(509)427-5970

7121 E Loop Road, PO Box 371 Stevenson, Washington 98648

TO: R2 District Property Owners

FROM: Ben Shumaker
DATE: January 28th, 2021

SUBJECT: R2 Two-Family District Owners—Potential Zoning Map Amendment

This letter is intended to proactively engage you about potential changes to the zoning regulations affecting your property. The potential changes are introduced in response to a recent study by the Skamania County Economic Development Council (EDC). In their *Skamania County Housing Needs Analysis* the EDC is anticipating the need for ~2,000 new housing units over the next 20-years. The study also discussed barriers to our ability to fulfill this need. The barriers include a lack of appropriate infrastructure as well as existing development regulations (such as the Zoning Code) implemented by the City and County. As a result, housing costs, utility pricing, and community frustration is expected to increase. To address these deficiencies, the EDC's consultants recommended several changes to the City's Zoning Code and Map. The City is hoping to discuss these changes with you prior to their adoption.

The proposed changes currently revolve around the following policy questions:

- 1) Should more than 2 housing units be allowed on properties currently zoned as R2?
- 2) Should properties in the R2 zone have the same development options as properties in the R3 zone?

Attachments 1 and 2 illustrate how an affirmative answers to these policy questions might be incorporated into the zoning regulations applicable to your property.

The changes are titled "discussion draft" to reflect their intent to function as a starting point, not a desired endpoint. Your contributions to this discussion are an important part of the policy setting process. Suggestions for fewer/alternative/additional changes will help ensure the City's zoning implements the citizens' desires as well as their needs. To make the attachment as legible as possible, provisions applicable to both the R2 and R3 districts are shown in black ink. All other provisions are included for comparison purposes and appear in gray ink with smaller font. Yellow highlighting indicates areas where the 2 zones' regulations differ. If the zoning changes are made as proposed, theR3 provisions would then apply to your property instead and the orange areas of the map would become brown. Note: some of the R1 Single-Family zone is also being considered for a change to R3. The map highlights these areas in gold. For a more detailed, electronic version of this map, please go to: http://ci.stevenson.wa.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/InitialConsiderationArea.pdf

Request: Please evaluate the policy question above and share your initial opinions on the topic. You can do so by filling out an online questionnaire (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T9SXR6R), via telephone (509-427-5970), in writing (planning@ci.stevenson.wa.us or PO Box 371, Stevenson, WA 98648), or at Planning Commission meetings on the second Monday of each month. If you'd like to discuss the proposal with a Planning Commissioner living in the R2 zone, Auguste Zettler is available at auguste.zettler@ci.stevenson.wa.us.

Additional Request: The City is looking for some specific "case studies" of how the Zoning Code affects people's lives and livelihoods. If you have a specific example from your experience, we'd appreciated it if you'd share it. Specifically, we'd like to know:

- 1- Have the existing provisions of the Zoning Code caused you to redesign or abandon a development proposal?
- 2- Have the existing provisions of the Zoning Code protected your neighborhood from a development or change you didn't want?

To share a specific instance, please contact the city at 509-427-5970 or planning@ci.stevenson.wa.us.

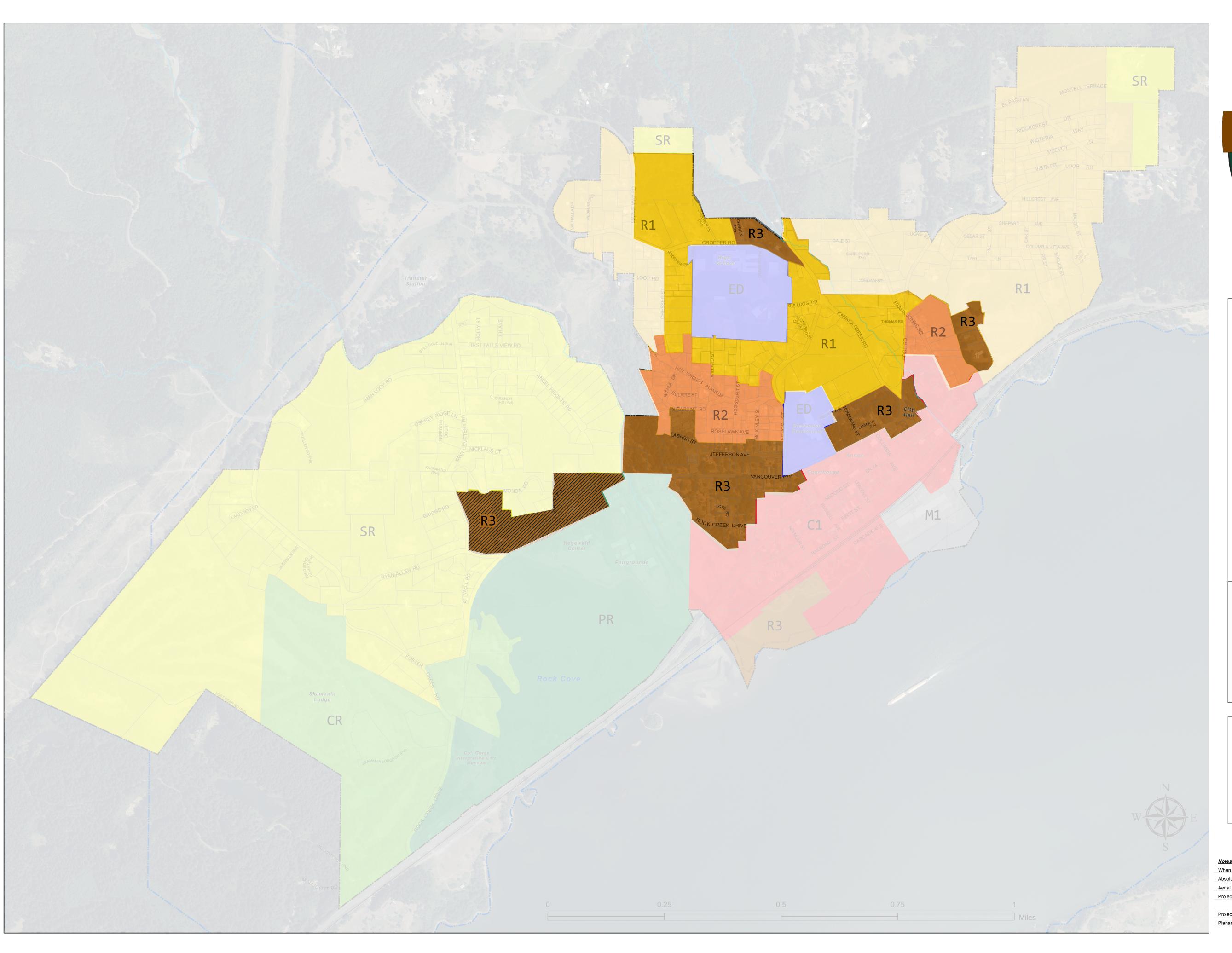
No decisions on this topic are imminent. In addition to this letter, you should expect at least 1 and potentially 2 others on this topic:

- 1- Request for initial opinions on the zoning map amendments (this letter).
- 2- Notification of the last draft ordinance and meetings where decisions will be made (expected May).
- 3- Request for opinions on a potential new zoning criteria: minimum density overlay (expected March).

If you would like more information on this topic, including background reports, electronic copies of this letter, and information on other proposed changes, you can find it at: http://ci.stevenson.wa.us/letsbuild

Attachments:

- 1- Zoning Map Highlighting Core Area R1, R2 and R3 Areas
- 2- Discussion Draft Zoning Amendment

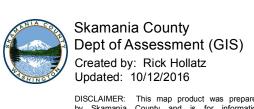






Mayor	Date
Clerk - Treasure	r Date
Attorney	Date

	Notes:	
-	When Printed to ANSI D (22"x3	34"): 1 inch = 500 fe
	Absolute scale:	1:6,0
	Aerial Photo Date:	7/6/20
	Projected Coordinate System:	NAD 1983 HARN StatePla
2		Washington FIPS 4602 Fe
	Projection Name:	Lambert Conformal Con
	Planar Units	US Survey Fe



Created by: Rick Hollatz
Updated: 10/12/2016

DISCLAIMER: This map product was prepared by Skamania County and is for information purposes only. It may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

Chapter 17.15 - RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

17.15.010 - Purpose.

Residential districts encourage a range of residential land uses, housing sizes, types, and price ranges for the diverse array of residents' personal preferences and financial capabilities. The standards in this chapter are intended to encourage mixtures of land uses and intensities while minimizing negative impacts related to conflicting land uses.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017)

17.15.020 - List of zoning districts.

- A. R1 Single-Family Residential District. The single-family residential district (R1) is intended to provide minimum development standards for residential uses where complete community services are available and where residential uses are separated from uses characteristic of more urban and/or rural areas.
- B. R2 Two-Family Residential District. The two-family residential district (R2) is intended to provide minimum development standards for higher-density residential uses where complete community services are available and where residential uses are separated from uses characteristic of more urban and more rural areas.
- C. R3 Multi-Family Residential District. The multi-family residential district (R3) is intended to provide minimum development standards for various residential uses where complete community services are available and where residential uses are in close proximity to uses characteristic of more urban areas and separated from uses characteristic of more rural areas.
- D. MHR Mobile Home Residential District. The mobile home residential district (MHR) is intended to provide minimum development standards for affordable residential uses within the city.
- E. SR Suburban Residential District. The suburban residential district (SR) is intended to provide minimum development standards for a variety of uses and provide a transition area where service levels are less than urban and where low-density residential uses coexist with uses otherwise characteristic of more rural areas.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017)

17.15.030 - Residential district location criteria.

- A. Residential districts can be appropriately applied and maintained within any LDR low density residential or HDR high density residential area on the future land use map.
- B. Areas designated as LDR low density residential and HDR high density residential shall not be rezoned for trade districts. Under limited circumstances HDR areas may be rezoned for public districts.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 3, 2-16-2017)

17.15.040 - Uses.

A. Types of Uses: For the purposes of this chapter, there are 4 kinds of use:

- 1. A permitted (P) use is one that is permitted outright, subject to all the applicable provisions of this title.
- 2. An accessory (A) use is permitted on properties containing permitted uses, provided that:
 - a. The accessory use or activity may be regarded as incidental or insubstantial in and of itself or in relation to the principal use on the lot; and

- b. The accessory use or activity is commonly or frequently associated with the principal use on the
- 3. A conditional (C) use is a discretionary use reviewed by the Planning Commission according to the process and criteria in SMC 17.39 Conditional Uses.
- 4. A prohibited (X) use is one that is not permitted in a zoning district under any circumstances.
- 5. When a letter or use category is not listed in this table, an interpretation may be initiated under SMC 17.12.020.
- B. Use Table. A list of permitted, accessory, conditional and prohibited uses in residential districts is presented in Table 17.15.040-1: Residential Districts Use Table.

Table 17.15.040-1 Residential Districts Use Table								
Use	R1	R2	R3	MHR	SR			
Residence or Accommodation Uses	'							
Dwelling								
Single-Family Detached Dwelling	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р			
Mobile Home	Х	Х	X	Р	Х			
Travel Trailer		1_	_	-	Х			
Accessory Dwelling Unit (SMC 17.40.040)	А	1_	_	_	А			
Multi-Family Dwelling	C 1	P/C ¹	Р	C 1	C 1			
Temporary Emergency, Construction or Repair Residence	C 2	C 2	C ²	_	C ²			
Townhome (SMC 17.38.085)		C 8	Р	_	<u> </u>			
Renting of no more than 2 rooms, rented by the month or longer, provided the parking requirements of SMC 17.42 are met.	А	А	А	А	А			
Boarding House	С	С	С	-	С			
Residential Care								
Adult Family Home	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р			
Assisted Living Facility	_	_	С	_	С			
Nursing Home	_	_	С	_	-			
Overnight Lodging								
Vacation Rental Home	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р			
Bed & Breakfast	С	С	Р	С	С			
Hostel	С	С	Р	С	С			
Hotel	Х	X	С	Х	С			
Campground	Х	Х	Х	С	С			
Dormitory facility related to a public, private or parochial school	С	С	С	-	С			
Miscellaneous Incidental Uses								
Residential Outbuilding	A/C 3,4	A/C 3,4	A/C ⁴	A/C 3,4	A/C			
Garage or storage building for the parking of commercial vehicles		-	-	_	С			
Swimming pool, spa or hot tub, and associated equipment	А	Α	Α	А	А			

Buildings and uses related to, and commonly associated with a mobile home park such as a recreation area, laundry, facility office, and meeting rooms	-	-	-	А	_
General Sales or Service Uses					
Electric Vehicle Station					
Restricted Access, Gradual Charging EV Station	А	Α	Α	А	А
Restricted Access, Rapid charging EV Station	С	С	С	С	С
Public Access, Gradual Charging EV Station		_	С	-	1-
Street—Side Access, Gradual Charging EV Station	_	_	С	-	_
Retail and wholesale sales of agricultural and animal products raise or produced on the premises	-	_	_	_	А
Professional Office	<u> </u>	С	С	-	1-
Veterinarian	-	-	-	-	С
Child Day Care Facility					
Family Day Care Home	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р
Mini-Day Care Center	С	С	С	С	С
Child Day Care Center	1_	С	С	С	С
Home Occupation	А	Α	Α	Α	А
Transportation, Communication, Information, and Utilities Uses					
Public Transportation Stop or Shelter	_	_	_	_	С
Utility or Communication Facility	С	С	С	C 5	С
Wireless Telecommunications Facility ⁶					
Minor Wireless Telecommunications Facility	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р
Intermediate Wireless Telecommunications Facility (SMC 17.39.170)	С	С	С	С	С
Major Wireless Telecommunications Facilities (SMC 17.39.170)	С	_	_	_	С
Wind Power Generation Facility ⁶					
Minor Wind Power Generation Facility (SMC 17.39.165)	С	С	С	С	С
Hazardous Waste Storage	С	С	С	С	С
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation Uses					
Public Assembly			_	-	-
Wedding Venue	<u> </u>	_	<u> </u>	_	С
Park, Playground or Outdoor Recreation Area	С	С	С	С	С
Golf Course	_	_	1-	_	С
Education, Public Administration, Health Care, and Other Institutions Uses					
Public, Private or Parochial School	С	С	С	_	С
Nursery School or Similar Facility		-	-	С	-
Library	С	С	С	_	-
Government Administration Building	_	_	С	_	_
Fire, Police, or Emergency Services Station	С	С	С	-	С
Hospital		_	С	_	

Church or Other Religious or Charitable Organization	С	С	С	_	С		
Cemetery or Mausoleum	_	-	-	_	С		
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting Uses							
Subsistence or hobby type gardening	Р	Р	А	Р	Р		
Indoor or Outdoor Horticultural Activity	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Nursery	_	_	С	_	Р		
Farm Animals (SMC 17.40.095)	C 7	Х	Х	X	Р		
Urban Farm Animals (SMC 17.40.095)	А	А	А	А	Р		
Pets	А	А	Α	А	А		
Kennel	С	Х	Х	X	С		
Miscellaneous/Other Uses							
Signs listed with a "C" in Table 17.15.145-1 and any other sign identifying and/or related to any conditional use or existing nonconforming use.	С	С	С	С	С		
Signs identifying and/or related to any principal or accessory use allowed in this chapter.	А	Α	Α	А	А		

- 1-Conditional use permits for these uses are only considered when submitted as part of an R-PUD proposal under SMC 17.17 Residential Planned Unit Developments.
- 2-A conditional use permit is only required for a temporary emergency, construction or repair residence after the expiration of the initial 6-month grace period.
- 3-Up to 4 residential outbuildings on a property is considered an accessory Use. When at least 4 residential outbuildings already exist on a lot then an additional residential outbuilding is considered a conditional use. During the conditional use review process, the planning commission may establish size, serial proliferation and other limitations on such buildings.
- 4-A residential outbuilding that is subordinate to the main use on the lot is considered an accessory use. A residential outbuilding which is not subordinate to the main use on the lot is considered a conditional use. During the conditional use review process, the planning commission may establish size, serial proliferation and other limitations on such buildings.
- 5-Despite the general exclusion of overhead elements from this use category, any utility or communication facility in the MHR district with an overhead element greater than 35 feet is considered a conditional use.
- 6-See also SMC 17.36-WW Wind/Wireless Overlay District.
- 7-In granting a conditional use request for farm animals in the R1 district, the planning commission shall find, at a minimum, that the proposal is compliant with the performance standards in SMC 17.40.095.
- 8-Townhomes in the R2 District are subject to review according to the density and parking requirements of the R3 Multi-Family Residential District and shall connect to the municipal sewer system.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017; Ord. No. 1104, § 3A, 6-15-2017; Ord. No. 2019-1141, § 4, 5-16-2019)

17.15.050 - Residential density standards.

A. Density and Lot Size. The maximum density and minimum lot dimensions for Residential Districts are contained in Table 17.15.050-1: Residential Density Standards.

Table 17.15.050-1: Residential Density Standards									
District	Utility Availability	Minimum Lot Area	Minimum Lot Width	Minimum Lot Depth	Maximum Number Dwelling Units	Maximum Lot Coverage			
D1	Water, Sewer	6,000 sf	40 ft	90 ft	1 Unit ²	35%			
R1	Water, Septic	15,000 sf ¹	90 ft	120 ft	1 Unit ²	25%			

	Well, Septic	1 acre ¹	200 ft	200 ft	1 Unit ²	10%
	Water, Sewer	5,000 sf + 2,000 sf per unit over 1	50 ft ³	90 ft	2 Units	50%
R2	Water, Septic	15,000 sf ¹	90 ft	120 ft	2 Units	30%
	Well, Septic ⁶	_	_	_	_	_
	Water, Sewer	2,000 sf per unit	20 ft	90 ft	_	n/a
R3	Water, Septic ^{6,7}	_	_	_	_	_
	Well, Septic ^{6,7}	_	_	_	_	_
	Water, Sewer	5 ac + 5,000 sf per unit over 40	200 ft	200 ft	_	40%
MHR	Water, Septic	5 ac + 2 acres per unit over 2	200 ft	200 ft	_	40%
IVITIK	Well, Sewer	5 ac + 2 acres per unit over 2	200 ft	200 ft	_	40%
	Well, Septic	5 ac + 2 acres per unit over 2	200 ft	200 ft	_	40%
	Water, Sewer	15,000 sf	100 ft	100 ft	1 Unit ²	25%
SR	Water, Septic	20,000 sf ¹	100 ft	100 ft	1 Unit ²	20%
	Well, Septic	1 acre ¹	200 ft	200 ft	1 Unit ²	10%

¹⁻When sewer is unavailable, minimum lot area may be increased based on current health district regulations.

- B. Exceptions. The following exceptions are permitted to the standards of Table 17.15.050-1:
 - 1. Properties receiving approval to deviate from standards according to SMC 17.38 Supplementary Provisions.
 - 2. Properties obtaining variance approval in accordance with SMC 17.46 Adjustments, Variances, and Appeals.
 - 3. Properties receiving modification approval in accordance with SMC 17.17 Residential Planned Unit Developments.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017; Ord. No. 1104, § 3.B,C, 6-15-2017)

17.15.060 - Residential dimensional standards.

- A. Compliance Required. All structures in residential districts must comply with:
 - 1. The applicable dimensional standards contained Table 17.15.060-1: Residential Dimensional Standards.
 - 2. All other applicable standards and requirements contained in this title.

Table 17.15.060-1: Residential Dimensional Standards								
Minimum Setbacks								
District	Maximum Height of Building	Front	Side, Interior	Side, Street	Rear, Interior Lot	Rear, Through Lot		
R1	35 ft	20 ft	5 ft	15 ft	20 ft ¹	20 ft		

²⁻Unless an accessory dwelling unit (SMC 17.13.010) is allowed under SMC 17.40.040.

 $^{3\}mbox{-}{\mbox{Except}}\,40$ ft for single-family detached dwellings.

 $[\]mbox{6-Service}$ by the public water system is required.

⁷⁻Service by the public sewer system is required.

R2	35 ft	20 ft	5 ft	15 ft	20 ft ¹	20 ft
R3	35 ft	15 ft ^{3, 4}	5 ft ²	15 ft	20 ft ¹	20 ft
MHR	35 ft	30 ft	15 ft	20 ft	20 ft ¹	20 ft
SR	35 ft	30 ft	15 ft	20 ft	20 ft	20 ft

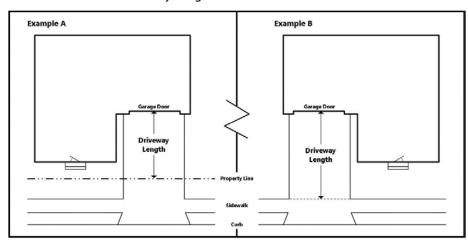
- 1-5 ft for residential outbuildings that are both 12 ft in height or less and 200 sq ft in size or less.
- 2-A 10-foot setback is required when adjacent to an R1 or R2 district.
- 3-See also SMC 17.15.130(B)(3).
- 4-10'. However, no structure shall be located within a pedestrian visibility area [SMC 17.10.632].
- B. Exceptions. The following exceptions are permitted to the standards of Table 17.15.060-1:
 - 1. Properties receiving approval to deviate from standards according to SMC 17.38 Supplementary Provisions.
 - 2. Properties obtaining variance approval in accordance with SMC 17.46 Adjustments, Variances, and Appeals.
 - 3. Properties receiving modification approval in accordance with SMC 17.17 Residential Planned Unit Developments.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017; Ord. No. 1104, § 3.D, 6-15-2017)

17.15.130 - Residential districts parking.

- A. Off-Street Parking Required. Off-street parking shall be provided in all residential districts in accordance with the requirements of SMC 17.42: Parking and Loading Standards.
- B. Parking Location Requirements.
 - 1. Required parking shall be located on the same lot as the dwelling it serves.
 - 2. No motor vehicle, recreational vehicle or equipment, or other equipment, whether operational or not, shall be parked, stored or otherwise located in an Interior Side Setback required by Table 17.15.060-1: Residential Dimensional Standards.
 - 3. No driveway shall be less than 20 feet in length. This shall be done to eliminate the parking of vehicles on or over curbs, sidewalks, or vehicle travel areas [SMC 17.10.855]. For the purposes of this chapter driveway length is measured conservatively as the shortest distance between a) a garage door or other physical obstruction to the parking of a vehicle and b) a curb, sidewalk, public pedestrian way [SMC 17.10.660], property line, or right-of-way line.

FIGURE 17.38.085-1 Driveway Length Illustration



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(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017)

17.15.145 - Residential districts signs.

A. Allowed Sign Types and Characteristics. A list of permitted, accessory, conditional and prohibited sign types and characteristics in Residential Districts is presented in Table 17.15.145-1: Allowed Signage.

Table 17.15.145-1: Allowed Signage							
	R1	R2	R3	MHR	SR		
Animated Sign	X	Χ	X 1	Х	Х		
Sign Structure							
Temporary	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Awning/Marquee	Х	х	Х	X	Х		
Portable	-	_	_	_	-		
Sign Type							
Community Information Sign	С	С	С	С	С		
Dilapidated Sign	X 2	X 2	X 2	X 2	X 2		
Mural	С	С	С	С	С		
Off-Premises Sign	Х	x	x	X	Х		
Sign Placed by a Governmental Agency	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р		
Sign of Outstanding Design	-	_	С	_	-		
Sign Illumination							
Back-lit Cabinet	Х	Х	Х	X	Х		
Back-lit Channel Letter	Х	Х	X 1	Х	Х		
Dark-Sky Friendly	С	С	Р	С	С		
Directly -Illuminated	X	Х	A 3	Х	X		
Externally-Illuminated	X	Χ	X 1	Х	X		
Halo-Lighted	X	Χ	X 1	Х	X		
Pedestrian-Oriented Video Display	Х	Х	_	Х	Х		

¹⁻Unless a bonus allowance is granted for a sign of outstanding design under SMC 17.39.145.

B. Sign Standards. Signs allowed in Residential Districts are subject to the dimensional and duration standards in Table 17.15.145-2: Sign Standards.

Table 17.15.145-2: Sign Standards								
R1 R2 R3 MHR SR								
Number of Signs	Any	Any	Any	Any	Any			
Maximum Sign Area								
Individual Sign	5 sf ¹	5 sf ¹	12 sf ^{2,3}	5 sf ¹	5 sf ¹			

²⁻An existing sign, together with its sign structure, which becomes dilapidated shall be removed after notice to the property owner, unless upon appeal under SMC 17.46, the property owner establishes facts sufficient to rebut the presumption of dilapidation.

³⁻Allowed as an accessory sign only when placed in windows and limited to 4 sq ft in area.

		1							
Total Cumulative Signage Allowed	32 sf	32 sf	40 sf	32 sf	32 sf				
Maximum Sign Height									
Building Sign	16 ft ⁴	16 ft ⁴	26 ft ^{3,4}	16 ft ⁴	16 ft ⁴				
Freestanding Sign	6 ft	6 ft	12 ft ³	6 ft	6 ft				
Temporary Sign	6 ft	6 ft	6 ft ³	6 ft	6 ft				
Minimum Sign Clearance									
Building Sign Projecting More than 12" from a Building	8 ft								
Sign Placement 5,6									
Setback from any property line	5 ft								
Allowed Sign Duration									
Temporary Sign	45 days ⁷								
Political Sign ⁸	Until 5 days after election								
Real Estate Sign	Until 5 days after the property is taken off the market	Until 5 days after the property is taken off the market	Until 5 days after the property is taken off the market	Until 5 days after the property is taken off the market	Until 5 days after the property is taken off the market				

- 1-When allowed as conditional uses, the planning commission may permit individual signs no larger than 16 sq ft.
- 2-When allowed as conditional uses, the planning commission may permit individual signs no larger than 24 sq ft.
- 3-Subject to bonus allowance when approved as a Sign of Outstanding Design under SMC 17.39.145.
- 4-No part of a building sign shall be higher than the highest point of the building to which it is attached.
- 5-No sign may be placed in a Vision Clearance Area (SMC 17.10.862).
- 6-Signs within a public right-of-way may be permitted according to SMC 12.02-Use of City Rights-of-Way.
- 7-Signs related to a specific event, sale, etc. must be removed within 5 days after such event.
- 8-Political signs not related to an upcoming election in the voting district where the sign is placed are subject to the temporary sign duration standards.

(Ord. No. 1103, § 5, 2-16-2017)