site-built single-family residences regulated by the International Building Code. The term does not include recreational vehicles. (Ord. 1473 § 6, 2009; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.441 Marquee.

“Marquee” means a permanent structure attached to, supported by, and projecting from a building and providing protection from the elements. (Ord. 1598 § 40, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 10, 2003; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.441.1 Master sign plan.

“Master sign plan” means a coordinated sign plan that includes the details of all signs (not including exempt or temporary signs) that are or will be placed on a site. (Ord. 1598 § 41, 2017).

22.98.444 Medical or dental clinic.

“Medical or dental clinic” means a building or complex occupied and used by physicians and dentists and other medical practitioners recognized by the state of Washington, for out-patients only; and including accessory uses including but not limited to therapeutic room and x-ray room, medical and dental laboratories, the dispensing of medicine and medical aides to out-patients of the clinic. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.445 Microbeverage production facility.

“Microbeverage production facility” means an establishment that manufactures alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages for distribution on or off site. Examples include microbreweries, microdistilleries and microwineries. Microbeverage production facilities may operate in conjunction with a tasting room, retail outlet, and/or food-serving establishment. (Ord. 1611 § 21, 2018).

22.98.445.1 Microbrewery.

“Microbrewery” means a business known as a craft brewery that produces 5,000 barrels or less of beer per calendar year. A microbrewery may sell beer of its own production directly to a customer for off-premises consumption and by all other legal means. A microbrewery may operate a tasting room or in conjunction with a food-serving establishment. A microbrewery must be licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board and the Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. (Ord. 1611 § 22, 2018).

22.98.445.2 Microdistillery.

“Microdistillery” means a business known as a craft distillery that produces 5,000 proof gallons or less of spirits per calendar year. A microdistillery may sell spirits of its own production directly to a customer for off-premises consumption and by all other legal means. A microdistillery may operate a tasting room or in conjunction with a food-serving establishment. A microdistillery must be licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board and the Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. (Ord. 1611 § 23, 2018).

22.98.445.3 Microwinery.

“Microwinery” means a business engaged primarily in the production, including crushing, fermentation, aging, bottling, and distribution, of no more than 5,000 cases of wine per year. A microwinery may sell wine of its own production directly to a customer for off-premises consumption and by all other legal means. A microwinery may operate a tasting room or in conjunction with a food-serving establishment. A microwinery must be licensed by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board and the Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. (Ord. 1611 § 24, 2018).

22.98.447 Mitigation.

“Mitigation” means avoiding, minimizing, or compensating for adverse critical areas impacts. Mitigation, in the following sequential order of preference, is:

- (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
- (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, by using appropriate technology, or by taking affirmative steps, such as project redesign, relocation, or timing, to avoid or reduce impacts;
- (c) Rectifying the impact to wetlands, critical aquifer recharge areas, and habitat conservation areas by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment to the conditions existing at the time of the initiation of the project;
- (d) Minimizing or eliminating the hazard by restoring or stabilizing the hazard area through engineered or other methods;
- (e) Reducing or eliminating the impact or hazard over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action;
- (f) Compensating for the impact to wetlands, critical aquifer recharge areas, and habitat conservation areas by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources or environments; and
- (g) Monitoring the hazard or other required mitigation and taking remedial action when necessary.

Mitigation for individual actions may include a combination of the above measures. (Ord. 1375 § 30, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.450 Mini-storage or mini-warehouse (indoor).

“Mini-storage, indoor” means a facility consisting of separate storage units that are rented to customers having exclusive and independent indoor access through a common building entrance to their respective units for storage of residential or commercial oriented goods. (Ord. 1518 § 3, 2011; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.451 Mini-storage or mini-warehouse (outdoor).

“Mini-storage, outdoor” means a facility consisting of separate storage units that are rented to customers having exclusive and independent outdoor access to their respective units for storage of residential or commercial oriented goods. (Ord. 1518 § 4, 2011).

22.98.452 Moderate intensity land use.

“Moderate intensity land use” means land uses that are associated with moderate levels of human disturbance or substantial habitat impacts including, but not limited to, active recreation and moderate agricultural land uses, when used in the context of critical areas regulations. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.453 Modification.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “modification” means the changing of any portion of a personal wireless service facility from its description in a previously approved permit. Examples include, but are not limited to, changes in design. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.456 Modulation.

“Modulation” means a measured and proportioned inflexion or setback in a building’s face. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.459 Monitoring.

“Monitoring” means the process of collecting and evaluating data to assess the biological, hydrological or geological performance of newly created, restored, rehabilitated and/or affected critical ecosystem area. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.461 Motion.

“Motion” means the depiction of movement or change of position of text, images or graphics. Motion shall include, but not be limited to, visual effects such as dissolving and fading text and images, running sequential text, graphic bursts, lighting that resembles zooming, twinkling or sparkling, changes in light or color, transitory bursts of light intensity, moving patterns or bands of light, expanding or contracting shapes and similar actions. (Ord. 1598 § 42, 2017).

22.98.462 Mount.

“Mount” means the structure or surface upon which personal wireless service facilities are mounted. There are three types of mounts:

- (a) Building mount, which means a personal wireless service facility mount fixed to the roof or side of a building.
- (b) Ground mount, which means a personal wireless service facility mount fixed to the ground, such as a tower.
- (c) Structure mount, which means a personal wireless service facility fixed to a structure other than a building, such as a light standard, utility pole, or bridge. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.463 Multiple building complex.

“Multiple building complex” means a group of commercial or industrial structures. (Ord. 1322 § 11, 2003).

22.98.464 Multiple tenant building.

“Multiple tenant building” means a single structure that houses more than one retail business, office or commercial venture, but that does not include residential apartment buildings sharing the same lot, access and/or parking facilities. (Ord. 1322 § 12, 2003).

22.98.465 Native growth protection area (NGPA).

“Native growth protection area (NGPA)” means an area where native vegetation is preserved for the purpose of preventing harm to property and the environment, including, but not limited to, controlling surface water runoff and erosion, maintaining slope stability, buffering, and protecting plants and animal habitat. (Ord. 1375 § 31, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.466 Native vegetation.

“Native vegetation” means vegetation comprised of plant species that are indigenous to an area. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.467 Nighttime hours.

“Nighttime hours” means from one-half hour before sunset to one-half hour after sunrise. (Ord. 1598 § 43, 2017).

22.98.467.1 Nits.

“Nits” means a unit of measure of brightness or luminance. One nit is equal to one candela/square meter. (Ord. 1598 § 44, 2017).

22.98.468 Nonconforming lot, use, or structure.

“Nonconforming lot, use, or structure” means any lot, use, or structure which was legally established and in lawful compliance with the applicable zoning prior to the adoption of this title or title amendment, but because of such adoption or amendment, would not be permitted or does not fully comply with the provisions of this title. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.469 Nonresidential zone.

“Nonresidential zone” means, in the context of Chapter 22.26 FMC, any zone that does not include residential dwelling units except for mixed use zoning districts where residential units are located above or behind nonresidential uses and the ground floor streetscape is characterized by commercial and other nonresidential uses. (Ord. 1598 § 45, 2017).

22.98.471 Noxious element.

“Noxious element” means material which is capable of causing injury to living organisms by chemical reaction or is capable of causing detrimental effects upon the physical or economic well-being of individuals. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.474 Nude or semi-nude.

“Nude or semi-nude” means a state of complete or partial undress in such costume, attire, clothing so as to expose any portion of the nipple, the areola, or the lower half of the female breast or any portion of the pubic region, anus, buttocks, vulva, or genitals, or human male genitals in a discernibly turgid state, even if completely and opaquely covered. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.475 Off-site compensation.

“Off-site compensation” means to replace critical areas away from the site on which a critical area has been impacted. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.476 On-site compensation.

“On-site compensation” means to replace critical areas at or adjacent to the site on which a critical area has been impacted. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.476.05 Opaque.

“Opaque” means a material that does not transmit light from an internal illumination source. (Ord. 1598 § 46, 2017).

22.98.476.1 Open fire.

“Open fire” means any fire upon woodland, lot, subdivision, grassland, field or public right-of-way within the city that is not within a receptacle approved by the city. (Ord. 1507 § 6, 2011).

22.98.477 Open space.

“Open space” means any parcel or area of land or water essentially unimproved and set aside, dedicated, designated, or reserved for public or private use or enjoyment or for the use and enjoyment of owners, occupants and their guests of land adjoining or neighboring such space. As used in Chapter 22.92 FMC, open space means lands which contain distinctive geologic, botanic, zoologic, historic, scenic or other critical area features. These areas are often undeveloped and serve as greenbelts and wildlife habitats. Specific types of open space include gulches, steep slopes and wetlands. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.480 Open space, common.

“Open space, common” means land within or related to a development, not individually owned or dedicated for public use, that is designed and intended for the common use or enjoyment of the residents and their guests of the development and may include such complementary structures and improvements as are necessary and appropriate. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.483 Open space, private.

“Open space, private” means open space, the use of which is normally limited to the occupants of a single dwelling, building, or property. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.486 Open space, public.

“Open space, public” means open space owned by a public agency and maintained by it for the use and enjoyment of the general public. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.489 Ordinance.

“Ordinance” means the ordinance, resolution or other procedure used by the city to adopt regulatory requirements. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.492 Ordinary high water mark (OHM).

“Ordinary high water mark (OHM)” means the mark that is found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, that the soil has a character distinct from that of the abutting upland in respect to vegetation. (Ord. 1375 § 32, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.495 Outdoor storage.

“Outdoor storage” means the keeping, in an unenclosed area, of any goods, junk, material, merchandise, or vehicles in the same place, or substantially the same place, for more than 24 hours. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.496 Out-of-kind compensation.

“Out-of-kind compensation” means to replace critical areas with substitute critical areas whose characteristics do not closely approximate those destroyed or degraded. It does not refer to replacement “out-of-category.” (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.498 Owner-occupied.

“Owner-occupied” means when the property owner’s primary and permanent legal residence is located on-site, as evidenced by voter registration, vehicle registration and/or other similar means. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.501 Panorama or peepshow.

“Panorama or peepshow” means any device which, upon insertion of a coin or by any other means of payment, including membership fee or other charge, exhibits or displays a picture or view by film, video or by any other means, including observation of live performances. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.504 Panorama premises.

“Panorama premises” means any premises or portion of a premise on which a panorama is located and which is open to the public, including through membership. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.506 Parapet.

“Parapet” means a protective wall or barrier projecting above any canopy, balcony or roof. (Ord. 1598 § 47, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 13, 2003).

22.98.507 Parcel.

“Parcel” means a description of land which is on record with the Pierce County assessor’s office. A parcel of land may or may not be a legal lot of record and may be for tax or description purposes only. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.510 Parking area.

“Parking area” means an area of a lot accessible to vehicles, which is provided, improved, maintained and used for the primary purpose of accommodating a motor vehicle. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.513 Patio, covered.

“Patio, covered” means a raised structure which provides partial or complete shelter over a patio area. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.516 Patio, uncovered.

“Patio, uncovered” means any prepared surface outdoor living area. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.518 Perimeter.

“Perimeter” means a square or rectangle required to enclose the sign area. (Ord. 1322 § 14, 2003).

22.98.518.1 Permanent supportive housing.

“Permanent supportive housing” means subsidized, leased housing with no limit on length of stay that prioritizes people who need comprehensive support services to retain tenancy and utilizes admissions practices designed to use lower barriers to entry than would be typical for other subsidized or unsubsidized rental housing, especially related to rental history, criminal history, and personal behaviors. Permanent supportive housing is paired with on-site or off-site voluntary services designed to support a person living with a complex and disabling behavioral health or physical health condition who was experiencing homelessness or was at imminent risk of homelessness prior to moving into housing to retain their housing and be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement, improve the resident’s health status, and connect the resident of the housing with community-based health care, treatment, or

[employment services, as defined in RCW 36.70A.030 as existing or is hereafter amended or recodified. Permanent supportive housing is subject to all of the rights and responsibilities defined in chapter 59.18 RCW.](#)

22.98.519 Permeability.

“Permeability” means the capacity of an aquifer or confining bed to transmit water. It is a property of the aquifer or confining bed and is independent of the force causing movement. (Ord. 1375 § 33, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.520 Person.

“Person” includes any individual, firm, joint venture, co-partnership, association, social club, fraternal organization, corporation, estate, trust, business trust, receiver or any other group or combination acting as a unit. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.522 Personal wireless service, personal wireless service facilities, and facilities.

“Personal wireless service,” “personal wireless service facilities,” and “facilities,” as used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, shall be defined in the same manner as in Title 47, United States Code, Section 332 (c)(7)(C), and includes facilities for the transmission and reception of radio or microwave signals used for communication, cellular phone, personal communications services, enhanced specialized mobile radio, and any other wireless services licensed by the FCC and unlicensed wireless services. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.525 Personal wireless service facility design.

“Personal wireless service facility design,” as used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, means the appearance of personal wireless service facilities, including such features as their materials, colors, and shape. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.528 Pet shop.

“Pet shop” means a retail establishment which sells fish, domesticated animals, birds and associated supplies, provided no boarding or veterinarian services are rendered, except bathing and clipping of dogs and cats. Pet shop does not include kennels. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.531 Pharmaceuticals.

“Pharmaceuticals” includes drugs, toiletries and cosmetics. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.533 Planned capacity.

“Planned capacity” means capacity for a public facility that is not yet available, but for which the necessary facility construction, expansion or modification project is contained in the current adopted capital facilities element of the comprehensive plan and scheduled to be completed within six years. (Ord. 1275 § 2, 2001).

22.98.534 Planned development.

“Planned development” means a development built under the provisions of Chapter 22.76 FMC, which permits departures from the conventional requirements of other sections of this title in the interest of achieving superior site development, creating open space and encouraging imaginative design by permitting design flexibility. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.537 Planning commission.

“Planning commission” means the duly appointed planning commission of the city of Fircrest. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.540 Plat.

“Plat” means a map or representation of a subdivision, showing thereon the division of a tract or parcel of land into lots, blocks, streets and alleys or other divisions and dedications. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.543 Porch.

“Porch” means a roofed, open area, which may be screened, attached to or part of and with direct access to or from a building. A porch becomes a room when the enclosed space is heated or air-conditioned and when the percentage of window area to wall area is less than 50 percent. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.544 Porous soil types.

“Porous soil types” means soils, as identified by the National Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, that contain voids, pores, interstices, or other openings which allow the passing of water. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.544.1 Portable fire device.

“Portable fire device” means a commercially produced chamber or screened enclosure, portable in design, for the purpose of containing a fire of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height for pleasure, cooking, warmth, or similar purposes. The products of combustion will either pass through a chimney prior to being emitted into the air or the chamber will be of screened enclosure. (Ord. 1507 § 6, 2011).

22.98.545 Potable water.

“Potable water” means water that is safe and palatable for human use. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.546 Practical alternative.

“Practical alternative” means an alternative that is available and capable of being carried out after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes, and that has less impact to critical areas. (Ord. 1375 § 34, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.549 Preliminary plat.

“Preliminary plat” means a neat and approximate drawing of a proposed subdivision showing the general layout of streets and alleys, lots, blocks and other elements of a subdivision consistent with the requirements of this title. The preliminary plat shall be the basis for the approval or disapproval of the general layout of a subdivision. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.551 Premises.

“Premises” means the real estate as a unit, upon which is displayed the sign or signs mentioned in this chapter. (Ord. 1322 § 15, 2003).

22.98.552 Preschool.

“Preschool” means educational programs that emphasize readiness skills where children of preschool age are enrolled on a regular basis for four hours per day or less (WAC 180-59-020). (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.555 Preschool, accredited.

“Preschool, accredited” means a preschool which has been accredited by the State Board of Education in accordance with the standards for accreditation as prescribed in Chapter 180-59 WAC. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.557 Primary association area.

“Primary association area” means the area that is used on a regular basis by, is in close association with, or is necessary for the proper functioning of the habitat of a critical species. “Regular basis” means that the habitat area is normally or usually known to contain a critical species, or, based on known habitat requirements of the species, the area is likely to contain the critical species. “Regular basis” is species- and population-dependent. Species that exist in low numbers may be present infrequently yet rely on certain habitat types. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.558 Priority habitat.

“Priority habitat” means habitat type or elements with unique or significant value to one or more species as classified by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. A priority habitat may consist of a unique vegetation type or dominant plant species, a described successional stage, or a specific structural element. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

Principal use.

See FMC 22.98.720, Use, principal. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.561 Printing, large-scale.

“Printing, large-scale” means a printing establishment generally serving account customers and utilizing a sheet-fed or web-fed press rather than a typical one-person off-set press. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.564 Printing, small-scale.

“Printing, small-scale” means a printing establishment generally serving both walk-in and account customers, utilizing small-scale printing presses which are set up and operated by an individual and may include a bindery person as an assistant. Products primarily consist of business cards, envelopes, letterheads, reports, manuals and brochures. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.565 Private road or driveway.

“Private road or driveway” means every way or place in private ownership and used for travel of vehicles by the owner or those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons. (Ord. 1322 § 16, 2003).

22.98.567 Processed materials.

“Processed materials” examples include natural or synthetic materials, including but not limited to bristles, canvas, cellophane and similar synthetics, chalk, clay, cloth, cork, feathers, felt, fiber, fur, glass, graphite, hair, horn, leather, metal products (nonprecious), paper, paraffin, plastic and resins, precious or semi-precious metals or stones, putty, pumice, rubber, shell, textiles, tobacco, wire, wood, wool and yarn. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.570 Professional office.

“Professional office” means an office maintained and used as a place of business conducted by persons engaged in recognized professions, and others whose business activity consists primarily of services to the person as distinguished from the handling of commodities. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.571 Project area.

“Project area” means all areas within 50 feet of the area proposed to be disturbed, altered, or used by the proposed activity or the construction of any proposed structures, when used in the context of critical area regulations. When the action binds the land, such as a subdivision, short subdivision, binding site plan, planned unit development, or rezone, the project area shall include the entire parcel, at a minimum. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.573 Provider.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “provider” means every corporation, company, association, joint stock company, firm, partnership, limited liability company, other entity and individual which provides personal wireless service over personal wireless service facilities. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.576 Public or quasi-public utility.

“Public or quasi-public utility” means a private corporation performing a public service and subject to special governmental regulations; or a governmental agency performing a similar public service, the services by either of which are paid for directly by individual recipients. Such services shall include, but are not limited to, water supply, electric power, gas and transportation of persons and freight. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.579 Qualified professional.

“Qualified professional” means a person with experience and training in the pertinent scientific discipline, and who is a qualified scientific expert with expertise appropriate for the relevant critical area subject in accordance with WAC 365-195-905(4). A qualified professional must have obtained a B.S. or B.A. or equivalent degree in biology, engineering, environmental studies, fisheries, geomorphology, or related field, and two years of related work experience.

(a) A qualified professional for habitats or wetlands must have a degree in biology and professional experience related to the subject species.

(b) A qualified professional for a geological hazard must be a professional engineer or geologist, licensed in the state of Washington.

(c) A qualified professional for critical aquifer recharge areas means a hydrogeologist, geologist, engineer, or other scientist with experience in preparing hydrogeologic assessments. (Ord. 1375 § 35, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.581 Raceway.

“Raceway” means a box-type conduit to house electrical wires for signs and used to support and/or affix signage on a wall. (Ord. 1598 § 48, 2017).

22.98.582 Reasonable use alternatives.

“Reasonable use alternatives” means alternatives to the proposed project which will result in minimum feasible alteration or impairment of functional characteristics including contours, vegetation, fish and wildlife resources, ground water and hydrological conditions. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.583 Recharge.

“Recharge” means the process involved in the absorption and addition of water to ground water. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.584 Reclaimed water.

“Reclaimed water” means municipal wastewater effluent that has been adequately and reliability treated so that it is suitable for beneficial use, consistent with treatment levels and water quality requirements in the water reclamation and reuse standards adopted by the state Departments of Ecology and Health. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.585 Recorded.

“Recorded” means filed and recorded with the Pierce County auditor. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.588 Recreation, active.

“Recreation, active” means leisure-time activities, usually of a formal nature and often performed with others, requiring equipment and taking place at prescribed places, sites, or fields. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.591 Recreation, passive.

“Recreation, passive” means activities that involve relatively inactive or less energetic activities, such as walking, sitting, picnicking, card games and table games such as chess. Passive recreation also includes open space for nature walks and observation. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.591.1 Recreational fire.

“Recreational fire” means fires lit in chimineas, contained fire pits, fire bowls, cooking appliances and barbeques, portable fire devices and similar free-standing devices commonly sold at home-improvement stores and mass retailers, and permanent outdoor fireplaces that occur on private property for cooking, pleasure or ceremonial purposes. (Ord. 1507 § 6, 2011).

22.98.594 Recreational vehicle.

“Recreational vehicles” means all vehicles, self-propelled or propelled by another vehicle, designed primarily for touring with living/or sleeping quarters on board. Includes, but is not limited to, campers, travel trailers and motor homes. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.597 Recyclable material.

“Recyclable material” shall mean, but not be limited to, those materials such as glass, paper and certain metals which are suitable for break-down and refuse. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.600 Recycling collection center.

“Recycling collection center” means an enclosed facility or outdoor area which is used for the collection and shipment of pre-sorted recyclable material. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.603 Regulated activities.

“Regulated activities” means any act which would destroy natural vegetation in a critical area or its buffer; result in significant change in water temperature, physical or chemical characteristics; substantially alter existing pattern of tidal flow; obstruct the flow of sediment or alter the natural contours of a site. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.604 Religious institution.

“Religious institution” means an establishment, the principal purpose of which is religious worship and for which the principal building or other structure contains the sanctuary or principal place of worship. Accessory uses in the

main building or in separate buildings may include, but are not limited to, religious educational classrooms, assembly rooms, kitchen, library or reading room, recreational hall, and a single-family dwelling unit for use by an institution official. Accessory uses to a religious institution do not include day-care facilities or facilities for residence or for training of religious orders. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.605 Repair or maintenance.

“Repair or maintenance” means an activity that restores the character, scope, size, and design of a serviceable area, structure, or land use to its previously authorized and undamaged condition. Activities that change the character, size, or scope of a project beyond the original design and drain, dredge, fill, flood, or otherwise alter critical areas are not included in this definition. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.606 Restoration.

“Restoration” means measures taken to restore an altered or damaged natural feature including:

(a) Active steps taken to restore damaged wetlands, streams, protected habitat, or their buffers to the functioning condition that existed prior to an unauthorized alteration; and

(b) Actions performed to reestablish structural and functional characteristics of the critical area that have been lost by alteration, past management activities, or catastrophic events. (Ord. 1375 § 36, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.607 Retail establishment.

“Retail establishment” (also known as retail store) means an establishment in which 60 percent or more of the gross floor area is devoted to the sale or rental of goods or merchandise to the general public for personal or household consumption or to services incidental to the sale or rental of such goods or merchandise. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.608 Rills.

“Rills” means deep-sided channels resulting from accelerated erosion. A rill is generally a few inches deep and not wide enough to be an obstacle to farm machinery. Rill erosion tends to occur on slopes, particularly steep slopes with poor vegetative cover. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.609 Riparian habitat.

“Riparian habitat” means areas adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contain elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems that mutually influence each other. The width of these areas extends to that portion of the terrestrial landscape that directly influences the aquatic ecosystem by providing shade, fine or large woody material, nutrients, organic and inorganic debris, terrestrial insects, or habitat for riparian-associated wildlife. Widths shall be measured from the ordinary high water mark or from the top of bank if the ordinary high water mark cannot be identified. It includes the entire extent of the floodplain and the extent of vegetation adapted to wet conditions as well as adjacent upland plant communities that directly influence the stream system. Riparian habitat areas include those riparian areas severely altered or damaged due to human development activities. (Ord. 1375 § 37, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.610 Roadway.

“Roadway” means that portion of the street improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the sidewalks and shoulder. Where there are curbs, the roadway is the curb to curb width of the street. (Ord. 1598 § 49, 2017; Ord. 1375 § 38, 2005; Ord. 1311 § 38, 2002).

22.98.611 Roofline.

“Roofline” means the uppermost edge of the roof or the top of the parapet, excluding mechanical equipment screens, whichever is highest. Where a building has several roof levels, the roofline shall be the one belonging to that portion of the building on which the sign is located. (Ord. 1598 § 50, 2017; Ord. 1375 § 39, 2005; Ord. 1322 § 17, 2003).

22.98.612 Scientific process.

“Scientific process” means a valid scientific process that produces reliable information useful in understanding the consequences of a decision. The characteristics of a valid scientific process are as follows:

(a) Peer Review. The information has been critically reviewed by other qualified scientific experts in that scientific discipline.

(b) Methods. The methods that were used are standardized in the pertinent scientific discipline or the methods have been appropriately peer-reviewed to ensure their reliability and validity.

(c) Logical Conclusions and Reasonable Inferences. The conclusions presented are based on reasonable assumptions supported by other studies and are logically and reasonably derived from the assumptions and supported by the data presented.

(d) Quantitative Analysis. The data have been analyzed using appropriate statistical or quantitative methods.

(e) Context. The assumptions, analytical techniques, data, and conclusions are appropriately framed with respect to the prevailing body of pertinent scientific knowledge.

(f) References. The assumptions, techniques, and conclusions are well referenced with citations to pertinent existing information. (Ord. 1375 § 40, 2005; Ord. 1322 § 18, 2003; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.613 Screening.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “screening” means a personal wireless telecommunication facility such as a tower or mount placed amongst and adjacent to (within 20 feet of) three or more trees at least 75 percent of the height of the facility. (Ord. 1322 § 19, 2003).

22.98.614 Scrub-shrub wetland.

“Scrub-shrub wetland” means a wetland with at least 30 percent of its surface area covered by woody vegetation less than 20 feet in height as the uppermost strata. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.615 Secondary use.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “secondary use” means a use subordinate to the principle use of the property, such as commercial, residential, utilities, etc. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.616 Section 404 Permit.

“Section 404 Permit” means a permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the placement of dredge or fill material or clearing in waters of the United States, including wetlands, in accordance with 33 USC Section 1344. Section 404 Permits may also be for endangered species consultation. They require a consultation under Section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.618 Security barrier.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “security barrier” means a wall, fence, or berm that has the purpose of sealing a personal wireless service facility from unauthorized entry or trespass. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.621 Second-hand store.

“Second-hand store” means a retail establishment that is involved in the selling of any or all second-hand goods or items of personal property which can be used again for the purpose for which they were originally intended. The establishment may include, but not be limited to, arrangements whereby a building or area is sold, leased, rented, offered or donated to one or more persons where such persons may offer or display second-hand or junk items. This term includes antique stores and consignment shops. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.622 Seeps.

“Seeps” means a spot where water oozes from the earth, often forming the source of a small stream. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.623 Seismic hazard areas.

“Seismic hazard areas” means areas that are subject to severe risk of damage as a result of earthquake-induced ground shaking, slope failure, settlement, or soil liquefaction. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.624 Sense of place.

“Sense of place” means the characteristics of a location that make it readily recognizable as being unique and different from its surroundings. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.627 Sensitive receptor.

“Sensitive receptor” means a public park or open space area, or any establishment that provides caretaking, education, or recreation for persons under 18 years of age, including a community college, trade or vocational school that on a regular basis has at least one student under the age of 18 years. (Ord. 1562 § 58, 2015; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.630 SEPA rules.

“SEPA rules” means rules contained in Chapter 197-11 WAC adopted by the Department of Ecology. (Statutory authority: RCW 43.21C.130, 84-13-036. (Order DE 84-25), § 173-806-030, filed 6/15/84. Formerly WAC 173-805-030.) (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.632 Serviceable.

“Serviceable” means presently usable. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.633 Service station.

“Service station” means a building or lot having storage tanks and pumps for the retail sale of fuel to vehicle drivers and where minor repair service and/or the retail sale of food and vehicle supplies is incidental thereto. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.634 Setback.

“Setback” means the minimum required distance between any structure and a specified line such as a property or lot line, easement or buffer line, or public or private right-of-way line, which is required to remain free of structures unless otherwise provided in this title. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.635 Shorelines.

“Shorelines” means all of the water areas of the state as defined in RCW 90.58.030, including reservoirs and their associated shorelands, together with the lands underlying them except:

- (a) Shorelines of statewide significance;
- (b) Shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a point where the mean annual flow is 20 cubic feet per second (20 cfps) or less and the wetlands associated with such upstream segments; and
- (c) Shorelines on lakes less than 20 acres in size and wetlands associated with such small lakes. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.636 Shorelines of the state.

“Shorelines of the state” means the total of all “shorelines,” as defined in RCW 90.58.030(2)(d), and “shorelines of statewide significance” within the state, as defined in RCW 90.58.030(2)(c). (Ord. 1375 § 41, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.637 Shorelines of statewide significance.

“Shorelines of statewide significance” means those areas defined in RCW 90.58.030(2)(e). (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.638 Shorelands or shoreland areas.

“Shorelands or shoreland areas” means those lands extending landward for 200 feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward 200 feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and river deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the provisions of Chapter 90.58 RCW. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.639 Short plat.

“Short plat” means the map or representation of a short subdivision. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.642 Short subdivision.

“Short subdivision” means the division or redivision of land into four or fewer lots, tracts, parcels, sites or divisions for the purpose of sale, lease, or transfer of ownership into four or fewer lots. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.644 Sidewalk.

“Sidewalk” means that property between the curb lines or the lateral lines of a roadway and the adjacent property, set aside and intended for the use of pedestrians or such portion of private property parallel and in proximity to a street and dedicated to use by pedestrians. (Ord. 1322 § 20, 2003).

22.98.645 Sidewalk cafe.

“Sidewalk cafe” means a group of tables and chairs situated and maintained upon the public sidewalk for use in connection with the consumption of food and beverages sold to the public from or in an adjoining restaurant. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.648 Sign.

“Sign” means letters, figures, symbols, trademarks, or logos, with or without illumination, intended to identify any place, subject, person, firm, business, product, article, merchandise or point of sale. A sign also includes balloons attached to sign structures, products, streamers, spinners, pennants, flags, inflatables or similar devices intended to attract attention to a site or business, as well as architectural or structural forms, illuminated panels, spandrels, awnings and other structural or architectural features not common to classic vernacular or noncorporate regional architecture and that are intended to convey a brand, message or otherwise advertise a location or product, whether or not such features include text or graphics and whether or not they serve other practical purposes such as lighting, covering or enclosure of persons or products. A sign includes any device which streams, televises or otherwise conveys electronic visual messages, pictures, videos or images, with or without sound or odors. Refer to FMC 22.26.026 for a list of prohibited signs. (Ord. 1598 § 51, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 21, 2003; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.648.1 Sign, abandoned.

“Sign, abandoned” means a sign, the face of which has been removed or is broken and is not refaced within 180 days thereafter. Abandoned signs shall also include signs with rusted, faded, peeled, cracked or otherwise deteriorated materials or finishes that have not been repaired within 90 days after the city provides notice of the sign’s deteriorated condition under FMC 22.26.009. (Ord. 1598 § 52, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 22, 2003).

22.98.648.2 Sign, accessory.

“Sign, accessory” means a permanent, freestanding or building-mounted sign of limited height and size that provides supplemental opportunity for freestanding or building-mounted signage on a site. (Ord. 1598 § 53, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 23, 2003).

22.98.648.3 Sign alteration.

“Sign alteration” means a change to the copy, color, size, shape, illumination, position, location, construction or supporting structure of a sign, not including ordinary maintenance. (Ord. 1598 § 54, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 24, 2003).

22.98.648.4 Sign area.

“Sign area” means the smallest square, rectangle, parallelogram or circle that will enclose the extreme limits of writing, representation, logo, or any figure of similar character, together with any frame, background area, structural trim, or other materials or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate such sign from the background against which it is placed. The supports or uprights on which any such sign is supported shall not be included in determining the sign area. The area of signs with two faces shall be considered to be the area of the largest face. The area of signs with three or more faces shall be considered to be the area of the largest face or one-half the area of all of the faces, whichever is less. For sign copy that has varying sizes of letters or graphics, the sign area may be calculated by combining two or more geometric shapes. (Ord. 1598 § 55, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 25, 2003).

22.98.648.5 Sign, awning, canopy or marquee.

“Sign, awning, canopy or marquee” means a sign affixed to or imprinted on a temporary shelter or a permanent architectural projection, such as an awning, canopy or marquee, composed of rigid or nonrigid materials on a supporting framework, affixed to the exterior wall of a building, extending over a door, entrance, window or outdoor service area. (Ord. 1598 § 56, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 26, 2003).

22.98.648.6 Sign, changeable copy.

“Sign, changeable copy” means a sign or portion thereof that is designed to have its message or copy readily changed manually or by remote or automatic means without altering or replacing the face or surface. Changeable

copy signs support hard-copy text or graphics and do not use digital or electronic text or images. (Ord. 1598 § 57, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 27, 2003).

22.98.648.7 Sign, digital.

“Sign, digital” means a changeable copy sign with monochrome LED (light emitting diodes) text, graphics or symbols over a black, nonilluminated background. (Ord. 1598 § 58, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 28, 2003).

22.98.648.8 Sign, electrical.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 29, 2003).

22.98.648.9 Sign, electronic.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 30, 2003).

22.98.648.10 Sign, flashing.

“Sign, flashing” means an electrical sign or portion thereof, except electronic message center signs, that changes light intensity in a sudden transitory burst, or that switches on and off in a constant pattern in which more than one-third of the nonconstant light source is off at any one time, random, or irregular pattern or contains motion or the optical illusion of motion by use of electrical energy. (Ord. 1598 § 61, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 31, 2003).

22.98.648.11 Sign, freestanding.

“Sign, freestanding” means a sign and its support pole or base standing directly on the ground that is independent from any building or other structure. (Ord. 1598 § 62, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 32, 2003).

22.98.648.12 Sign, garage or yard sale.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 33, 2003).

22.98.648.13 Sign height.

“Sign height” means the vertical distance measured from the adjacent grade at the base of the sign support to the highest point of the sign or sign structure. (Ord. 1598 § 64, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 34, 2003).

22.98.648.14 Sign, identification.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 35, 2003).

22.98.648.15 Sign, monument.

“Sign, monument” means a freestanding low profile sign designed with a solid base and background consistent with FMC 22.26.017(b). (Ord. 1598 § 66, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 36, 2003).

22.98.648.16 Sign, neon.

“Sign, neon” means a sign with illumination affected by a light source consisting of a neon or other gas tube which is bent to form letters, symbols or other shapes. (Ord. 1598 § 67, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 37, 2003).

22.98.648.17 Sign, nonconforming.

“Sign, nonconforming” means any sign which at one time conformed to all applicable requirements and standards of Chapter 22.26 FMC, including all permit requirements, but which subsequently ceased to so conform due to changes in such requirements and standards. (Ord. 1598 § 68, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 38, 2003).

22.98.648.18 Sign, pan channel.

“Sign, pan channel” means a sign graphic that is constructed of a three-sided metal channel, usually having a light source contained within the channel. The open side may face inward, resulting in silhouette lighting, or it may face outward to allow full illumination. The open side of the channel may be enclosed with a translucent material. (Ord. 1598 § 69, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 39, 2003).

22.98.648.19 Sign, permanent.

“Sign, permanent” means a sign constructed of weather resistant material and intended for permanent use and that does not otherwise meet the definition of “temporary sign.” Wall-mounted sign holders designed for insertion of signs and posters shall be considered permanent signage and subject to all standards of this chapter. (Ord. 1598 § 70, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 40, 2003).

22.98.648.20 Sign, pole-mounted.

“Sign, pole-mounted” means a sign mounted on a weighted base, intended to be movable. (Ord. 1598 § 71, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 41, 2003).

22.98.648.21 Sign, portable.

“Sign, portable” means a freestanding sign that is readily moveable and not permanently affixed to the ground, including A-frame or sandwich board signs, pole signs mounted on weighted bases, and similar signs that are used on more than a temporary basis. (Ord. 1598 § 72, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 42, 2003).

22.98.648.22 Sign, principal.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 43, 2003).

22.98.648.23 Sign, projecting.

“Sign, projecting” means a sign attached to a building with the face not parallel to the vertical surface of the building. Projecting signs include signs projecting directly from walls, or signs hanging from porch ceilings or other support structures. (Ord. 1598 § 74, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 44, 2003).

22.98.648.24 Sign, reader board.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 45, 2003).

22.98.648.25 Sign, reader board portable.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 46, 2003).

22.98.648.26 Sign, real estate.

Repealed by Ord. 1598. (Ord. 1322 § 47, 2003).

22.98.648.27 Sign, revolving.

“Sign, revolving” means any sign that rotates or turns in a circular motion. (Ord. 1322 § 48, 2003).

22.98.648.28 Sign, roof-mounted.

“Sign, roof-mounted” means a sign that has a point of attachment to the roof or mansard of a building. Architectural projections, including mechanical equipment screens, above any parapet or roof line whose sole function is a background for signs shall be considered a sign structure. A sign on such an architectural projection shall be considered a roof-mounted sign. (Ord. 1598 § 78, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 49, 2003).

22.98.648.29 Sign, sandwich board.

“Sign, sandwich board” means a portable sign consisting of two sign faces hinged at the top and separated at the bottom to make it self standing. (Ord. 1322 § 50, 2003).

22.98.648.30 Sign, service island.

“Sign, service island” means a permanent sign displayed on the service island canopy, spandrel or island spanner of a service station. (Ord. 1598 § 79, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 51, 2003).

22.98.648.31 Sign, special event.

“Sign, special event” means temporary signs or advertising displays or a combination thereof that advertises or attracts public attention to a special one-time event. (Ord. 1598 § 80, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 52, 2003).

22.98.648.32 Sign, temporary.

“Sign, temporary” means any sign that is used temporarily and is not permanently mounted, painted or otherwise affixed, excluding portable signs as defined by this chapter, including any poster, banner, placard, feather sign, stake sign or sign not placed in the ground with concrete or other means to provide permanent support, stability and rot prevention. Temporary signs may only be made of nondurable materials including, but not limited to, paper, corrugated board, flexible, bendable or foldable plastics, foamcore board, vinyl canvas or vinyl mesh products of less than 20-ounce fabric, vinyl canvas and vinyl mesh products without polymeric plasticizers, and signs painted or drawn with water soluble paints or chalks. Signs made of any other materials shall be considered permanent and are subject to the permanent sign regulations of this chapter. (Ord. 1598 § 81, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 53, 2003).

22.98.648.33 Sign, under-canopy.

“Sign, under-canopy” means a sign that is placed under an awning, marquee or canopy, and is placed perpendicular to the storefront so that it is oriented to pedestrians on a sidewalk or an internal walkway. (Ord. 1598 § 82, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 54, 2003).

22.98.648.34 Sign, wall.

“Sign, wall” means a sign that is attached parallel to or painted on a wall, including parapet or canopy fascia, or a building. (Ord. 1598 § 83, 2017; Ord. 1322 § 55, 2003).

22.98.648.35 Sign width.

“Sign width” means the total horizontal dimension of a sign, including all frames or structures. (Ord. 1598 § 84, 2017).

22.98.648.36 Sign, window.

“Sign, window” means a sign that is attached to or is intended to be seen in, on or through a window of a building and is visible from the exterior of the window. (Ord. 1598 § 85, 2017).

22.98.650 Significant portion of its range.

“Significant portion of its range” means that portion of a species’ range likely to be essential to the long-term survival of the population in Washington. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.651 Significant tree.

“Significant tree” means a healthy evergreen tree with a height of 10 feet or more and a healthy deciduous tree with a minimum caliper of six inches measured at four feet above finished planting grade. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.652 Site.

“Site” means a unit of land, together with all improvements thereon, determined as follows:

A unit of land that may be conveyed separately from all adjacent land without the requirement of approval of a boundary line adjustment, short plat, or a preliminary plat.

Two or more buildings or business activities that are or will be related to each other physically or architecturally, such as by sharing off-street parking facilities, so as to form an integrated development, such as a shopping center, mixed-use center, or office complex. (Ord. 1667 § 49, 2020; Ord. 1598 § 86, 2017).

22.98.654 Slope.

“Slope,” as determined or agreed upon by the city engineer, means an inclined earth surface, the inclination of which is expressed as the ratio of horizontal distance from the top-of-slope to the toe-of-slope to the vertical distance (height of slope). Slope percent is computed by dividing the vertical distance by the horizontal distance times 100. A change in grade of more than five percent along any slope analyzed, or a vertical elevation variation of two feet off of the base line slope, whichever is less, constitutes a separate slope calculation, beginning at the location of grade breaks. (Ord. 1417 § 13, 2006; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.657 Social card game.

“Social card game” means a card game that constitutes gambling and is authorized by the Washington State Gambling Commission under RCW 9.46.070. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.658 Soil survey.

“Soil survey” means the most recent soil survey for the local area or county by the National Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.658.1 Spandrel.

“Spandrel” means a panel or box-type structure that spans between and/or is connected to the support columns of a porch, colonnade or canopy, usually for architectural embellishment and/or signage purposes. (Ord. 1598 § 87, 2017).

22.98.659 Special flood hazard areas.

“Special flood hazard areas” means the land in the floodplain within an area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. Designations of special flood hazard areas on flood insurance map(s) always include the letters A or V. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.660 Special protection areas.

“Special protection areas” means aquifer recharge areas defined by WAC 173-200-090 that require special consideration or increased protection because of unique characteristics, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Ground waters that support an ecological system requiring more stringent criteria than drinking water standards;
- (b) Ground water recharge areas and wellhead protection areas that are vulnerable to pollution because of hydrogeologic characteristics; and
- (c) Sole source aquifer status. (Ord. 1375 § 42, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.661 Species.

“Species” means any group of animals classified as a species or subspecies as commonly accepted by the scientific community. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.662 Species, endangered.

“Species, endangered” means any fish or wildlife species that is threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and is listed by the state or federal government as an endangered species. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.663 Species of local importance.

“Species of local importance” means those species of local concern due to their population status or their sensitivity to habitat manipulation, or that are game species. (Ord. 1375 § 43, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.664 Species, priority.

“Species, priority” means any fish or wildlife species requiring protective measures and/or management guidelines to ensure their persistence as genetically viable population levels as classified by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, including endangered, threatened, sensitive, candidate and monitor species, and those of recreational, commercial, or tribal importance. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.665 Species, threatened.

“Species, threatened” means any fish or wildlife species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout a significant portion of its range without cooperative management or removal of threats, and is listed by the state or federal government as a threatened species. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.666 Specified sexual activities.

“Specified sexual activities” means an act of sexual intercourse within its ordinary meaning, occurring upon a penetration, however slight; a penetration of the vagina or anus, however slight, by an object; a contact between persons involving the sex organs of one person and the mouth or anus of another; masturbation, manual or instrumental, of oneself or one person by another; touching of the sex organs, anus, or female breasts, whether clothed or unclothed, of oneself or of one person by another. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.667 Specified anatomical areas.

“Specified anatomical areas” means less than completely and/or opaquely covered human genitals, pubic region, buttock, or any portion of the nipple, the areola, or the lower half of the female breast and human male genitals in a discernibly turgid state even if completely or opaquely covered. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.669 Stand.

“Stand” means a structure, open on at least one side, for the display and sale of goods. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.672 Stock-in-trade.

“Stock-in-trade” means the dollar value of all products, equipment, books, magazines, posters, pictures, periodicals, other printed materials, prerecorded video tapes, discs, or similar material readily available for purchase, rental,

viewing or use by patrons of the establishment, excluding material located in any storeroom or other portion of the premises not regularly open to patrons; the number of titles of all products, equipment, books, magazines, posters, pictures, periodicals, other printed materials, prerecorded video tapes, discs, or similar material readily available for purchase, rental, viewing or use by patrons of the establishment, excluding material located in any storeroom or other portion of the premises not regularly open to patrons. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.675 Story.

“Story” means that portion of a building included between the upper surface of any floor and the upper surface of the floor next above, except that the topmost story shall be that portion of a building included between the upper surface of the topmost floor and the ceiling or roof above. If the finished floor level directly above a basement or unused underfloor space is more than six feet above grade as defined herein for more than 50 percent of the total perimeter or is more than 12 feet above grade as defined herein at any point, such basement or unused underfloor space shall be considered as a story. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.678 Stream corridor.

“Stream corridor” means perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral waters included within a channel of land and its adjacent riparian zones which serves as a buffer between the aquatic and terrestrial upland ecosystems. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.681 Street.

“Street” means a public right-of-way or private road which provides a primary means of access to abutting property. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.684 Street furniture.

“Street furniture” means constructed, aboveground objects, such as outdoor seating, kiosks, bus shelters, sculpture, tree grids, trash receptacles, fountains, and telephone booths, that have the potential for enlivening and giving variety to streets, sidewalks, plazas, and other outdoor spaces open to, and used by, the public. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.687 Street right-of-way.

“Street right-of-way” means the strip of land platted, dedicated, condemned, established by prescription or otherwise legally established for the use of pedestrians, vehicles or utilities. (Ord. 1598 § 88, 2017; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.690 Streetscape.

“Streetscape” is a design term referring to all the elements that constitute the physical makeup of a street and that, as a group, define its character, including trees and other plantings, awnings and marquees, signs, and lighting. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.693 Subdivision.

“Subdivision” means the division or redivision of land into five or more lots, tracts, parcels, sites or divisions for the purpose of sale, lease, or transfer of ownership, except as provided in Chapter 22.16 FMC. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.694 Subdrainage basin or subbasin.

“Subdrainage basin or subbasin” means the drainage area of the highest order stream containing the subject property impact area. “Stream order” is the term used to define the position of a stream in the hierarchy of tributaries in the watershed. The smallest streams are the highest order (first order) tributaries. These are the upper watershed streams and have no tributaries of their own. When two first order streams meet, they form a second order stream, and when two second order streams meet they become a third order stream, and so on. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.695 Substantial damage.

“Substantial damage” means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.696 Structural alteration.

“Structural alteration” means any change, addition or modification in construction. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.697 Substantial improvement.

“Substantial improvement” means any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the assessed value of the structure either: before the improvement or repair is started; or if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred. (Ord. 1562 § 59, 2015; Ord. 1375 § 44, 2005).

22.98.697.1 Substantially change.

“Substantially change” means to increase the height of an existing wireless tower by more than 10 percent, or by a height exceeding 20 feet, whichever is greater. (Ord. 1667 § 50, 2020).

22.98.698 Tenant space.

“Tenant space” means the entire building which encompasses a building or use on a site; or in buildings designed for multi-tenant occupancy, it is the space between demising walls and which has an independent entrance to common corridors or to the outside. Portions of tenant spaces that are sublet to or otherwise allowed to be used by persons or businesses other than the principal person or business of a tenant space are not considered tenant spaces in the context of this chapter. (Ord. 1598 § 89, 2017).

22.98.699 Toe of slope.

“Toe of slope” means a distinct topographic break in slope at the lower most limit of an area where the ground surface drops 10 feet or more vertically within a horizontal distance of 25 feet. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.702 Tot lot.

“Tot lot” means an improved and equipped play area for small children usually up to elementary school age. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.705 Tower.

As used in Chapter 22.24 FMC, “tower” means any structure that is 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 encompasses personal wireless service facilities including radio and television transmission towers, microwave towers, common-carrier towers, cellular telephone towers or personal communications services towers, alternative tower structures, and the like. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.706 Transitional housing.

“Transitional housing” means a project that provides housing and supportive services to homeless persons or families for up to two years and that has as its purpose facilitating the movement of homeless persons and families into independent living.

22.98.708 Tree topping.

“Tree topping” means the cutting of a branch or stem back to a stub or lateral branch not sufficiently large enough to assume the terminal role. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.711 Unavoidable.

“Unavoidable” means adverse impacts to a critical area that remain after all appropriate and practical avoidance and minimization have been achieved. (Ord. 1375 § 45, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.714 Unlicensed wireless services.

“Unlicensed wireless services” means commercial mobile services that operate on public frequencies and do not need an FCC license. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.715 Unshielded lighting.

“Unshielded lighting” means an external illumination source which is exposed to view. (Ord. 1598 § 90, 2017).

22.98.717 Use.

“Use” means the nature of the occupancy, the type of activity, or the character and form of improvements to which land is devoted or may be devoted. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.720 Use, principal.

“Use, principal” means the primary use of land or improvements as distinguished from a subordinate or accessory use. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.723 Use, accessory.

“Use, accessory” means a use customarily incidental and subordinate to a permitted principal use and located on the same lot or in the same building as the principal use. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.726 Use type.

Reserved. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.729 Variance.

“Variance” means a means, approved by the hearing examiner or director, of altering the requirements of this title in specific instances where the strict application of these regulations would deprive a property of privileges enjoyed by other properties which are similarly situated, due to special features or constraints unique to the property involved. (Ord. 1638 § 67, 2019; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.730 Variance, de minimis.

“Variance, de minimis” means a minimal or minor deviation from a bulk or dimensional zoning requirement that does not require proof of unnecessary hardship and compliance with other statutory requirements for the granting of a variance. (Ord. 1575 § 22, 2016).

22.98.732 Vehicle repair, major.

“Vehicle repair, major” means the rebuilding or reconditioning of motor vehicles or trailers including trucks over one and one-half tons capacity, including but not limited to engine replacement or rebuilding; collision service, including body, frame or fender straightening or repair; and vehicle painting. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.735 Vehicle repair, minor.

“Vehicle repair, minor” means general engine repair and part replacement for automobiles and trucks not exceeding one and one-half ton capacity, but not including any operation specified under FMC 22.98.732, Automobile repair, major. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.738 Vehicle wash.

“Vehicle wash” means a facility for washing motor vehicles utilizing any combination of mechanical and/or manual processes. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.741 Vehicle wrecker.

“Vehicle wrecker” means every person, firm, partnership, association or corporation engaged in the business of buying, selling or dealing in vehicles of a type required to be licensed under the laws of the this state, for the purpose of wrecking, dismantling, disassembling or substantially changing the form of a vehicle, or who buys or sells integral second-hand parts of component material thereof, in whole or in part, or who deals in second-hand vehicle parts. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.744 Veterinary clinic.

“Veterinary clinic” means an establishment in which veterinary services and incidental temporary boarding are rendered, but not including kennels. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.745 Vulnerability.

“Vulnerability” means the combined effect of susceptibility to contamination and the presence of potential contaminants. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.746 Warehouse/warehousing.

“Warehouse/warehousing” means a facility generally dealing with the active reception and dispersal of goods that are oriented to manufactured products and household goods. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.747 Water dependent.

“Water dependent” means a use or portion of a use that cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the water, but is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations; a use that can be carried out only on, in, or adjacent to water. Examples of water dependent uses include: ship cargo terminal loading areas; fishing; ferry and passenger terminals; barge loading, ship building, and dry docking facilities; marinas, moorage, and boat launching facilities; aquaculture; float plane operations; surface water intake; and sanitary sewer and storm drain outfalls. (Ord. 1375 § 46, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.748 Water resource inventory area (WRIA).

“Water resource inventory area (WRIA)” means one of 62 watersheds in the state of Washington, each composed of the drainage areas of a stream or streams, as established in Chapter 173-500 WAC as it existed on January 1, 1997. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.749 Water table.

“Water table” means that surface in an unconfined aquifer at which the pressure is atmospheric. It is defined by the levels at which water stands in wells that penetrate the aquifer just far enough to hold standing water. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.750 Water typing system.

“Water typing system” means waters classified according to WAC 222-16-031. (Ord. 1375 § 47, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.751 Watercourse.

“Watercourse” means any portion of a channel, bed, bank, or bottom waterward of the ordinary high water line of waters of the state including areas in which fish may spawn, reside, or through which they may pass, and tributary waters with defined beds or banks, which influence the quality of fish habitat downstream. This definition includes watercourses that flow on an intermittent basis or which fluctuate in level during the year and applies to the entire bed of such watercourse whether or not the water is at peak level. This definition does not include irrigation ditches, canals, stormwater run-off devices, or other entirely artificial watercourses, except where they exist in a natural watercourse that has been altered by humans. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.752 Well.

“Well” means a bored, drilled, or driven shaft, or a dug hole whose depth is greater than the largest surface dimension for the purpose of withdrawing or injecting water or other liquids. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.753 Wellhead protection area (WHPA).

“Wellhead protection area (WHPA)” means the portion of a zone of contribution for a well, wellfield, or spring, as defined using criteria established by the Washington State Department of Ecology. (Ord. 1375 § 48, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.754 Wetland classes, classes of wetlands, or wetland types.

“Wetland classes,” “classes of wetlands,” or “wetland types” means the descriptive classes of the wetlands taxonomic classification system of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Cowardin, et al., 1979). (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.755 Wetland edge.

“Wetland edge” means the boundary of a wetland as delineated based on the definitions contained in this title. “Wetland edge” also means a line dividing uplands from water habitat. The line can be identified through procedures in the Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands by examining the presence or absence of aquatic plants (hydrophyte), hydric soils and/or water table at or near the surface. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.756 Wetlands.

“Wetlands” means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation

and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands. (Ord. 1574 § 9, 2016; Ord. 1375 § 49, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.759 Wetlands mitigation bank.

“Wetlands mitigation bank” means a site where wetlands are restored, created, enhanced, or in exceptional circumstances, preserved expressly for the purpose of providing compensatory mitigation in advance of authorized impacts to similar resources. (Ord. 1375 § 50, 2005; Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.760 Window.

“Window” means the entire window unit including individual sashes or panes that might otherwise divide the area between the head, jamb and sill; except that in commercial storefront window assemblies, a single “window” is the glass area between each mullion that divides the window assembly, whether installed as a single piece of glass or as multiple pieces of glass divided by muntins. (Ord. 1598 § 91, 2017).

22.98.762 Wrecked vehicle.

“Wrecked vehicle” [as defined by RCW 46.80.010(4), as amended] means a vehicle which is disassembled or dismantled or a vehicle which is acquired with the intent to dismantle or disassemble and never again to operate as a vehicle, or a vehicle which has sustained such damage that its cost to repair exceeds the fair market value of a like vehicle which has not sustained such damage, or a damaged vehicle whose salvage value plus cost to repair equals or exceeds its fair market value, if repaired, or a vehicle which has sustained such damage or deterioration that it may not lawfully operate upon the highways of this state for which the salvage value plus cost to repair exceeds its fair market value, if repaired; further it is presumed that a vehicle is a wreck if it has sustained such damage or deterioration that it may not lawfully operate upon the highways of the state. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.765 Yard, automobile wrecking.

“Automobile wrecking yard” means an establishment that cuts up, compresses, or otherwise disposes of motor vehicles. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.768 Yard.

“Yard” means a space defined by the required setback on any lot and unoccupied by a structure and unobstructed from the ground upward except as otherwise provided in this title. A yard extends along a lot line and at right angles to such lot line to a depth or width specified in the yard regulations for a specified zoning district or use. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.771 Yard, front.

“Yard, front” means a yard lying between the minimum setback line for a principal building and the front property line and extending across the width of the lot. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.774 Yard, rear.

“Yard, rear” means a yard lying between the minimum setback line for a principal building and the rear property line and extending across the width of the lot. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.777 Yard, required.

“Yard, required” means the open space between a lot line and the minimum building setback line, which is required to remain free of structures unless otherwise provided in this title. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.780 Yard, side.

“Yard, side” means a yard lying between the minimum setback line for a principal building and the side property line and extending along the length of the lot between the front yard and the rear yard. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.783 Yard, side street side.

“Yard, side street side” means a yard lying between the minimum setback line for a principal building and the side property line adjoining a street right-of-way and extending along the length of the lot between the front yard and the rear yard. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.785 Zone of contribution.

“Zone of contribution” means the area surrounding a well or spring that encompasses all areas or features that supply ground water recharge to the well or spring. (Ord. 1375 § 9, 2005).

22.98.786 Zone or zoning district.

“Zone” or “zoning district” means an area accurately defined as to boundaries and location, and classified by this title as available for certain types of uses and within which other types of uses are excluded. Such district includes specific conditions, standards and requirements related to the permitted use of land within such district. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

22.98.789 Zoning map.

“Zoning map” means the official map, adopted as a part of this title, as amended, which accurately defines boundaries and locations of zoning districts. The official map may contain one or more map sheets and may be produced in multiple copies. (Ord. 1246 § 27, 2000).

SENATE BILL REPORT

ESHB 2266

Exhibit C
March 16, 2026
Fircrest City Council Study Session
2026 Comprehensive Plan & STEP Housing

As Passed Senate - Amended, March 4, 2026

Title: An act relating to encouraging permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency shelters.

Brief Description: Encouraging permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency shelters.

Sponsors: House Committee on Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives Peterson, Macri, Ryu, Parshley, Ramel, Scott, Mena, Reed, Obras, Fitzgibbon, Street, Thomas, Taylor, Doglio, Gregerson, Ormsby, Goodman, Reeves, Farivar, Fosse, Bergquist, Salahuddin, Hill, Pollet and Wylie).

Brief History: Passed House: 2/16/26, 56-40.

Committee Activity: Housing: 2/20/26, 2/25/26 [DPA, DNP].

Floor Activity: Passed Senate - Amended: 3/4/26, 29-20.

Brief Summary of Bill (As Amended by Senate)

- Requires cities and planning counties, within urban growth areas, to allow transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency housing (STEP housing) in certain zones as follows: transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any zones in which residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed; and indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in any zones in which hotels are allowed.
- Prohibits cities and planning counties from requiring any standards, conditions, or requirements for STEP housing that are more restrictive than those required for other types of development in the applicable zone.
- Requires cities and planning counties to allow indoor emergency shelters

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

and indoor emergency housing in additional types of zones when necessary to meet projected needs under their comprehensive plan.

- Directs cities and planning counties to apply only administrative design review for STEP housing, if applicable.
- Allows cities and planning counties to apply specific certification requirements for indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing.
- Allows cities and planning counties to enter into contracts with STEP housing providers under certain guidelines.
- Requires cities and planning counties to adopt and incorporate the requirements of the act within two years of the effective date or their next comprehensive plan update, whichever occurs first.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Majority Report: Do pass as amended.

Signed by Senators Bateman, Chair; Alvarado, Vice Chair; Orwall, Salomon and Trudeau.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senators Goehner, Ranking Member; Gildon.

Staff: Benjamin Omdal (786-7442)

Background: Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing. A city may not prohibit indoor emergency shelters, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or permanent supportive housing (STEP housing) in certain zones as follows:

- a city may not prohibit transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any zone where residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed; and
- a city may not prohibit indoor emergency shelters or indoor emergency housing in any zone where hotels are allowed, unless the city has adopted an ordinance authorizing indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in a majority of zones within a one-mile proximity to transit.

Requirements under the act do not allow cities and counties to limit the siting of a sufficient amount of indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing to accommodate each city's projected need under its comprehensive plan.

Permitting Requirements on Existing Buildings. A city is prohibited from imposing permitting requirements on the use of an existing building for residential purposes beyond those requirements applicable to all residential development within the building's zone.

This prohibition does not apply to emergency housing and transitional housing.

Local Requirements on Affordable Housing Developments. A city, county, or other local governmental entity is authorized to impose and enforce requirements on affordable housing developments as conditions of loans, grants, financial support, tax benefits, subsidy funds, or sale or lease or public property. The authorization also applies to affordable housing incentive programs or any other program involving bonus density, transfer of development rights, waiver of development regulations or fees, or other development incentives.

Design Review. Design review is a formally adopted local government process by which projects are reviewed for compliance with design standards for the type of use adopted through local ordinance. Design review focuses on the appearance of new construction, site planning, and items such as landscaping, signage, and other aesthetic issues.

Administrative design review is a type of design review in which a project is reviewed, approved, or denied by the planning director or the planning director's designee. Administrative design review is based solely on objective design and development standards and is generally conducted without a public hearing.

Summary of Amended Bill: Shelters, Transitional Housing, Emergency Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing. Cities and counties fully planning under the Growth Management Act—within urban growth areas—must allow STEP housing in certain zones as follows:

- transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any zones in which residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed; and
- indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in any zones in which hotels are allowed.

A city or county may not require STEP housing to be located in a zone within an urban growth area zoned for industrial use.

Nothing in the requirements under the act allows a county or city to limit indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in a manner where the capacity of indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing is insufficient to meet the projected needs under their comprehensive plan. A county or city must allow indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in additional types of zones when necessary to meet projected needs under their comprehensive plan.

A city or county subject to this requirement may generally not require any standards, conditions, or requirements for STEP housing that are more restrictive than those required for other types of lodging or development in the zone.

The city or county may apply any objective development regulations, including form-based

codes, that are required for residential development such as density limits, dimensional standards, height restrictions, floor area ratio, setback, lot coverage, stormwater, and tree canopy and retention requirements. The city or county may only apply the same development permit and environmental review processes to STEP housing that apply to other types of lodging and residential development in the same zone, unless otherwise required by state law, such as shoreline regulations and building, energy, and electrical codes.

If applying design review for STEP housing, only administrative design review may be required. Administrative design review for cities is defined as a development permit process in which an application is reviewed, approved, or denied by the planning director—or designee—based solely on objective design and development standards without a public pre-decision hearing, unless the review is otherwise required by state or federal law or the structure is a designated landmark or historic district established under a local preservation ordinance.

Nothing in the act requires a city or county to approve a permit application for STEP housing that is proposed in a critical area in which no lodging or residential development is permitted, an area of natural hazards that prohibit residential development, or on agricultural, forest, or mineral lands of long-term commercial significance.

Certification Requirements. For an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing, a city or county may require the sponsor or managing agency to certify in writing that it has, between the date the permit application was approved and the date the certificate of occupancy was issued:

- provided the name, if any, of the facility and the name and headquarters address of the managing entity;
- provided a description of any other programs operating in the building and copies of the applicable licenses and certifications held by the program;
- notified residents within 500 feet of the indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing;
- conducted more than one community meeting;
- designated at least one point of contact authorized to make decisions and take corrective action in case of an emergency, and provided at least one telephone number to be used in emergencies; and
- provided documentation of the sponsor's or managing agency's operational policies for promoting and addressing health and safety inside the building and in areas immediately adjacent to the building, admissions, program exit or transfer, handling complaints and grievances from occupants, health, fire, safety, occupancy, and staffing to provide services and resources comparable to standard or customary practices for the particular type of housing being provided.

A city or county may not require the sponsor or managing agency to provide additional certifications outside of what is allowed under the act.

Negotiations between Sponsors and Local Jurisdictions. Upon receipt of a permit application for an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing with a proposed location within 500 feet of walking distance from the physical ground of a public or private school, the city—or county if the facility is not proposed in a city—may enter into good-faith negotiations with the sponsor to establish additional and reasonable requirements pertaining to health and safety protocols. For the purposes of this requirement, the school must exist before an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing is in operation or has submitted a permit application.

If the parties are unable to come to an agreement within 180 days of the permit being submitted, the county or city may deny the permit. If a permit is denied as a result of being unable to come to an agreement under this process, the county or city must assist the sponsor in identifying suitable properties to site the indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing.

The negotiation requirements do not apply to an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing designated for individuals under the age of 18, families, or victims of domestic violence, nor do they allow a city or county to limit indoor emergency shelters or indoor emergency housing in a manner where capacity is insufficient to meet the projected needs identified in their comprehensive plans.

Contracts with Sponsors Proposing Shelters, Transitional Housing, Indoor Emergency Housing, or Permanent Supportive Housing. A county or city may enter into a contract with a sponsor proposing STEP housing to establish additional and reasonable operational requirements pertaining to health and safety protocols. Legal consideration for such a contract must, at a minimum, include a donation of real property or a long-term lease of land at least 50 years in length, to be used for the STEP housing or a significant contribution from the general fund for capital or operating expenses to be mutually determined by both parties.

A county or city that unilaterally withdraws from or modifies the consideration is in material breach of the contract and the operational requirements specified in the contract shall no longer apply to the STEP housing.

Local Requirements on Affordable Housing Developments. Income qualification, coordinated entry, reporting, and monitoring are added to the types of requirements a city, county, or local governmental entity may impose and enforce on affordable housing.

Implementation and Preemption. A city or planning county shall adopt and incorporate the requirements of this act within two years of the effective date of this section or its next comprehensive plan update, whichever occurs first.

The requirements of the act supersede, preempt, and invalidate any conflicting local

regulations and apply regardless of whether a county or city has incorporated the requirements of this act into the county's or city's development regulations, zoning regulations, and other official controls.

The act does not apply to the STEP housing in operation on the effective date of this section. A county or city may not deem STEP housing in operation on the effective date of the act unlawful or noncompliant due to the provisions of the act or due to ordinances, regulations, or controls adopted or amended due to the act

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Engrossed Substitute House Bill: *The committee recommended a different version of the bill than what was heard.* PRO: The bill is a supply and accountability bill at the heart of it. This bill, like middle housing, will set a standard across the state so that developers know what to deal with to site STEP housing. Changes were made to the bill to exempt current STEP housing and to give cities a place at the table when granting property or funds to STEP projects. This bill will help counties and organizations shelter folks across the state. Current unnecessary requirements create additional costs for taxpayers and cause delays in moving residents indoors. It is unfair that some jurisdictions in regions are able to completely opt themselves out of being a provider by regulating STEP housing out of existence. STEP housing provides previously incarcerated individuals with the ability to find housing while they get back on their feet and improve their lives. This bill is a measured response to the state's housing shortfall that balances the health and safety purposes of development regulations while ensuring that enough land capacity is available for housing affordable to all our community members. People with disabilities rely on STEP housing, which is often the only housing available for them. The bill is a prudent policy that informs the value of STEP housing, protects the rights and dignity of people with disabilities, and reduces the state's exposure to costly discrimination litigation. There is an urgent need for more shelter beds, resulting in medical patients being released to the sidewalk. STEP housing allows injured individuals to better receive follow-up medical care. STEP housing is crucial for providing safe places for marginalized communities. Local obstacles creates exclusions for marginalized communities and force the issue to other jurisdictions. Local needs for shelter and local obstacles have created a need for state oversight. People are dying on the streets; the current lack of shelter is inhumane and not consistent with practices of a civil society. People living on the streets, including elderly people in wheelchairs, are not a problem to remove but are human beings to protect.

CON: While recent amendments allowing for more negotiation are appreciated, more amendments should be made to require 24-hour on-site staff, similar to other state requirements for congregant housing. Local jurisdictions should be able to authorize that sponsors have met requirements, rather than have them self-certify.

OTHER: Cities have been working collaboratively with the Legislature in amending the bill to move forward. Not all models are going to be as robust in one cities as they are in others. Limiting the language to general fund or capital investments is unnecessarily limiting. Some cities lack the scale and infrastructure necessary to support the individuals that use these facilities. Without the ability to apply review criteria or additional requirements might strain city resources and shift the burden onto local jurisdictions. The requirement that jurisdictions make a significant contribution from their general fund hamstrings the ability of certain cities to support these programs. More clarification is needed on whether cities can use the current reasonable conditions when using non-general fund sources. A one-size-fits-all approach for permanent supportive housing may not work well as their structures differs greatly from other types of STEP housing.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Representative Strom Peterson, Prime Sponsor; GREGORY STEEN, The Power of Testimony; Heather Gates; Amasai Jeke, UTOPIA WA; Joslyn LaMadrid, Bremerton Prayerwalk; Sarah Dickmeyer, Plymouth Housing; Jenn Henderson, Disability Rights Washington; Adam Eitmann, Washington State Attorney General's Office; Mary Reinbold, Washington State Department of Commerce; Council Member Kitty Klitzke, City of Spokane; Joe McDermott, State Relations Director | King County; Leslie Enzian; Colton LaMadrid, Bremerton Prayerwalk.

CON: Virginia Clough, City of Spokane Valley.

OTHER: Blake Lyon, City of Bellingham, WA; Lynne Robinson, City of Bellevue; Carl Schroeder, Association of Washington Cities; Michael Transue, City of Fife; Kyle Moore, City of Kent.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2266

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By House Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives Peterson, Macri, Ryu, Parshley, Ramel, Scott, Mena, Reed, Obras, Fitzgibbon, Street, Thomas, Taylor, Doglio, Gregerson, Ormsby, Goodman, Reeves, Farivar, Fosse, Bergquist, Salahuddin, Hill, Pollet, and Wylie)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/26.

1 AN ACT Relating to encouraging permanent supportive housing,
2 transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency
3 shelters; amending RCW 35.21.683, 35A.21.430, and 36.130.020;
4 reenacting and amending RCW 36.70A.030; adding a new section to
5 chapter 36.70A RCW; and creating new sections.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington
8 state faces an acute shortage of housing affordable to households at
9 all income levels, resulting in housing insecurity and a growing
10 number of people experiencing homelessness. The legislature further
11 finds that local regulatory barriers, inconsistent siting standards,
12 and discretionary review processes have constrained the timely
13 development of permanent supportive housing, transitional housing,
14 indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency shelters. It is the
15 intent of the legislature to increase housing supply and advance fair
16 housing by requiring these housing types to be permitted in urban
17 areas on the same terms as other types of lodging and residential
18 development, subject only to objective and nondiscriminatory
19 development standards necessary to protect public health and safety.
20 By streamlining permitting processes and ensuring consistent
21 treatment across jurisdictions, the legislature intends to avoid

1 unnecessary cost increases associated with delays and to facilitate
2 the prompt delivery of safe, dignified, and stable housing and to
3 support statewide efforts to address homelessness and the housing
4 crisis.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) (a) A county or city planning under RCW 36.70A.040 must allow:

8 (i) Transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any
9 zones within an urban growth area in which residential dwelling units
10 or hotels are allowed; and

11 (ii) Indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in
12 any zones within an urban growth area in which hotels are allowed.
13 Nothing in this subsection allows a county or city to limit indoor
14 emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in a manner where the
15 capacity of indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing is
16 insufficient to meet the projected needs identified under RCW
17 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii). A county or city must allow indoor emergency
18 shelters and indoor emergency housing in additional types of zones
19 when necessary to meet projected needs identified in RCW
20 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

21 (b) A county or city may not require transitional housing,
22 permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor
23 emergency shelters to be located in a zone within an urban growth
24 area zoned for industrial use.

25 (2) Except as provided in subsections (5) through (7) of this
26 section, a county or city may not require through development
27 regulations, ordinances, or legal agreements any standards,
28 conditions, or requirements for transitional housing, permanent
29 supportive housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency
30 shelters that are more restrictive than those required for other
31 types of lodging or residential development within the same zone, but
32 may apply any objective development regulations, including form-based
33 codes, that are required for lodging or residential development
34 including, but not limited to, setback, lot coverage, stormwater,
35 clearing, and tree canopy and retention requirements.

36 (3) Except as provided in subsections (5) through (7) of this
37 section, a county or city shall only apply the same development
38 permit and environmental review processes to transitional housing,
39 permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor

1 emergency housing that apply to other types of lodging or residential
2 development within the same zone, unless otherwise required by state
3 law including, but not limited to, shoreline regulations under
4 chapter 90.58 RCW, building codes under chapter 19.27 RCW, energy
5 codes under chapter 19.27A RCW, or electrical codes under chapter
6 19.28 RCW.

7 (4) If applying design review for transitional housing, permanent
8 supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency
9 housing, only administrative design review may be required.

10 (5) (a) For an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency
11 housing, a county or city may require the sponsor or managing agency
12 to certify in writing that it has, between the date the permit
13 application was approved and the date the certificate of occupancy
14 was issued:

15 (i) Provided the name, if any, of the facility and the name and
16 headquarters address of the managing entity;

17 (ii) Provided a description of any other programs operating in
18 the building and copies of the applicable licenses and certifications
19 held by the program;

20 (iii) Notified residents within 500 feet of the indoor emergency
21 shelter or indoor emergency housing;

22 (iv) Conducted more than one community meeting;

23 (v) Designated at least one point of contact and provide at least
24 one telephone number to be used in emergencies; and

25 (vi) Provided documentation of the sponsor's or managing agency's
26 operational policies or procedures for:

27 (A) Promoting and addressing health and safety inside the
28 building and in areas immediately adjacent to the building;

29 (B) Admissions, including a description of the populations the
30 project will serve and potential sources of referral;

31 (C) Program exit or transfer;

32 (D) Handling complaints and grievances from occupants; and

33 (E) Health, fire, safety, and occupancy.

34 (b) The written certification by the sponsor or managing entity
35 constitutes full compliance with (a) of this subsection. A county or
36 city may not require the sponsor or managing agency to provide
37 additional certifications outside of what is allowed under (a) of
38 this subsection (5) or to repeat or revise any of the items in (a) (i)
39 through (vi) of this subsection (5). Nothing in this subsection (b)
40 prohibits the sponsor or managing agency from voluntarily updating

1 any of the information submitted under (a)(i) through (vi) of this
2 subsection (5).

3 (6) Nothing in this section requires a city or county to approve
4 a permit application for permanent supportive housing, transitional
5 housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelters that
6 are proposed in a critical area in which no lodging or residential
7 development is permitted, an area of natural hazards that generally
8 prohibit lodging or residential development, or on agricultural,
9 forest, or mineral lands of long-term commercial significance.

10 (7)(a) Upon receipt of a permit application for an indoor
11 emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing with a proposed
12 location within 500 feet of walking distance from another indoor
13 emergency shelter or other indoor emergency housing, or within 500
14 feet of walking distance from the physical grounds of a public school
15 as defined in RCW 28A.150.010 or a private school approved by the
16 board of education under chapter 28A.195 RCW, the city in which the
17 indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency shelter is proposed, or
18 the county if the indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency
19 housing is not proposed in a city, may enter into good faith
20 negotiations with the sponsor of the indoor emergency shelter or
21 indoor emergency housing to establish additional and reasonable
22 requirements pertaining to health and safety protocols.

23 (b) If the parties are unable to come to an agreement under (a)
24 of this subsection (7) within 90 days of the permit being submitted,
25 the county or city may deny the permit.

26 (c) This subsection (7) does not apply to an indoor emergency
27 shelter or indoor emergency housing designated for individuals under
28 the age of 18, families, or victims of domestic violence.

29 (d) Nothing in this subsection (7) allows a county or city to
30 limit indoor emergency shelters or indoor emergency housing in a
31 manner where the capacity of indoor emergency shelters and indoor
32 emergency housing is insufficient to meet the projected needs
33 identified under RCW 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

34 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35.21.683 and 2021 c 254 s 4 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 (1)(a) A city (~~(shall not prohibit transitional)~~) must allow:

37 (i) Transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any
38 zones in which residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed(~~(-~~
39 ~~Effective September 30, 2021, a city shall not prohibit indoor)~~); and

1 (ii) Indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in
2 any zones in which hotels are allowed~~((, except in such cities that~~
3 ~~have adopted an ordinance authorizing indoor emergency shelters and~~
4 ~~indoor emergency housing in a majority of zones within a one-mile~~
5 ~~proximity to transit. Reasonable occupancy, spacing, and intensity of~~
6 ~~use requirements may be imposed by ordinance on permanent supportive~~
7 ~~housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor~~
8 ~~emergency shelters to protect public health and safety. Any such~~
9 ~~requirements on occupancy, spacing, and intensity of use may not~~
10 ~~prevent the siting of a sufficient number of permanent supportive~~
11 ~~housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor~~
12 ~~emergency shelters necessary to accommodate each city's projected~~
13 ~~need for such housing and shelter under RCW 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii))~~.
14 Nothing in this subsection allows a county or city to limit indoor
15 emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in a manner where the
16 capacity of indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing is
17 insufficient to meet the projected needs identified under RCW
18 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii). A county or city must allow indoor emergency
19 shelters and indoor emergency housing in additional types of zones
20 when necessary to meet projected needs identified in RCW
21 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

22 (b) A city may not require transitional housing, permanent
23 supportive housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency
24 shelters to be located in a zone within an area zoned for industrial
25 use.

26 (2) Except as provided in subsections (5) through (7) of this
27 section, a city may not require through development regulations,
28 ordinances, or legal agreements any development or operating
29 standards, conditions, or requirements for transitional housing,
30 permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor
31 emergency shelters that are more restrictive than those required for
32 other types of lodging or residential development within the same
33 zone, but may apply any objective development regulations, including
34 form-based codes, that are required for lodging or residential
35 development including, but not limited to, setback, lot coverage,
36 stormwater, clearing, and tree canopy and retention requirements.

37 (3) Except as provided in subsections (5) through (7) of this
38 section, a county or city shall only apply the same development
39 permit and environmental review processes to transitional housing,
40 permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor

1 emergency housing that apply to other types of lodging or residential
2 development within the same zone, unless otherwise required by state
3 law including, but not limited to, shoreline regulations under
4 chapter 90.58 RCW, building codes under chapter 19.27 RCW, energy
5 codes under chapter 19.27A RCW, or electrical codes under chapter
6 19.28 RCW.

7 (4) If applying design review for transitional housing, permanent
8 supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency
9 housing, only administrative design review may be required. For the
10 purposes of this subsection, "administrative design review" means a
11 development permit process whereby an application is reviewed,
12 approved, or denied by the planning director or the planning
13 director's designee based solely on objective design and development
14 standards without a public predecision hearing, unless such review is
15 otherwise required by state or federal law, or the structure is a
16 designated landmark or within a historic district established under a
17 local preservation ordinance. A city may approve requests for
18 variances from locally established design review standards.

19 (5) (a) For an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency
20 housing, a city may require the sponsor or managing agency to certify
21 in writing that it has, between the date the permit application was
22 approved and the date the certificate of occupancy was issued:

23 (i) Provided the name, if any, of the facility and the name and
24 headquarters address of the managing entity;

25 (ii) Provided a description of any other programs operating in
26 the building and copies of the applicable licenses and certifications
27 held by the program;

28 (iii) Notified residents within 500 feet of the indoor emergency
29 shelter or indoor emergency housing;

30 (iv) Conducted more than one community meeting;

31 (v) Designated at least one point of contact and provide at least
32 one telephone number to be used in emergencies; and

33 (vi) Provided documentation of the sponsor's or managing agency's
34 operational policies or procedures for:

35 (A) Promoting and addressing health and safety inside the
36 building and in areas immediately adjacent to the building;

37 (B) Admissions, including a description of the populations the
38 project will serve and potential sources of referral;

39 (C) Program exit or transfer;

40 (D) Handling complaints and grievances from occupants; and

1 (E) Health, fire, safety, and occupancy.

2 (b) The written certification by the sponsor or managing entity
3 constitutes full compliance with (a) of this subsection (5). A city
4 may not require the sponsor or managing agency to provide additional
5 certifications outside of what is allowed under (a) of this
6 subsection (5) or to repeat or revise any of the items in (a)(i)
7 through (vi) of this subsection (5). Nothing in this subsection (b)
8 prohibits the sponsor or managing agency from voluntarily updating
9 any of the information submitted under (a)(i) through (vi) of this
10 subsection (5).

11 (6) Nothing in this section requires a city to approve a permit
12 application for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing,
13 indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelters that are
14 proposed in a critical area in which no lodging or residential
15 development is permitted, an area of natural hazards that generally
16 prohibit lodging or residential development, or on agricultural,
17 forest, or mineral lands of long-term commercial significance.

18 (7)(a) Upon receipt of a permit application for an indoor
19 emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing with a proposed
20 location within 500 feet of walking distance from another indoor
21 emergency shelter or other indoor emergency housing, or within 500
22 feet of walking distance from the physical grounds of a public school
23 as defined in RCW 28A.150.010 or a private school approved by the
24 board of education under chapter 28A.195 RCW, a city may enter into
25 good faith negotiations with the sponsor of the indoor emergency
26 shelter or indoor emergency housing to establish additional and
27 reasonable requirements pertaining to health and safety protocols.

28 (b) If the parties are unable to come to an agreement under (a)
29 of this subsection (7) within 90 days of the permit being submitted,
30 the city may deny the permit.

31 (c) This subsection (7) does not apply to an indoor emergency
32 shelter or indoor emergency housing designated for individuals under
33 the age of 18, families, or victims of domestic violence.

34 (d) Nothing in this subsection (7) allows a city to limit indoor
35 emergency shelters or indoor emergency housing in a manner where the
36 capacity of indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing is
37 insufficient to meet the projected needs identified under RCW
38 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

1 (8) For purposes of this section, "emergency housing," "emergency
2 shelter," "permanent supportive housing," and "transitional housing"
3 have the same meaning as in RCW 36.70A.030.

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 35A.21.430 and 2021 c 254 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) A code city ((shall not prohibit transitional)) must
7 allow:

8 (i) Transitional housing or permanent supportive housing in any
9 zones in which residential dwelling units or hotels are allowed(~~(-~~
10 Effective September 30, 2021, a code city shall not prohibit
11 indoor)); and

12 (ii) Indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in
13 any zones in which hotels are allowed(~~(,~~ except in such cities that
14 have adopted an ordinance authorizing indoor emergency shelters and
15 indoor emergency housing in a majority of zones within a one-mile
16 proximity to transit. Reasonable occupancy, spacing, and intensity of
17 use requirements may be imposed by ordinance on permanent supportive
18 housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor
19 emergency shelters to protect public health and safety. Any such
20 requirements on occupancy, spacing, and intensity of use may not
21 prevent the siting of a sufficient number of permanent supportive
22 housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor
23 emergency shelters necessary to accommodate each code city's
24 projected need for such housing and shelter under RCW
25 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii)). Nothing in this subsection allows a county or
26 city to limit indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing
27 in a manner where the capacity of indoor emergency shelters and
28 indoor emergency housing is insufficient to meet the projected needs
29 identified under RCW 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii). A county or city must
30 allow indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency housing in
31 additional types of zones when necessary to meet projected needs
32 identified in RCW 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

33 (b) A code city may not require transitional housing, permanent
34 supportive housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor emergency
35 shelters to be located in a zone within an area zoned for industrial
36 use.

37 (2) Except as provided in subsections (5) through (7) of this
38 section, a code city may not require through development regulations,
39 ordinances, or legal agreements any development or operating

1 standards, conditions, or requirements for transitional housing,
2 permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency housing, and indoor
3 emergency shelters that are more restrictive than those required for
4 other types of lodging or residential development within the same
5 zone, but may apply any objective development regulations, including
6 form-based codes, that are required for lodging or residential
7 development including, but not limited to, setback, lot coverage,
8 stormwater, clearing, and tree canopy and retention requirements.

9 (3) Except as provided in subsections (5) through (7) of this
10 section, a code city shall only apply the same development permit and
11 environmental review processes to transitional housing, permanent
12 supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency
13 housing that apply to other types of lodging or residential
14 development within the same zone, unless otherwise required by state
15 law including, but not limited to, shoreline regulations under
16 chapter 90.58 RCW, building codes under chapter 19.27 RCW, energy
17 codes under chapter 19.27A RCW, or electrical codes under chapter
18 19.28 RCW.

19 (4) If applying design review for transitional housing, permanent
20 supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency
21 housing, only administrative design review may be required. For the
22 purposes of this subsection, "administrative design review" means a
23 development permit process whereby an application is reviewed,
24 approved, or denied by the planning director or the planning
25 director's designee based solely on objective design and development
26 standards without a public predecision hearing, unless such review is
27 otherwise required by state or federal law, or the structure is a
28 designated landmark or within a historic district established under a
29 local preservation ordinance. A city may approve requests for
30 variances from locally established design review standards.

31 (5)(a) For an indoor emergency shelter or indoor emergency
32 housing, a code city may require the sponsor or managing agency to
33 certify in writing that it has, between the date the permit
34 application was approved and the date the certificate of occupancy
35 was issued:

36 (i) Provided the name, if any, of the facility and the name and
37 headquarters address of the managing entity;

38 (ii) Provided a description of any other programs operating in
39 the building and copies of the applicable licenses and certifications
40 held by the program;

1 (iii) Notified residents within 500 feet of the indoor emergency
2 shelter or indoor emergency housing;

3 (iv) Conducted more than one community meeting;

4 (v) Designated at least one point of contact and provide at least
5 one telephone number to be used in emergencies; and

6 (vi) Provided documentation of the sponsor's or managing agency's
7 operational policies or procedures for:

8 (A) Promoting and addressing health and safety inside the
9 building and in areas immediately adjacent to the building;

10 (B) Admissions, including a description of the populations the
11 project will serve and potential sources of referral;

12 (C) Program exit or transfer;

13 (D) Handling complaints and grievances from occupants; and

14 (E) Health, fire, safety, and occupancy.

15 (b) The written certification by the sponsor or managing entity
16 constitutes full compliance with (a) of this subsection (5). A code
17 city may not require the sponsor or managing agency to provide
18 additional certifications outside of what is allowed under (a) of
19 this subsection (5) or to repeat or revise any of the items in (a) (i)
20 through (vi) of this subsection (5). Nothing in this subsection (b)
21 prohibits the sponsor or managing agency from voluntarily updating
22 any of the information submitted under (a) (i) through (vi) of this
23 subsection (5).

24 (6) Nothing in this section requires a city to approve a permit
25 application for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing,
26 indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelters that are
27 proposed in a critical area in which no lodging or residential
28 development is permitted, an area of natural hazards that generally
29 prohibit lodging or residential development, or on agricultural,
30 forest, or mineral lands of long-term commercial significance.

31 (7) (a) Upon receipt of a permit application for an indoor
32 emergency shelter or indoor emergency housing with a proposed
33 location within 500 feet of walking distance from another indoor
34 emergency shelter or other indoor emergency housing, or within 500
35 feet of walking distance from the physical grounds of a public school
36 as defined in RCW 28A.150.010 or a private school approved by the
37 board of education under chapter 28A.195 RCW, a code city may enter
38 into good faith negotiations with the sponsor of the indoor emergency
39 shelter or indoor emergency housing to establish additional and
40 reasonable requirements pertaining to health and safety protocols.

1 (b) If the parties are unable to come to an agreement under (a)
2 of this subsection (7) within 90 days of the permit being submitted,
3 the code city may deny the permit.

4 (c) This subsection (7) does not apply to an indoor emergency
5 shelter or indoor emergency housing designated for individuals under
6 the age of 18, families, or victims of domestic violence.

7 (d) Nothing in this subsection (7) allows a code city to limit
8 indoor emergency shelters or indoor emergency housing in a manner
9 where the capacity of indoor emergency shelters and indoor emergency
10 housing is insufficient to meet the projected needs identified under
11 RCW 36.70A.070(2)(a)(ii).

12 (8) For purposes of this section, "emergency housing," "emergency
13 shelter," "permanent supportive housing," and "transitional housing"
14 have the same meaning as in RCW 36.70A.030.

15 **Sec. 5.** RCW 36.130.020 and 2008 c 118 s 3 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (1) A city, county, or other local governmental entity or agency
18 may not adopt, impose, or enforce requirements on an affordable
19 housing development that are different than the requirements imposed
20 on housing developments generally.

21 (2) This section does not prohibit any city, county, or other
22 local governmental entity or agency from extending preferential
23 treatment to affordable housing developments intended for including,
24 but not limited to, occupancy by homeless persons, farmworkers,
25 persons with disabilities, senior citizens, or low-income households.
26 Preferential treatment may include, but is not limited to: A
27 reduction or waiver of fees or changes in applicable requirements
28 including, without limitation, architectural requirements, site
29 development requirements, property line requirements, building
30 setback requirements, or vehicle parking requirements; or other
31 treatment that reduces or is likely to reduce the development or
32 operating costs of an affordable housing development.

33 (3) A city, county, or other local governmental entity or agency
34 may impose and enforce income qualification, coordinated entry,
35 reporting, and monitoring requirements on affordable housing
36 developments as conditions of loans, grants, financial support, tax
37 benefits, subsidy funds, or sale or lease of public property, or as
38 conditions to eligibility for any affordable housing incentive
39 program under RCW 36.70A.540 or any other program involving bonus

1 density, transfer of development rights, waiver of development
2 regulations or fees, or other development incentives.

3 (4) (a) A county or city may enter into a contract with a sponsor
4 proposing transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, an
5 indoor emergency shelter, or indoor emergency housing to establish
6 additional and reasonable operational requirements pertaining to
7 health and safety protocols.

8 (b) Legal consideration for a contract entered into under this
9 subsection (4) on the part of the county or city must, at a minimum,
10 include:

11 (i) A donation of real property to be used for the transitional
12 housing, permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelter, or
13 indoor emergency housing; or

14 (ii) A significant contribution from the general fund for capital
15 or operating expenses to be mutually determined by both parties.

16 (c) A county or city that unilaterally withdraws from or modifies
17 the consideration specified in (b) of this subsection (4) is in
18 material breach of the contract and the operational requirements
19 specified in the contract no longer apply to the transitional
20 housing, permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelter, or
21 indoor emergency housing.

22 (d) A county or city may not construe a sponsor's refusal to
23 accept contract terms pertaining to the consideration specified in
24 (b) of this subsection (4) as a failure to meet any of the
25 requirements of other fund sources available for the capital or
26 operational support, or of those otherwise allowed in RCW 35.21.683
27 or 35A.21.430 or section 2 of this act.

28 (e) Nothing in this subsection (4) requires a county or city to
29 enter into a contract under this subsection (4).

30 (f) For purposes of this subsection (4), "emergency housing,"
31 "emergency shelter," "permanent supportive housing," and
32 "transitional housing" have the same meanings as in RCW 36.70A.030.

33 **Sec. 6.** RCW 36.70A.030 and 2025 c 267 s 2 are each reenacted and
34 amended to read as follows:

35 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
36 this section apply throughout this chapter.

37 (1) "Active transportation" means forms of pedestrian mobility
38 including walking or running, the use of a mobility assistive device
39 such as a wheelchair, bicycling and cycling irrespective of the

1 number of wheels, and the use of small personal devices such as foot
2 scooters or skateboards. Active transportation includes both
3 traditional and electric assist bicycles and other devices. Planning
4 for active transportation must consider and address accommodation
5 pursuant to the Americans with disabilities act and the distinct
6 needs of each form of active transportation.

7 (2) "Active transportation facilities" means facilities provided
8 for the safety and mobility of active transportation users including,
9 but not limited to, trails, as defined in RCW 47.30.005, sidewalks,
10 bike lanes, shared-use paths, and other facilities in the public
11 right-of-way.

12 (3) "Administrative design review" means a development permit
13 process whereby an application is reviewed, approved, or denied by
14 the planning director or the planning director's designee based
15 solely on objective design and development standards without a public
16 predecision hearing, unless such review is otherwise required by
17 state or federal law, or the structure is a designated landmark or
18 historic district established under a local preservation ordinance. A
19 city may utilize public meetings, hearings, or voluntary review
20 boards to consider, recommend, or approve requests for variances from
21 locally established design review standards.

22 (4) "Adopt a comprehensive land use plan" means to enact a new
23 comprehensive land use plan or to update an existing comprehensive
24 land use plan.

25 (5) "Affordable housing" means, unless the context clearly
26 indicates otherwise, residential housing whose monthly costs,
27 including utilities other than telephone, do not exceed 30 percent of
28 the monthly income of a household whose income is:

29 (a) For rental housing, 60 percent of the median household income
30 adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is
31 located, as reported by the United States department of housing and
32 urban development; or

33 (b) For owner-occupied housing, 80 percent of the median
34 household income adjusted for household size, for the county where
35 the household is located, as reported by the United States department
36 of housing and urban development.

37 (6) "Agricultural land" means land primarily devoted to the
38 commercial production of horticultural, viticultural, floricultural,
39 dairy, apiary, vegetable, or animal products or of berries, grain,
40 hay, straw, turf, seed, Christmas trees not subject to the excise tax

1 imposed by RCW 84.33.100 through 84.33.140, finfish in upland
2 hatcheries, or livestock, and that has long-term commercial
3 significance for agricultural production.

4 (7) "Bus station area" means all lots that are:

5 (a) Fully within an urban growth area; and

6 (b) Fully or partially within one-quarter mile walking distance
7 of a stop on a fixed route bus system that is designated as a bus
8 rapid transit stop in the transit development plan as required in RCW
9 35.58.2795, for which an environmental determination has been issued
10 as required under chapter 43.21C RCW, and that features fixed transit
11 assets that indicate permanent, high capacity service including, but
12 not limited to, elevated platforms or enhanced stations, off-board
13 fare collection, dedicated lanes, busways, or transit signal
14 priority.

15 (8) "City" means any city or town, including a code city.

16 (9) "Comprehensive land use plan," "comprehensive plan," or
17 "plan" means a generalized coordinated land use policy statement of
18 the governing body of a county or city that is adopted pursuant to
19 this chapter.

20 (10) "Cottage housing" means residential units on a lot with a
21 common open space that either: (a) Is owned in common; or (b) has
22 units owned as condominium units with property owned in common and a
23 minimum of 20 percent of the lot size as open space.

24 (11) "Courtyard apartments" means attached dwelling units
25 arranged on two or three sides of a yard or court.

26 (12) "Critical areas" include the following areas and ecosystems:

27 (a) Wetlands; (b) areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers
28 used for potable water; (c) fish and wildlife habitat conservation
29 areas; (d) frequently flooded areas; and (e) geologically hazardous
30 areas. "Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas" does not
31 include such artificial features or constructs as irrigation delivery
32 systems, irrigation infrastructure, irrigation canals, or drainage
33 ditches that lie within the boundaries of and are maintained by a
34 port district or an irrigation district or company.

35 (13) "Department" means the department of commerce.

36 (14) "Development regulations" or "regulation" means the controls
37 placed on development or land use activities by a county or city,
38 including, but not limited to, zoning ordinances, critical areas
39 ordinances, shoreline master programs, official controls, planned
40 unit development ordinances, subdivision ordinances, and binding site

1 plan ordinances together with any amendments thereto. A development
2 regulation does not include a decision to approve a project permit
3 application, as defined in RCW 36.70B.020, even though the decision
4 may be expressed in a resolution or ordinance of the legislative body
5 of the county or city.

6 (15) "Emergency housing" means temporary indoor accommodations
7 for individuals or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of
8 becoming homeless that is intended to address the basic health, food,
9 clothing, and personal hygiene needs of individuals or families.
10 Emergency housing may or may not require occupants to enter into a
11 lease or an occupancy agreement.

12 (16) "Emergency shelter" means a facility that provides a
13 temporary shelter for individuals or families who are currently
14 homeless. Emergency shelter may not require occupants to enter into a
15 lease or an occupancy agreement. Emergency shelter facilities may
16 include day and warming centers that do not provide overnight
17 accommodations.

18 (17) "Environmental justice" means the fair treatment and
19 meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color,
20 national origin, or income with respect to development,
21 implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations,
22 and policies. Environmental justice includes addressing
23 disproportionate environmental and health impacts in all laws, rules,
24 and policies with environmental impacts by prioritizing vulnerable
25 populations and overburdened communities and the equitable
26 distribution of resources and benefits.

27 (18) "Extremely low-income household" means a single person,
28 family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is
29 at or below 30 percent of the median household income adjusted for
30 household size, for the county where the household is located, as
31 reported by the United States department of housing and urban
32 development.

33 (19) "Floor area ratio" means a measure of development intensity
34 equal to building square footage divided by the developable property
35 square footage. Developable property excludes public facilities and
36 portions of lots with critical areas and critical area buffers as
37 designated in RCW 36.70A.060, except for critical aquifer recharge
38 areas where a single-family detached house is an allowed use provided
39 that any requirements to maintain aquifer recharge are met.

1 (20) "Forestland" means land primarily devoted to growing trees
2 for long-term commercial timber production on land that can be
3 economically and practically managed for such production, including
4 Christmas trees subject to the excise tax imposed under RCW 84.33.100
5 through 84.33.140, and that has long-term commercial significance. In
6 determining whether forestland is primarily devoted to growing trees
7 for long-term commercial timber production on land that can be
8 economically and practically managed for such production, the
9 following factors shall be considered: (a) The proximity of the land
10 to urban, suburban, and rural settlements; (b) surrounding parcel
11 size and the compatibility and intensity of adjacent and nearby land
12 uses; (c) long-term local economic conditions that affect the ability
13 to manage for timber production; and (d) the availability of public
14 facilities and services conducive to conversion of forestland to
15 other uses.

16 (21) "Freight rail dependent uses" means buildings and other
17 infrastructure that are used in the fabrication, processing, storage,
18 and transport of goods where the use is dependent on and makes use of
19 an adjacent short line railroad. Such facilities are both urban and
20 rural development for purposes of this chapter. "Freight rail
21 dependent uses" does not include buildings and other infrastructure
22 that are used in the fabrication, processing, storage, and transport
23 of coal, liquefied natural gas, or "crude oil" as defined in RCW
24 90.56.010.

25 (22) "Geologically hazardous areas" means areas that because of
26 their susceptibility to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other
27 geological events, are not suited to the siting of commercial,
28 residential, or industrial development consistent with public health
29 or safety concerns.

30 (23) "Green infrastructure" means a wide array of natural assets
31 and built structures within an urban growth area boundary, including
32 parks and other areas with protected tree canopy, and management
33 practices at multiple scales that manage wet weather and that
34 maintain and restore natural hydrology by storing, infiltrating,
35 evapotranspiring, and harvesting and using stormwater.

36 (24) "Green space" means an area of land, vegetated by natural
37 features such as grass, trees, or shrubs, within an urban context and
38 less than one acre in size that creates public value through one or
39 more of the following attributes:

40 (a) Is accessible to the public;

- 1 (b) Promotes physical and mental health of residents;
- 2 (c) Provides relief from the urban heat island effects;
- 3 (d) Promotes recreational and aesthetic values;
- 4 (e) Protects streams or water supply; or
- 5 (f) Preserves visual quality along highway, road, or street
- 6 corridors.

7 (25) "Long-term commercial significance" includes the growing
8 capacity, productivity, and soil composition of the land for long-
9 term commercial production, in consideration with the land's
10 proximity to population areas, and the possibility of more intense
11 uses of the land.

12 (26) "Low-income household" means a single person, family, or
13 unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or
14 below 80 percent of the median household income adjusted for
15 household size, for the county where the household is located, as
16 reported by the United States department of housing and urban
17 development.

18 (27) "Major transit stop" means:

19 (a) A stop on a high capacity transportation system funded or
20 expanded under the provisions of chapter 81.104 RCW, except for any
21 stop that solely serves express bus service or serves express bus
22 service and other bus services not otherwise meeting the definition
23 of major transit stop;

24 (b) Commuter rail stops;

25 (c) Stops on rail or fixed guideway systems; or

26 (d) Stops on bus rapid transit routes, including those stops that
27 are under construction.

28 (28) "Middle housing" means buildings that are compatible in
29 scale, form, and character with single-family houses and contain two
30 or more attached, stacked, or clustered homes including duplexes,
31 triplexes, fourplexes, fiveplexes, sixplexes, townhouses, stacked
32 flats, courtyard apartments, and cottage housing.

33 (29) "Minerals" include gravel, sand, and valuable metallic
34 substances.

35 (30) "Moderate-income household" means a single person, family,
36 or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or
37 below 120 percent of the median household income adjusted for
38 household size, for the county where the household is located, as
39 reported by the United States department of housing and urban
40 development.

1 (31) "Overburdened community" means a geographic area where
2 vulnerable populations face combined, multiple environmental harms
3 and health impacts, and includes, but is not limited to, highly
4 impacted communities as defined in RCW 19.405.020.

5 (32) "Per capita vehicle miles traveled" means the number of
6 miles traveled using cars and light trucks in a calendar year divided
7 by the number of residents in Washington. The calculation of this
8 value excludes vehicle miles driven conveying freight.

9 (33) "Permanent supportive housing" is subsidized, leased housing
10 with no limit on length of stay that prioritizes people who need
11 comprehensive support services to retain tenancy and utilizes
12 admissions practices designed to use lower barriers to entry than
13 would be typical for other subsidized or unsubsidized rental housing,
14 especially related to rental history, criminal history, and personal
15 behaviors. Permanent supportive housing is paired with on-site or
16 off-site voluntary services designed to support a person living with
17 a complex and disabling behavioral health or physical health
18 condition who was experiencing homelessness or was at imminent risk
19 of homelessness prior to moving into housing to retain their housing
20 and be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement, improve the
21 resident's health status, and connect the resident of the housing
22 with community-based health care, treatment, or employment services.
23 Permanent supportive housing is subject to all of the rights and
24 responsibilities defined in chapter 59.18 RCW.

25 (34) "Public facilities" include streets, roads, highways,
26 sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals,
27 domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and
28 recreational facilities, and schools.

29 (35) "Public services" include fire protection and suppression,
30 law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, environmental
31 protection, and other governmental services.

32 (36) "Rail station area" means all lots fully within an urban
33 growth area that are:

34 (a) Fully or partially within one-half mile walking distance of
35 an entrance to a train station with a stop on a light rail system, a
36 commuter rail stop in a city with a population greater than 15,000,
37 or a stop on a rail trolley operated west of the crest of the Cascade
38 mountains; or

1 (b) Fully or partially within one-quarter mile walking distance
2 of an entrance to a train station with a commuter rail stop in a city
3 with a population no greater than 15,000.

4 (37) "Recreational land" means land so designated under RCW
5 36.70A.1701 and that, immediately prior to this designation, was
6 designated as agricultural land of long-term commercial significance
7 under RCW 36.70A.170. Recreational land must have playing fields and
8 supporting facilities existing before July 1, 2004, for sports played
9 on grass playing fields.

10 (38) "Rural character" refers to the patterns of land use and
11 development established by a county in the rural element of its
12 comprehensive plan:

13 (a) In which open space, the natural landscape, and vegetation
14 predominate over the built environment;

15 (b) That foster traditional rural lifestyles, rural-based
16 economies, and opportunities to both live and work in rural areas;

17 (c) That provide visual landscapes that are traditionally found
18 in rural areas and communities;

19 (d) That are compatible with the use of the land by wildlife and
20 for fish and wildlife habitat;

21 (e) That reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land
22 into sprawling, low-density development;

23 (f) That generally do not require the extension of urban
24 governmental services; and

25 (g) That are consistent with the protection of natural surface
26 water flows and groundwater and surface water recharge and discharge
27 areas.

28 (39) "Rural development" refers to development outside the urban
29 growth area and outside agricultural, forest, and mineral resource
30 lands designated pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170. Rural development can
31 consist of a variety of uses and residential densities, including
32 clustered residential development, at levels that are consistent with
33 the preservation of rural character and the requirements of the rural
34 element. Rural development does not refer to agriculture or forestry
35 activities that may be conducted in rural areas.

36 (40) "Rural governmental services" or "rural services" include
37 those public services and public facilities historically and
38 typically delivered at an intensity usually found in rural areas, and
39 may include domestic water systems and fire and police protection
40 services associated with rural development and normally not

1 associated with urban areas. Rural services do not include storm or
2 sanitary sewers, except as otherwise authorized by RCW 36.70A.110(4).

3 (41) "Short line railroad" means those railroad lines designated
4 class II or class III by the United States surface transportation
5 board.

6 (42) "Single-family zones" means those zones where single-family
7 detached housing is the predominant land use.

8 (43) "Stacked flat" means dwelling units in a residential
9 building of no more than three stories on a residential zoned lot in
10 which each floor may be separately rented or owned.

11 (44) "Station area" means a bus station area or a rail station
12 area.

13 (45) "Townhouses" means buildings that contain three or more
14 attached single-family dwelling units that extend from foundation to
15 roof and that have a yard or public way on not less than two sides.

16 (46) "Transitional housing" has the same meaning as in RCW
17 84.36.043.

18 (47) "Transportation system" means all infrastructure and
19 services for all forms of transportation within a geographical area,
20 irrespective of the responsible jurisdiction or transportation
21 provider.

22 ~~((47))~~ (48) "Urban governmental services" or "urban services"
23 include those public services and public facilities at an intensity
24 historically and typically provided in cities, specifically including
25 storm and sanitary sewer systems, domestic water systems, street
26 cleaning services, fire and police protection services, public
27 transit services, and other public utilities associated with urban
28 areas and normally not associated with rural areas.

29 ~~((48))~~ (49) "Urban growth" refers to growth that makes
30 intensive use of land for the location of buildings, structures, and
31 impermeable surfaces to such a degree as to be incompatible with the
32 primary use of land for the production of food, other agricultural
33 products, or fiber, or the extraction of mineral resources, rural
34 uses, rural development, and natural resource lands designated
35 pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170. A pattern of more intensive rural
36 development, as provided in RCW 36.70A.070(5)(d), is not urban
37 growth. When allowed to spread over wide areas, urban growth
38 typically requires urban governmental services. "Characterized by
39 urban growth" refers to land having urban growth located on it, or to

1 land located in relationship to an area with urban growth on it as to
2 be appropriate for urban growth.

3 ~~((49))~~ (50) "Urban growth areas" means those areas designated
4 by a county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.110.

5 ~~((50))~~ (51) "Very low-income household" means a single person,
6 family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is
7 at or below 50 percent of the median household income adjusted for
8 household size, for the county where the household is located, as
9 reported by the United States department of housing and urban
10 development.

11 ~~((51))~~ (52) (a) "Vulnerable populations" means population groups
12 that are more likely to be at higher risk for poor health outcomes in
13 response to environmental harms, due to: (i) Adverse socioeconomic
14 factors, such as unemployment, high housing and transportation costs
15 relative to income, limited access to nutritious food and adequate
16 health care, linguistic isolation, and other factors that negatively
17 affect health outcomes and increase vulnerability to the effects of
18 environmental harms; and (ii) sensitivity factors, such as low birth
19 weight and higher rates of hospitalization.

20 (b) "Vulnerable populations" includes, but is not limited to:

21 (i) Racial or ethnic minorities;

22 (ii) Low-income populations; and

23 (iii) Populations disproportionately impacted by environmental
24 harms.

25 ~~((52))~~ (53) "Wetland" or "wetlands" means areas that are
26 inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency
27 and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal
28 circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically
29 adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally
30 include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not
31 include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from
32 nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and
33 drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities,
34 wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities,
35 or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were
36 unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road,
37 street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands
38 intentionally created from nonwetland areas created to mitigate
39 conversion of wetlands.

1 (~~(53)~~) (54) "Wildland urban interface" means the geographical
2 area where structures and other human development meets or
3 intermingles with wildland vegetative fuels.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) A county or city subject to this act
5 shall adopt or amend by ordinance, and incorporate into its
6 development regulations, zoning regulations, and other official
7 controls, the requirements of this act within two years of the
8 effective date of this section or its next comprehensive plan update,
9 whichever occurs first. The requirements of this act supersede,
10 preempt, and invalidate any conflicting local regulations and apply
11 regardless of whether a county or city has incorporated the
12 requirements of this act into the county's or city's development
13 regulations, zoning regulations, and other official controls.

14 (2) This act does not apply to transitional housing, permanent
15 supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency
16 housing in operation on the effective date of this section. A county
17 or city may not deem transitional housing, permanent supportive
18 housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency housing in
19 operation on the effective date of this section unlawful or
20 noncompliant due to the provisions of the act or due to ordinances,
21 regulations, or controls adopted or amended under subsection (1) of
22 this section.

--- END ---

Exhibit D
 March 16, 2026
 Fircrest City Council Study Session
 2026 Comprehensive Plan & STEP Housing

Topic	Nov 2025				Dec 2025				Jan 2026			
	11/3-11/7	11/10-11/14	11/17-11-21	11/24-11/28	12/1-12/5	12/8-12/12	12/15-12/19	12/22-12/26	1/5-1/9	1/12-1/16	1/19-1/23	1/26-1/30
Comprehensive Plan Amendment												
Housing Adequacy Analysis Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis (LCA)										Council Project Initiation		MP Prep
Zoning Code Text Amendment												
Shelters, Transitional Housing, Emergency Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (STEP)	Planning Commission Workshop 1		MP Editing		Planning Commission Workshop 2		MP Editing		Planning Commission Workshop 3			MP Editing

Topic	Feb 2026				Mar 2026				Apr 2026			
	2/2-2/6	2/9-2/13	2/16-2/20	2/23-2/27	3/2-3/6	3/9-3/13	3/16-3/20	3/23-3/27	4/6-4/10	4/13-4/17	4/20-4/24	4/27-5/1
Comprehensive Plan Amendment												
Housing Adequacy Analysis Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis (LCA)	Planning Commission-Council Joint Discussion	MP Editing	Council Study Session	MP Editing	Planning Commission Workshop 1	MP Editing	Council Study Session (WA legislative session ends)	MP Editing	Planning Commission Workshop 2	MP Editing	Council Study Session	MP Editing
Zoning Code Text Amendment												
Shelters, Transitional Housing, Emergency Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (STEP)	Planning Commission-Council Joint Discussion	MP Editing	Council Study Session	MP Editing	Planning Commission Workshop 4 (FINAL)	MP Editing	Council Study Session (WA legislative session ends)	MP Editing	Notice - Commerce & PRSC			

Topic	May 2026				June 2026				July 2026			
	5/4-5/8	5/11-5/15	5/18-5/22	5/25-5/29	6/1-6/5	6/8-6/12	6/15-6/19	6/22-6/26	7/6-7/10	7/13-7/17	7/20-7/24	7/27-7/31
Comprehensive Plan Amendment												
Housing Adequacy Analysis Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis (LCA)	Planning Commission Workshop 3 (FINAL)	MP Editing	Notice - Commerce & PRSC	60-day Comment Period (through 7/25)		Public Engagement (tentative)	60-day Comment Period (through 7/18)			MP Editing	Notice - SEPA and Planning Commission Public Hearing	
Zoning Code Text Amendment												
Shelters, Transitional Housing, Emergency Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (STEP)	60-day Comment Period (through 6/6)					Public Engagement (tentative)	MP Editing					Notice - SEPA and Planning Commission Public Hearing

Topic	Aug 2026				Sept 2026				Oct 2026				Nov 2026			
Comprehensive Plan Amendment	8/3-8/7	8/10-8/14	8/17-8/21	8/24-8/28	9/1-9/4	9/7-9/11	9/14-9/18	9/21-9/25	10/5-10/9	10/12-10/16	10/19-10/23	10/26-10/30	11/2-11/6	11/9-11/13	11/16-11/20	11/23-11/27
Housing Adequacy Analysis Supplemental Land Capacity Analysis (LCA)	14-day Comment Period		Planning Commission Public Hearing	MP Editing	Planning Commission Resolutions		-	Notice - Council Public Hearing	14-day Comment Period	Council Public Hearing	MP Editing		-	Council Ordinances	MP Transmit Ordinance to Commerce	Project Complete!
Zoning Code Text Amendment																
Shelters, Transitional Housing, Emergency Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (STEP)	14-day Comment Period		Planning Commission Public Hearing	MP Editing	Planning Commission Resolutions		-	Notice - Council Public Hearing	14-day Comment Period	Council Public Hearing	MP Editing		-	Council Ordinances	MP Transmit Ordinance to Commerce	Project Complete!

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA SUMMARY

AGENDA TOPIC: City Council Rules Update
ITEM: 7
DATE: March 16, 2026
FROM: Dawn Masko, City Manager

RECOMMENDED MOTION: No motion. For discussion only.

BACKGROUND: The City Council first adopted its City Council Rules of Procedure on June 6, 1990, via Resolution 441, with subsequent revisions in 1994, 2003, 2008, 2009, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Tonight's discussion will begin the process of making any changes to the current City Council Rules of Procedures.

ATTACHMENTS: [City Council Rules of Procedure](#)



Fircrest City Council

Rules of Procedure

2025 Revision - Adopted by Resolution No. 1967 – March 25, 2025

Fircrest City Council Rules of Procedure

Table of Contents

<u>SECTION I</u> – GENERAL PROVISIONS	<u>1</u>
<u>Rule 1.</u> Council Meeting - Location	<u>1</u>
<u>Rule 2.</u> Council Meeting – Time	<u>1</u>
<u>Rule 3.</u> Council Meetings – Open to the Public	<u>1</u>
<u>Rule 4.</u> Election of Officers	<u>1</u>
<u>Rule 5.</u> Presiding Officer	<u>1</u>
<u>Rule 6.</u> Quorum	<u>2</u>
<u>Rule 7.</u> Attendance, Excused Absences	<u>2</u>
<u>Rule 8.</u> Special Council Meetings	<u>3</u>
<u>Rule 9.</u> Regular Council Meeting Agenda	<u>3</u>
<u>Rule 10.</u> Study Sessions	<u>3</u>
<u>Rule 11.</u> City Manager	<u>4</u>
<u>Rule 12.</u> Clerk of the Council	<u>4</u>
<u>Rule 13.</u> City Attorney	<u>4</u>
<u>SECTION II</u> – DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS	<u>5</u>
<u>Rule 14.</u> Forms of Address	<u>5</u>
<u>Rule 15.</u> Seating Arrangement	<u>5</u>
<u>Rule 16.</u> Appearance of Fairness Doctrine and its Application	<u>5</u>
<u>Rule 17.</u> Dissents and Protests	<u>7</u>
<u>Rule 18.</u> Rules of Order	<u>7</u>
<u>Rule 19.</u> Motions	<u>7</u>
<u>Rule 20.</u> Order of Business	<u>7</u>
<u>Rule 21.</u> Actions for a Public Hearing	<u>9</u>
<u>Rule 22.</u> Voting	<u>10</u>
<u>Rule 23.</u> Committees	<u>11</u>
<u>Rule 24.</u> Council Liaisons.....	<u>12</u>
<u>Rule 25.</u> Enacted Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions, and Proclamations	<u>12</u>

Rule 26. Proclamations	13
Rule 27. Resolutions	13
Rule 28. Ordinances	13
Rule 29. Permission to Address the Council	14
Rule 30. Reconsideration	14
Rule 31. Complaints and Suggestions to Council.....	14
Rule 32. Filling Council Vacancies	15
Rule 33. Photographs, Motion Pictures, Video Tape – Permission Required for Artificial Illumination.....	15
Rule 34. Council Travel.....	16
Rule 35. Approval of City Manager Travel Expense Claims & Personnel Action Forms	16
Rule 36. Vacancies in Commissions and Boards.....	16
Rule 37. Publication and Posting of Notices for Hearings and Forthcoming Council Meetings	16
Rule 38. Councilmembers’ Mail and Messages	16
Rule 39. Requests for Legal Opinions	17
Rule 40. Code of Ethics	17
Rule 41. Miscellaneous	17
Rule 42. Suspension and Amendment of Rules	17
Resolution Number 1967	18
Record of Amendments	19

**FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE
RESOLUTION NO. 1967**

SECTION I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

RULE 1. COUNCIL MEETING - LOCATION

All meetings of the City Council shall be held at the location (City Hall) specified in [FMC 2.12.020](#) or other such location within the City as may be designated by resolution. Committee of the Whole meetings, study sessions, or retreats may be held at places that are reasonably accessible to the general public, whether within or without the corporate limits of the City.

RULE 2. COUNCIL MEETING - TIME

The regular meetings of the City Council shall be held at the times (2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.) specified in [FMC 2.12.010](#). If a meeting falls on a holiday, it shall be held the next business day unless otherwise provided by the Council. As specified in [Rule 20\(O\)](#), regular meetings of the City Council are not permitted to continue beyond 10:30 P.M. without the approval of the majority of the Councilmembers who are present and eligible to vote.

RULE 3. COUNCIL MEETINGS - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

All meetings of the City Council and of committees thereof shall be open to the public, except as provided for in [RCW 42.30.110](#) or [RCW 42.30.140](#) as amended.

RULE 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Procedures for election officers are as follows:

- A. Biennially, at the first meeting of the new Council, the members thereof shall choose a chair from among their number who shall have the title of Mayor. In addition to the powers conferred upon him/her as Mayor, he/she shall continue to have all the rights, privileges, and immunities of a member of the Council. If a vacancy occurs in the Office of Mayor, the members of the Council at their next regular meeting shall select a Mayor from among their number for the unexpired term. ([RCW 35A.13.030](#))
- B. In conjunction with the above election, a Mayor Pro Tempore shall also be elected for a two-year term. An alternate Mayor Pro Tempore may also be elected periodically. ([RCW 35A.13.035](#))
- C. The City Clerk shall call the meeting to order and shall chair the meeting until a new Mayor is elected. The above elections shall be by affirmative motion.

RULE 5. PRESIDING OFFICER

- A. The Mayor shall preside at all meetings of the Council, and be recognized as the head of the City for all ceremonial purposes. The Mayor has no regular administrative or executive purposes.
- B. Mayor Pro Tempore.
In case of the Mayor's absence or temporary disability, the Mayor Pro Tempore shall act as Mayor during the continuance of the absence. In case of the absence or temporary disability

of the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tempore, the City Clerk shall call the meeting to order and shall chair the meeting until an alternate Mayor Pro Tempore is selected by members of the Council. The alternate Mayor Pro Tempore shall act as Mayor during the continuance of the absences or disabilities. An alternate Mayor Pro Tempore may be selected by the members of the Council.

C. The Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore and Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore are referred to as "Presiding Officer" from time to time in these Rules of Procedure. ([RCW 35A.13.030](#))

D. Presiding Officer's Duties.

It shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer to:

1. Call the meeting to order.
2. Keep the meeting to its order of business.
3. Control discussion in an orderly manner.
 - a. Every Councilmember who wishes an opportunity to speak must be recognized by the Chair.
 - b. Permit audience participation at the appropriate times.
 - c. Require all speakers to speak to the question and to observe the rules of order.
4. State each motion before it is discussed and before it is voted upon.
5. Put motions to a vote and announce the outcome.

RULE 6. QUORUM

At all meetings of the Council, four (4) Councilmembers, who are present and eligible to vote, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A less number may adjourn from time to time, provided that written notice of said adjournment be posted on the exterior City Hall front entry doors per [RCW 42.30.090](#). Council meetings adjourned under the previous provision shall be considered to have been duly conducted for all purposes.

RULE 7. ATTENDANCE, EXCUSED ABSENCES

[RCW 35A.12.060](#) provides that a Councilmember shall forfeit his/her office by failing to attend three consecutive regular meetings of the Council without being excused by the Council. Members of the Council may be so excused by complying with this section. The member shall contact the Presiding Officer prior to the meeting and state the reason for his/her inability to attend the meeting. If the member is unable to contact the Presiding Officer, the member shall contact the City Manager or designee, who shall convey the message to the Presiding Officer. Following roll call, the Presiding Officer shall inform the Council of the member's absence, state the reason for such absence, and excuse the member's absence. The Clerk will make an appropriate notation in the minutes. If another Councilmember questions the member's absence, the Presiding Officer shall inquire if there is a motion to excuse the member. This motion shall be non-debatable. Upon passage of such motion by a majority of members present, the absent member shall be considered excused and the Clerk will make an appropriate notation in the minutes.

[RCW 35A.13.035](#) provides that in the event of extended excused absence or disability of a Councilmember, the remaining members by majority vote may appoint a Councilmember Pro Tempore to serve during the absence or disability.

During times of emergency, crisis, or as otherwise determined necessary by the City Council, City Council meetings may be attended remotely by City Council members. Councilmembers who attend remotely shall be deemed present and eligible to vote and shall constitute members of a quorum for the transaction of business. The City Clerk shall establish the procedure for a Councilmember to attend remotely.

RULE 8. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

- A. A special meeting may be called by the Mayor or any four (4) members of the Council.
- B. Notice of the special meeting shall be prepared in writing by the Clerk. The notice shall contain the following information about the meeting: time, place, and business to be transacted.
- C. The notice shall be delivered by mail or personally to each Councilmember, the City Manager, and the business office of each local newspaper and radio and television station which has on file a written request for notice of special meetings. The notice must be delivered personally or by mail at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.
- D. The notices provided in this section may be dispensed within the circumstances provided by [RCW 42.30.080](#), that is:
 - 1. As to any member who at or prior to the time of the meeting convenes files with the Clerk a written waiver of notice,
 - 2. As to any member who was actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes, and
 - 3. In the event a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving injury or damage to persons or property or the likelihood of such injury or damage, when time requirements of such notice would make notice impractical and increase the likelihood of such injury or damage.
- E. Final disposition shall not be taken on any other matter.

RULE 9. REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

- A. The City Manager or designee shall arrange a list of such matters ascending to the order of business and prepare an agenda for the Council with the concurrence of the Mayor.
- B. A copy of the agenda and Council packets containing supporting materials shall be prepared for Councilmembers and the City Manager on or before 4:30 P.M. two working days before a regular Council meeting.
- C. A copy of the agenda shall be prepared for the press on or before 4:30 P.M. two working days before a regular Council meeting.
- D. The Council shall have the option of deleting any item from the agenda or deferring an item on the agenda to a subsequent Council meeting. The Presiding Officer, one Councilmember, or the City Manager may introduce a new item to the agenda.

RULE 10. STUDY SESSIONS

- A. Study sessions may be designated as **Committee of the Whole Study Sessions** where no official action is contemplated. Study sessions may be held for the purpose of considering current issues of the City, coordinating the work of the City Council, and discussing draft ordinances, resolutions, and policy issues in detail. The City Clerk, under the direction of the City Manager and concurrence of the Mayor, shall arrange a Council work study session

agenda for the Study Session. The Council study session agenda shall list the topics of discussion. After the proposed Council study session agenda has been approved by the City Manager, a copy of it along with any supporting materials shall be prepared for Councilmembers and the City Manager on or before 4:30 P.M. at least 24 hours before the Council study session.

- B. During the Council study session, the Presiding Officer may:
 - 1. introduce the subject and give background information;
 - 2. identify the eventual goal of the study session;
 - 3. act as a facilitator to keep the meeting discussion focused on the subject; and
 - 4. alert the Council when it is appropriate to call for a motion or other official direction of the Council.
- C. Minutes shall be taken of Council study sessions recording the names of Councilmembers present, motions made, actions taken, and an account of business discussed.
- D. Standing study sessions may be set by the majority vote of the Council for specific dates and times.
- E. Study sessions shall be held to a two-hour time limit unless extended by a motion and voice vote.

RULE 11. CITY MANAGER

The City Manager shall have the powers and duties listed in [RCW 35A.13.080](#), including having general supervision over the administrative affairs of the City and attending all meetings of the Council at which his/her attendance may be required by that body unless excused. The City Manager may make recommendations to the Council and shall have the right to take part in the discussions of the Council, but shall have no vote. When the City Manager has an excused absence, the designee shall attend the meeting.

RULE 12. CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

The City Clerk shall be ex-officio Clerk of the Council and shall see that minutes are kept and shall perform such other and further duties in the meeting as may be required by the Council, Presiding Officer, or City Manager. In the absence of the City Clerk, the City Manager shall appoint another qualified person to act as Clerk of the Council.

RULE 13. CITY ATTORNEY

The City Attorney shall attend all regular meetings of the Council unless excused by the City Manager who will notify the Presiding Officer of the excused absence. The City Attorney shall, upon request, give an opinion, either written or oral, on legal questions. The City Attorney shall act as the Council's parliamentarian and decide all questions of order. The Acting City Attorney shall attend meetings when the City Attorney has been excused if his/her attendance is required.

SECTION II –DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

RULE 14. FORMS OF ADDRESS

The Mayor shall be addressed as "Mayor (surname)", "Your Honor", or "Mr./Madam Mayor". The Mayor Pro Tempore, when acting for the Mayor, shall be addressed as "Mayor Pro Tem (surname)". Members of the Council shall be addressed as "Councilmember (surname)".

RULE 15. SEATING ARRANGEMENT

Councilmembers shall occupy the respective seats in the Council Chambers assigned to them by the Mayor.

RULE 16. APPEARANCE OF FAIRNESS DOCTRINE AND ITS APPLICATION

A. Appearance of Fairness Doctrine Defined.

1. "When the law which calls for public hearings gives the public not only the right to attend but the right to be heard as well, the hearings must not only be fair but must appear to be so. It is a situation where appearances are quite as important as substance. The test of whether the appearance of fairness doctrine has been violated is as follows: Would a disinterested person, having been apprised of the totality of a board member's personal interest in a matter being acted upon, be reasonably justified in thinking that partiality may exist? If answered in the affirmative, such deliberations, and any course of conduct reached thereon, should be voided." *Zehring v. Bellevue*, 99 Wn.2d 488 (1983).

B. Types Of Hearings To Which Doctrine Applies.

1. The Appearance of Fairness Doctrine shall apply only to those actions of the Council which are quasi-judicial in nature. Quasi-Judicial actions are defined as actions of the City Council which determine the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested proceeding.
2. Quasi-judicial actions do not include the legislative actions adopting, amending, or revising comprehensive, community or neighborhood plans or other land use planning documents, or the adoption of area-wide zoning ordinances or the adoption of a zoning amendment that is of area-wide significance. ([RCW 42.36.010](#))
3. Some examples of quasi-judicial actions which may come before the Council are:
 - rezones or reclassifications of specific parcels of property
 - appeals from decisions of the Planning Commission
 - substantive appeals of threshold decisions under the State Environmental Protection Act, subdivisions, street vacations, and special land use permits

C. Obligations of Councilmembers, Procedure.

1. Councilmembers should recognize that the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine does not require the establishment of a conflict of interest, but whether there is an appearance of a conflict of interest to the average person. This may involve the Councilmember or a Councilmember's business associate or a member of the Councilmember's immediate family. It could involve ex parte (outside the hearing) communications, ownership of property in the vicinity, business dealings with the proponents or opponents before or after the hearing, business dealings of the Councilmember's employer with the proponents or opponents, announced predisposition, and the like.

2. Prior to any quasi-judicial hearing, each Councilmember should give consideration to whether a potential violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine exists. If a potential violation exists, no matter how remote, the Councilmember should disclose such facts to the City Manager who may seek the opinion of the City Attorney as to whether a potential violation exists. The City Manager shall communicate such opinion to the Councilmember and to the Presiding Officer.
3. Anyone seeking to disqualify a Councilmember from participating in a decision on the basis of a violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine must raise the challenge as soon as the basis for disqualification is made known or reasonably should have been made known prior to the issuance of the decision; upon failure to do so, the Doctrine may not be relied upon to invalidate the decision. The party seeking to disqualify the Councilmember shall state with specificity the basis for disqualification; for example: demonstrated bias or prejudice for or against a party to the proceedings, a monetary interest in the outcome of the proceedings, prejudgment of the issue prior to hearing the facts on the record, or ex parte contact. Should such challenge be made prior to the hearing, the City Manager shall direct the City Attorney to interview the Councilmember and render an opinion as to the likelihood that an Appearance of Fairness violation would be sustained in superior court.
4. Should such a challenge be made in the course of a quasi-judicial hearing, the Presiding Officer shall call a recess to permit the City Attorney to make such an interview and render such an opinion.
5. The Presiding Officer shall have sole authority to request a Councilmember to excuse himself/herself on the basis of an Appearance of Fairness violation. Further, if two (2) or more Councilmembers believe that an Appearance of Fairness violation exists, such individuals may move to request a Councilmember to excuse himself/herself on the basis of an appearance of Fairness violation. In arriving at this decision, the Presiding Officer or other Councilmembers shall give due regard to the opinion of the City Attorney.
6. Notwithstanding the request of the Presiding Officer or other Councilmembers, the Councilmember may participate in any such proceeding.

D. Specific Statutory Provisions.

1. Candidates for the City Council may express their opinions about pending or proposed quasi-judicial actions while campaigning. ([RCW 42.36.040](#))
2. A candidate for the City Council who complies with all provisions of applicable public disclosure and ethics laws shall not be limited under the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine from accepting campaign contributions to finance the campaign, including outstanding debts. ([RCW 42.36.050](#))
3. During the pendency of any quasi-judicial proceeding, no Councilmember may engage in ex parte communications with proponents or opponents about a proposal involved in the pending proceeding, unless the Councilmember:
 - a. places on the record the substance of such oral and written communications; and
 - b. provides that a public announcement of the content of the communication and of the parties' right to rebut the substance of the communication shall be made at each hearing where action is taken or considered on the subject. This does not prohibit correspondence between a citizen and his or her elected official if the correspondence is made a part of the record when it pertains to the subject matter of a quasi-judicial proceeding. ([RCW 42.36.060](#))

E. Procedure on Application.

Any person making an application for any action leading to a quasi-judicial hearing shall be provided with a document containing the following information:

1. the names and addresses of all members of the City Council, and the Planning Commission; and
2. a statement that if the applicant intends to raise an Appearance of Fairness issue, the applicant should do so at least two weeks prior to any public hearing. The applicant shall acknowledge receipt of such document.

RULE 17. DISSENTS AND PROTESTS

Any Councilmember shall have the right to express dissent from or protest against any ordinance or resolution of the Council and have the reason, therefore, entered in the minutes.

RULE 18. RULES OF ORDER

Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be used as the guideline for the conduct of Council Meetings, except in those cases where specific provisions contrary to Robert’s Rules are provided in these rules.

RULE 19. MOTIONS

All ordinances, resolutions, contracts, and items of business that require Council approval prior to the expenditure of funds shall be in the form of an affirmative motion.

RULE 20. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The business of all regular meetings of the Council shall be transacted as follows; provided, however, that the Presiding Officer may, during a Council meeting, rearrange items on the agenda to conduct the business before the Council more expeditiously. Further, any Councilmember may request additions, corrections, or other modifications to the agenda prior to or during a regular Council meeting.

- A. Call to order by the Presiding Officer.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call. (See [Rule 7](#) for the procedure to excuse an absence).
- D. Presiding Officer's Report.
- E. City Manager Comments.
- F. Department Head Comments.
- G. Councilmember Comments.
- H. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda).
 1. Subjects either on the Consent Calendar or not on the current agenda. Any member of the public may request time to address the Council after first stating their name, address, and the subject of their comments. The Presiding Officer may then allow the comments subject to such time limitations as the Presiding Officer deems necessary, generally five (5) minutes. Following such comments, the Presiding Officer may place the matter on the current agenda or a future agenda, or refer the matter to the City Manager for investigation and report.

2. Subjects on the current agenda. Any member of the public who wishes to address the Council on an item on the current agenda shall make such a request to the Presiding Officer at the time when comments from the public are requested. As an option, the Presiding Officer may invoke the sign-in procedure defined in [Rule 21\(A\)](#). The Presiding Officer shall rule on the appropriateness of public comments as the agenda item is reached. The Presiding Officer may change the order of speakers so that testimony is heard in the most logical groupings, e.g. proponents, opponents, adjacent owners, vested interests, etc.
3. Any ruling by the Presiding Officer relative to the preceding two subsections may be overruled by a vote of a majority of members present.

I. Committee, Commission, and Liaison Reports.

J. Consent Calendar.

1. The City Manager, in consultation with the Mayor, shall set the following items of business on the Consent Calendar. Consent Calendar items shall consist of items that have been previously discussed or policies set by the Council and/or are so routine or technical in nature that passage is likely, such as, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. approval of vouchers/payroll warrants;
 - b. approval of minutes;
 - c. setting public hearings;
 - d. Communications requiring no action (e.g. liquor license renewals); and
 - e. Other items designated by the City Council by super majority vote of the City Council.
2. The Clerk of the Council shall read the Consent Calendar.
3. The proper Council motion on the Consent Calendar is as follows: “I move for adoption of the Consent Calendar.” This motion is non-debatable and will have the effect of moving to adopt all items on the Consent Calendar. Since the adoption of any item on the Consent Calendar implies unanimous consent, any member of the Council shall have the right to remove any item from the Consent Calendar.
4. Therefore, prior to the vote on the motion to adopt the Consent Calendar, the Presiding Officer shall inquire if any Councilmember wishes an item to be withdrawn from the Consent Calendar. If any matter is withdrawn, the Presiding Officer shall place the item at an appropriate place on the agenda for the current or a future meeting. Items not removed shall be adopted by a unanimous vote of the Councilmembers present without discussion.

K. Public Hearings (see [Rule 21](#) for procedural details).

L. Unfinished Business.

1. All matters of business that have been presented to Council previously but which have not reached closure will be listed as sub-parts.
2. All necessary ordinances or resolutions will be included with sub-parts and listed by title.

M. New Business.

1. All matters of new business will be listed as sub-parts.
2. All necessary ordinances or resolutions will be included with sub-parts and listed by title.

N. Call for Final Comments.

Executive Session(s).

O. Adjournment.

No meeting shall be permitted to continue beyond 10:30 P.M. without the approval of the majority of the Councilmembers who are present and eligible to vote. A new time limit must be established before taking a Council vote to extend the meeting. In the event that a meeting has not been closed or continued by Council vote prior to 10:30 P.M., the items not acted on shall be deferred to the next regular Council meeting, unless the Council, by a majority vote of the members present, determines otherwise.

RULE 21. ACTIONS FOR A PUBLIC HEARING

(See appendix for full procedures):

A. Presiding Officer:

1. May require speakers to sign in with Clerk and may set time limits.
2. Asks Councilmembers if any reason requiring member to excuse themselves pursuant to Appearance of Fairness Doctrine. If answered in the affirmative, Councilmember excuses himself/herself and exits the Council Chamber.
3. Introduces item, opens hearing, announces rules of order:
 - If zoning amendment or zoning reclassification, asks parties to limit presentation to information within scope of legal standards and may ask Planner to announce legal standards.
4. Asks City Manager to describe matter under consideration.
5. Calls for proponents in quasi-judicial proceedings and speakers in non-quasi-judicial proceedings.
 - If zoning amendment or zoning reclassification may ask Planner to announce that site plans, artistic renditions, etc. in support of zoning amendment should be avoided and such plans are to go through the City's design review process through the Planning Commission.
6. Calls for additional proponents 3 times.
7. Call for opponents.
8. Calls for additional opponents 3 times.
9. Calls for proponents to speak in rebuttal.
10. Calls for Administration to introduce any material to subjects raised by proponents or opponents or alter initial recommendations.
11. Asks Councilmembers if questions and if so, appropriate person is recalled to podium.
12. Closes public hearing.
13. Asks if motion by any Councilmember
 - Must be in the form of affirmative motion.
 - Then ask for discussion by Council.

- Asks administration for final comments/recommendations.
- May ask Clerk to conduct a roll call vote.

RULE 22. VOTING

The votes during all meetings of the Council shall be transacted as follows:

- A. Unless otherwise provided for by statute, ordinance, or resolution, all votes shall be taken by voice, except that at the request of any Councilmember, a roll call shall be taken by the Clerk. The Clerk shall call the names in an alphabetical sequence with the Mayor, as Presiding Officer, voting last. Names for subsequent votes will go down the alphabetical list and the Clerk will call on the next name in alphabetical sequence with the Mayor, as Presiding Officer, voting last. This rotating alphabetical sequence will be continued throughout the meeting during voting sequences.
- B. In case of a tie in votes on any proposal, the proposal shall be considered lost.
- C. Every member who was in the Council Chambers when the question was put, shall give their vote unless the Council, for special reasons, shall excuse the member by motion or unless the Councilmember is excused in accordance with [Rule 16](#). When the City Council has determined that remote attendance is allowed per [Rule 7](#) of the City Council Rules of Procedures, City Councilmembers attending City Council meetings remotely will have all rights to vote as if they were physically present in Council Chambers.
- D. The general rule is that when a Councilmember refuses to vote, such member is regarded as having voted with the majority.
 1. Neutrality in voting is frowned upon except when a Councilmember has a direct or pecuniary interest that would result in a conflict of interest or when participation is prevented due to the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine. In that instance, the refusal to vote shall not be considered as an affirmative vote.
 2. In all other instances, except as hereinafter noted, the rule is that when a quorum is present, members present and not voting are deemed to have voted with the majority.
 3. If the vote is tied with a member abstaining, such member will be considered as voting in the affirmative so that the proposition being considered passes.
 4. However, when an affirmative vote of a majority is required by statute or ordinance, a failure to indicate a yea or nay vote will be considered as a negative indication, as abstention cannot be considered in fulfilling such affirmative vote requirement. Most matters before Council merely require a concurrence of a majority and this would be considered to be an exception to the general rule.
 5. When abstaining from voting, Councilmembers must explain the basis for their abstention. If the reason involves a legitimate rationale for not voting, the abstention will not be considered as a vote for the majority. If the rationale does not involve disqualifying circumstances, the abstention will be counted as a vote with those voting in the majority, unless the noted exception outlined previously applies.

- E. The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the whole membership of the Council (4 Councilmembers) is required for the passage of:
 - ordinances;
 - grant or revocation of franchise or license;
 - any resolution for the payment of money;
 - any approval of warrants; and
 - any resolution pertaining to personnel actions.
- F. The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the whole Council plus one (5 Councilmembers) is required for the passage of:
 - public emergency ordinances (which take effect immediately);
 - expenditures for any calamity, violence of nature, riot, insurrection, or war; and
 - budget amendments.
- G. The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the membership of Council who are present and eligible to vote is required for the passage of:
 - motions or resolutions not subject to the provisions of RCW, FMC, or these rules as amended.

RULE 23. COMMITTEES

All Committee meetings shall be open to the public. The Committee structure of the Council and the procedures governing all committees shall be as follows:

A. Committee of the Whole.

1. The only standing committee of the Council shall be the Committee of the Whole (COW), composed of the entire Council sitting as a legislative study committee. The Committee of the Whole shall not take any official action while in committee.
2. The Presiding Officer chairs the COW.

B. Special Ad Hoc Council Study Committees.

1. Special Ad Hoc Council Study Committees may be created by the Council for a particular purpose, or when the issue is so complex and time consuming that it cannot be reasonably handled at a Council or COW meeting.
2. Ad Hoc Study Committees shall consist of three Councilmembers appointed by the Mayor.
3. The Mayor shall appoint the Chair of Ad Hoc Study Committees.
4. Special Ad Hoc Council committees shall sunset at the end of their mission, but no later than the end of each calendar year unless specifically continued by the Council thereafter for a specified time period.

C. Special Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committees.

1. Special Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committees may be created by the Council for a particular purpose. Committee members shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council.
2. The Mayor shall appoint the Chair of the Committee.
3. Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committees shall sunset at the end of each calendar year unless specifically continued by the Council thereafter for a specified time period.

4. At least one Councilmember will be appointed as a member and liaison of a Citizen Advisory Committee.
- D. Committees may make recommendations on proposed programs, services, ordinances, and resolutions within their area of responsibility before action is taken by the Council. The Committee Chair may present the recommendations of the committee during the discussion of the item of business.
- E. Employees shall staff the various committees as directed by the City Manager, but no staff person shall serve as a member of a Council or citizen study committee.
- F. Minutes need not be taken of committee meetings, except for the Committee of the Whole.

RULE 24. COUNCIL LIAISONS

- A. In order to build additional Council expertise in various areas of City operations, the Mayor shall designate functional areas and appoint a Councilmember at the beginning of the fiscal year to serve as a liaison to the City Manager. Functional areas for liaison assignments may include the following, though specific areas may be adjusted depending on the organization of the City:
 - Parks, Recreation, and Sustainability
 - Built Environment, Planning and Building
 - Administration
 - Finance and Information Technology
 - Public Works and Facilities
 - Police/Public Safety and Court
- B. The City Manager and respective department heads shall strive to provide liaisons with additional information beyond that normally provided to the Council as a whole and to keep the liaisons abreast of developments, trends, conditions, and issues in the various functional areas of City government.

RULE 25. ENACTED ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, MOTIONS, AND PROCLAMATIONS

- A. An enacted **ordinance** is a legislative act prescribing general, uniform, and permanent rules of conduct relating to the corporate affairs of the municipality. Council action shall be taken by ordinance when required by law, or to prescribe permanent rules of conduct which continue in force until repealed, or where such conduct is enforced by penalty.
- B. An enacted **resolution** is an internal legislative act which is a formal statement of policy concerning matters of special or temporary character. Council action shall be taken by resolution when required by law and in those instances where an expression of policy more formal than a motion is desired.
- C. An enacted **motion** is a form of action taken by the Council to direct that a specific action be taken on behalf of the municipality. A motion, once approved and entered into the record, is the equivalent of a resolution in those instances where a resolution is not required by law.
- D. An enacted **proclamation** is an official announcement made by either the City Council or the

Mayor to proclaim occasions of importance or significance, certain people, groups, events, cultures, or causes. Proclamations should contain positive messages or call upon the support of the community.

RULE 26. PROCLAMATIONS

A. City Council Proclamations.

City Council proclamations shall be publicly read at a City Council meeting and presented to or forwarded to a representative of the proclamation's subject matter.

B. Mayor's Proclamations.

Are requested by a special interest group from within the City. Mayor's proclamations are signed by the Mayor and forwarded to a representative of the proclamation's subject matter.

C. The Mayor and City Manager shall determine if the proclamation request is for a City Council proclamation or a Mayor's proclamation.

D. All proclamation requests shall be submitted to the City Clerk.

RULE 27. RESOLUTIONS

A. Except for franchise resolutions as provided under [Rule 28\(B\)](#), a resolution may be put to its final passage on the same day on which it was introduced.

B. The Presiding Officer will read a summary statement of the Resolution prior to its passage; provided, should a majority of the Councilmembers present request that the entire resolution or certain of its sections be read, such requests shall be granted.

C. Printed copies shall be made available upon request to any person attending a Council meeting.

D. Resolutions take effect immediately after they are approved by the vote of the Council, unless otherwise provided.

RULE 28. ORDINANCES

The procedure for ordinances is as follows:

A. With the exception of franchise ordinances as provided below, an ordinance may be put to its final passage on the same day on which it was introduced.

1. The Presiding Officer will read a summary statement of the Ordinance prior to its passage; provided, should a majority of the Councilmembers present request that the entire ordinance or certain of its sections be read, such requests shall be granted.

2. Printed copies shall be made available upon request to any person attending a Council meeting.

3. No ordinance shall contain more than one subject.

4. An ordinance does not take effect until five days after date of publication, except for emergency situations.

B. Franchises.

All resolutions and ordinances granting a franchise require two readings prior to adoption. The second reading must be at least five (5) days after the first reading.

1. All franchise ordinances and resolutions may be passed only at a regular meeting of the

Council; and at least four (4) Councilmembers must vote in favor of the franchise.

C. Emergency Ordinances.

By vote of one more than the majority (5 Councilmembers), the City Council may, without notice or hearing, adopt an emergency ordinance authorizing expenditures for a public emergency as defined and prescribed in [RCW 35.33.081](#).

D. A Councilmember may, in open session, request of the Presiding Officer that the Council study the wisdom of enacting a particular ordinance. By affirmative motion, the Council may assign the proposed ordinance to a specific committee or the Committee of the Whole for study and consideration. The committee shall report its findings to the Council.

E. If a motion to pass an ordinance fails, the ordinance shall be considered lost.

F. Any ordinance amending or repealing any portion of the FMC shall also amend or repeal the respective portions of any underlying ordinance(s).

RULE 29. PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Persons other than Councilmembers and management shall be permitted to address the Council upon introduction by the Presiding Officer or the chair of the appropriate Council committee.

RULE 30. RECONSIDERATION

A. Any action of the Council, including final action on applications for changes in land use status; but excluding a reconsideration of any action previously reconsidered, motions to adjourn, motions to suspend the rules, an affirmative vote to lay on the table or to take from the table, or a vote electing to office one who is present and does not decline; shall be subject to a motion to reconsider.

1. Such motions can be made only by a member of the prevailing side on the original action.

B. A motion to reconsider must be made no later than the next succeeding regular Council meeting.

C. A motion to reconsider is debatable only if the action being reconsidered is debatable.

D. Upon passage of a motion to reconsider, the subject matter is returned to the table anew for any action the Council deems advisable.

RULE 31. COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO COUNCIL

When citizen complaints or suggestions are brought before the City Council not on an agenda, the Presiding Officer shall first determine whether the issue is legislative or administrative in nature and then:

A. If legislative and a complaint about the letter or intent of legislative acts or suggestions for changes to such acts, and if the Council finds such complaint suggests a change to an ordinance or resolution of the City, the Council may refer the matter to a committee, Administration or the Committee of the Whole for study and recommendation.

B. If administrative and a complaint regarding administrative staff performance, administrative execution or interpretation of legislative policy, or administrative policy within the authority of the City Manager, the Presiding Officer should then refer the complaint directly to the City Manager for his/her review if said complaint has not been so reviewed. The City Council may

direct that the City Manager brief or report to the City Council when his/her response is made.

RULE 32. FILLING COUNCIL VACANCIES

- A. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Councilmember, the Council will follow the procedures outlined in [RCW 42.12.070](#).
- B. To hold office as a Councilmember, the person must be a registered voter and a Fircrest resident for a period of at least one year prior.
- C. Where one position is vacant, the remaining members of the Council shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacant position.
- D. Where two or more positions are vacant and two or more Councilmembers remain in office, the remaining Councilmembers shall appoint a qualified person to fill one of the vacant positions.
 - 1. The remaining Councilmembers and the newly appointed Councilmember shall appoint another qualified person to fill another vacant position, and so on until each of the vacant positions is filled.
 - 2. If less than two Councilmembers remain in office, the County Council shall appoint a qualified person or persons to the Council until the Council has two members.
- E. If the City Council fails to appoint a qualified person to fill a vacancy within ninety days of the occurrence of the vacancy, the County Council shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy.
 - 1. If the County Council fails to appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy within 180 days, the governor may be petitioned to appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy.
- F. As provided in [RCW 29A.24.191](#) and [RCW 29A.52.240](#), each person appointed serves until a qualified person is elected at the next Council election that occurs 28 days or more after the occurrence of the vacancy.
 - 1. A primary is held if time exists and more than two candidates file for the vacant office; otherwise, a primary shall not be held and the person receiving the greatest number of votes is elected.
 - 2. The person elected takes office immediately when qualified and serves the remainder of the unexpired term.
 - 3. If an election for the position that became vacant would otherwise have been held at this general election date, only one election to fill the position shall be held and the person elected to fill the succeeding term for that position shall take office immediately when qualified and shall serve both the remainder of the unexpired term and the succeeding term.

RULE 33. PHOTOGRAPHS, MOTION PICTURES, VIDEO TAPE -- PERMISSION REQUIRED FOR ARTIFICIAL ILLUMINATION

No photographs, motion pictures, or video tapes that require the use of flash bulbs, electronic flashes, flood lights, or similar artificial illumination shall be made at City Council meetings without the consent of the Presiding Officer or a majority of the Council.

RULE 34. COUNCIL TRAVEL

- A. The Council may appropriate funds for Council travel in the legislative department of the annual City budget.
1. Any Councilmember who desires to expend Council travel funds, where the cost of such travel, lodging and meals would exceed \$150, shall complete the regular City "Training Attendance Request" form.
 2. Upon receipt by the City Manager, the completed form will be put in the Council packets for the next regular meeting. The City Manager shall bring the item to the floor under City Manager Comments, and the Council shall act to approve, disapprove, or modify the request.

RULE 35. APPROVAL OF CITY MANAGER TRAVEL EXPENSE CLAIMS AND PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

The Presiding Officer or designee will approve City Manager travel expense claims and Personnel Action forms.

RULE 36. VACANCIES IN COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

Notices will be posted at all public buildings when vacancies exist in commission and board positions. Notices will request letters of interest and list any required qualifications.

RULE 37. PUBLICATION AND POSTING OF NOTICES FOR HEARINGS AND FORTHCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

A. Public Hearings.

Except where a specific means of notifying the public of a public hearing is otherwise provided by law or ordinance, notice of upcoming public hearings before the City Council shall be given by one publication of notice containing the time, place, and date when the hearing is to be held and subject thereof, in the City's official newspaper at least ten (10) days before the date set for the hearing.

B. Council Meetings.

The public shall be notified of the preliminary agenda for a forthcoming Council meeting by posting a copy of the agenda at the following four (4) public places at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting:

1. Fircrest City Hall
2. Fircrest Recreation Center Building
3. Fircrest Public Safety Building
4. Fircrest Public Works Facility

RULE 38. COUNCILMEMBERS' MAIL AND MESSAGES

- A. The majority of Council's mail is sent to City Hall. Unless marked "personal" or "confidential", staff opens and date stamps all mail unless notified by a Councilmember to leave it sealed. Each Councilmember is assigned a mail and message box, which is located in City Hall. All mail and messages will be included in Council packets.

- B. A message box will be maintained for "General Council Information" and will be located near the individual Councilmembers' mail and message boxes.
- C. Phone messages will be taken and placed in Council mail and message boxes. Councilmembers' home and work telephone numbers will be given to the general public upon request, unless a Councilmember has an unlisted phone number or requests that a number not be given.

RULE 39. REQUESTS FOR LEGAL OPINIONS

- A. It is the policy of the City that all requests for legal assistance from the City Attorney's Office which require a written response (opinion, resolution, or ordinance) be processed through the City Manager's office or with the approval of the Mayor in recognition that the City Attorney also serves the City Council as a whole.
- B. This policy shall not apply to requests made by motion of the Council or to routine matters that can be addressed over the phone or in person without a formal written response.

RULE 40. CODE OF ETHICS

The conduct of Councilmembers will be in compliance with [FMC 2.46 Conduct of Public Officials](#). (See attachment)

RULE 41. MISCELLANEOUS

When Councilmembers register to attend an official conference requiring voting delegates, such as the annual National League of Cities or Association of Washington Cities, the Council shall designate the voting delegate(s) and alternate voting delegate(s) during a public meeting, by a majority vote; when possible, said selection of voting delegate(s) shall be done on a rotating basis for the purpose of allowing all Councilmembers the opportunity to be an official voting delegate.

RULE 42. SUSPENSION AND AMENDMENT OF RULES

Any provision of these rules not governed by state law or ordinance, may be temporarily suspended by a majority vote of the Council.

These rules may be amended, or new rules adopted, by a majority vote of the Council.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

**CITY OF FIRCREST
RESOLUTION NO. 1967**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF FIRCREST, WASHINGTON, RESCINDING
RESOLUTION NO. 1884 RELATING TO THE CITY
COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE AND ADOPTING NEW
CITY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Fircrest adopted Resolution No. 441 on June 26, 1990, which constituted the City Council’s Rules of Procedure; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Fircrest adopted Resolution No. 528, Resolution No. 760, Resolution No. 1027, Resolution No. 1076, Resolution No. 1542, Resolution No. 1649, Resolution No. 1708, Resolution No. 1832, and Resolution No. 1884, which rescinded previous Resolutions and made revisions to the City Council’s Rules of Procedure; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to make changes to the Rules of Procedure, which were adopted on February 13, 2024, to revise functional areas for Council liaison assignments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FIRCREST:**

Section 1. Resolution No. 1884 is hereby rescinded.

Section 2. The attached City Council Rules of Procedure, hereto referred to as Exhibit “A,” and by this reference thereto incorporated herein as if fully set forth, are hereby adopted effective immediately.

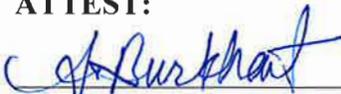
**APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FIRCREST, WASHINGTON**, at a regular meeting thereof this 25th day of March 2025.

APPROVED:



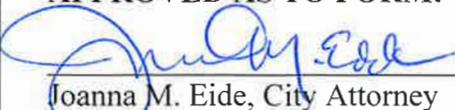
Shannon Reynolds, Mayor

ATTEST:



Arlete Burkhart, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Joanna M. Eide, City Attorney

City of Fircrest
City Council Rules of Procedure
Record of Amendments

Adopted May 10, 1990	Resolution No. 441	
Amended May 10, 1994	Resolution No. 528	Rescinded Resolution No. 441
Amended January 14, 2003	Resolution No. 760	Rescinded Resolution No. 528
Amended March 11, 2008	Resolution No. 1027	Rescinded Resolution No. 760
Amended February 10, 2009	Resolution No. 1076	Rescinded Resolution No. 1027
Amended August 28, 2018	Resolution No. 1542	Rescinded Resolution No. 1076
Amended March 24, 2020	Resolution No. 1649	Rescinded Resolution No. 1542
Amended January 26, 2021	Resolution No. 1708	Rescinded Resolution No. 1649
Amended May 23, 2023	Resolution No. 1832	Rescinded Resolution No. 1708
Amended February 13, 2024	Resolution No. 1884	Rescinded Resolution No. 1832
Amended March 25, 2025	Resolution No. 1967	Rescinded Resolution No. 1884