

TITLE 14

ZONING

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## CHAPTER 14-01 - CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

14-01-01. Creation. There was created a body known as the planning commission of the City of Bismarck which has also served as the city zoning commission of the City of Bismarck, which planning and zoning commission has been and is actively serving the community. It is intended that this commission will continue as the Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission, with duties and functions hereinafter recited, pursuant to the powers authorized by the North Dakota Century Code.

*Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-06; 40-48-03*

14-01-02. Members. The planning and zoning commission shall consist of eleven members. Two of the members shall be the president of the board of city commissioners and the city engineer who shall act as ex officio members of the said commission. Five of the members shall be appointed by the president of the board of city commissioners with the approval of the city commission.

Three of the members of the commission shall be persons residing outside the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck and within four miles thereof, and shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners of Burleigh County. One member of the commission shall be a county commissioner and shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners of Burleigh County. All members shall have equal voting status on all issues.

In addition to the eleven members enumerated above, for all issues before the planning and zoning commission relating to a geographic area outside the City of Bismarck corporate limits, a township supervisor of any organized township wherein such issue is located shall be invited to participate as a voting member. Each township shall designate one township supervisor for this limited planning and zoning commission membership. A township supervisor's participation on the planning and zoning commission shall be limited to those issues occurring outside the City's corporate limits and in his or her respective township.

*Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-06; 40-48-03; Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck (Ord. 5293, 01-27-04)*

14-01-03. Term of Members. The ex officio members of the commission shall serve during and for their respective terms for which they have been elected or appointed. The president of the board of city commissioners shall appoint five members of the commission who shall be residents of the City of Bismarck, and such appointments shall be for a term of five years. The Burleigh County Board of Commissioners shall appoint three members to the planning commission for a period of five years each. The county commissioner appointed by the Burleigh County Board of Commissioners shall serve during and for his or her elected or appointed term. The township supervisor authorized by Section 14-01-02 shall serve during and for his or her elected or appointed term.

*Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-06; 40-48-04 (Ord.5293, 01-27-04)*

14-01-04. Approval of Appointments. The president of the board of city commissioners shall submit to the city commission at the next meeting after making such

appointments, the names of persons who shall be residents of the City of Bismarck. The city commission shall by majority vote, confirm or reject such appointments. If such appointments are rejected, the president shall make other appointments for such appointees as may be rejected, which said appointments shall be approved or rejected in like manner. If a vacancy occurs on the commission, an appointment to fill such unexpired term shall be made in the manner in which original appointments were made.

14-01-05. Powers and Compensation. The city planning and zoning commission shall have all of the powers and perform all of the duties as may now or hereafter be provided by law or as directed by the Board of City Commissioners as provided by the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck, Article 3, Section 11, and shall receive no compensation except they may be allowed actual expenses for traveling as provided by law. These powers shall include but not be limited to recommendations relative to the zoning ordinance text and zoning district recommendations. The commission shall have extended territorial authority to all unincorporated territory located within four miles of the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck as authorized by the North Dakota Century Code, and shall enforce such regulations in the extraterritorial area to the same extent as if such property were situated within the city's corporate limits.

The powers heretofore exercised by the planning and zoning commission of the City of Bismarck, prior to the adoption of this revised ordinance, and its duties and powers as heretofore exercised are hereby in all things continued.

*Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-01.1, Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck, Article 3, Section 11.*

*(Ord. 5278, 09-23-03)*

14-01-06. Appeal Process of Commission. Any final decision of the city planning and zoning commission may be appealed to the city commission by either the aggrieved applicant or the applicant's representative or by any officer, department, board, or bureau of the city. Notice of appeal in writing shall be delivered to the office of the city administrator or to the community development department within 10 calendar days of the city planning and zoning commission's decision. A hearing shall be set before the city commission within 30 days of the receipt of the notice of appeal unless otherwise agreed by the applicant.

1. For an appeal from the denial of a zoning change ordinance or a zoning ordinance text amendment or for any item requiring a public hearing at the city commission, the hearing on appeal will only consider the question of whether or not to reverse the decision of the planning and zoning commission, introduce the ordinance, if necessary, and call for a public hearing on the zoning change ordinance, text amendment ordinance or other item requiring a public hearing. At the hearing, only the aggrieved applicant or their representative, a person entitled to receive mailed written notice of the application or an officer, department, board or bureau of the city may argue for or against the appeal. No new evidence may be presented and the review is limited to the record as received from the planning and zoning commission and the arguments at the hearing.

2. After the hearing, the city commission shall decide the appeal on its merits and shall issue its written decision containing its findings and an appropriate order. The written decision shall be issued within 10 calendar days of the close of the hearing. If the city commission decides to reverse the decision of the planning and zoning commission and call for a public hearing and second reading on the zoning change ordinance, the zoning ordinance text amendment, or any other item requiring a public hearing, a hearing will be set for a date that allows the public hearing to be appropriately noticed pursuant to the North Dakota Century Code and this code of ordinances. The written decision shall be issued within 10 days of the close of the hearing.

3. The public hearing resulting from an appeal shall be conducted in accordance with Section 14-07-02(6-8).

4. For all appeals from the denial of a request prior to a public hearing at the planning and zoning commission, the hearing on appeal will only consider whether or not to require a public hearing or further action at the planning and zoning commission and shall be conducted pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section. The action of the city commission regarding the appeal is limited to denying the appeal and upholding the planning and zoning commission or reversing the planning and zoning commission and sending the matter back to the planning and zoning commission for further action.

5. For all other appeals from a final decision of the planning and zoning commission for which the decision of the city commission will be final, the board of city commissioners shall fix a time for the hearing of the appeal and shall give due notice of the hearing to the parties pursuant to paragraph 1 of this section. The appeal shall be decided and a written decision shall be issued within 10 calendar days of the close of the hearing unless otherwise stipulated by the commission. Any party to the appeal may appear in person or by representative or by attorney at the hearing before the board of city commissioners. New evidence and arguments may be presented and the review is not limited to the record as received from the planning and zoning commission. The board of city commissioners may reverse or affirm the decision of the planning and zoning commission, in whole or in part, or may modify the decision or determination appealed.

A final decision of the city commission on an appeal from a decision of the planning and zoning commission may be appealed to the district court in the manner provided in NDCC Section 28-34-01.

*Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-01.1, Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck, Article 3, Section 11.  
(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4501, 04-27-93; Ord. 5446, 07-26-05; Ord. 6042, 04-22-14; Ord. 6131, 06-23-15)*

## CHAPTER 14-02 - GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS

14-02-01. Intent. It is the intent of the board of city commissioners to promote the health, safety and general welfare by guiding the development of the city by means of a comprehensive land use plan which is in part carried out by the provisions of this ordinance. It is the intent of this ordinance to provide regulations, standards and guides for the city's development which will:

- a) Lessen congestion in the streets;
- b) Secure safety from fire, panic and other dangers;
- c) Promote the health and general welfare;
- d) Prevent the overcrowding of land;
- e) Provide adequate light and air;
- f) Avoid undue concentration of population;
- g) Facilitate adequate provision for transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks and other requirements.

*Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-03*

14-02-02. Application. The zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations of the City of Bismarck shall apply to all unincorporated territory within four miles of the corporate limits as authorized by the North Dakota century Code.

All actions taken and matters resulting therefrom by the city planning and zoning commission of the City of Bismarck, pursuant to ordinance number 3322, are hereby validated.

Ordinances enacted in reliance on Senate Bill 2395 of the 45th Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota, which became effective July 1, 1976, are hereby validated. This title is enacted under the authority contained in the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck, Article 3, Section 11.

*Reference: NDCC 40-47-01.1.*

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5278, 09-23-03)*

14-02-03. Definitions. The following definitions represent the meanings of terms as they are used in these regulations:

All words used in the present tense include the future tense. All words in the plural number include the singular number, and all words in the singular number include the plural number, unless the natural construction of the wording indicates otherwise. The word "building" includes the word "structure". The word "shall" is mandatory and not directory. The word "used" shall be deemed also to include "designed, intended or arranged to be used". Unless otherwise specified, all

distances shall be measured horizontally. The word "city" means the City of Bismarck, North Dakota; the term "board of city commissioners" means the board of city commissioners of said city; the term "board of adjustment" means the board of adjustment of said city; the term "city planning commission" means the city planning and zoning commission of said city; the term "board of county commissioners" means the Burleigh County Board of Commissioners; all officials referred to herein refer to the current appointed officials of said city or their authorized representatives.

Accessory Building: See "Building-Accessory".

Accessory Dwelling Unit: A separate and complete dwelling unit established in conjunction with, and ancillary to, the principal single-family dwelling unit, whether within the same structure as the principal unit or within a detached accessory structure on the same lot or parcel. An accessory dwelling unit contains one bedroom, kitchen and bathroom facilities, and a separate exterior entrance.

Accessory Use: A use or structure that is clearly incidental to and customarily found in connection with a principal structure or use; is ancillary in purpose to the principal building or uses; contributes to the comfort, convenience or necessity of occupants of the principal use; and is located on the same lot and in the same zoning district as the principal use.

Adult Bookstore: An enclosed building having a substantial or significant portion of its stock in trade, books, magazines, or other periodicals which are distinguished or characterized by the emphasis on matter depicting or describing specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas, for observation by patrons therein in return for payment of a consideration, irrespective of the numbers of patrons who may be able to view the presentation at one time.

Adult Care Facility. A free-standing facility providing care for more than twelve (12) frail, physically, cognitively and/or functionally impaired adults in a protective setting for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day. An adult care facility may also be located within a hospital, care center or nursing home as an accessory use. Educational and training programs for cognitively and/or functionally impaired adults in a protective setting for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day is not defined as an adult care facility.

Adult Cinema: An enclosed building used on a regular basis for presenting pictorial materials or other visual images by way of direct or indirect projection, which materials are distinguished or characterized by an emphasis on the depiction of specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas, for observation by patrons therein in return for payment of a consideration, irrespective of the number of patrons who may be able to view the presentation at one time.

Adult Entertainment Center: An adult bookstore or adult cinema, or any establishment allowing any performance, entertainment or appearance, live or

otherwise, of any specified anatomical areas or specified sexual activities on the premises, excluding licensed liquor premises.

(For the purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply to the foregoing terms:

"Specified anatomical areas":

(1) Less than completely and opaquely covered:

(a) Human genitals, pubic region;

(b) Buttocks;

(c) Female breast below a point immediately above the top of the areola; and

(2) Human male genitals in a discernibly turgid state, even if completely and opaquely covered.

"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 of human genitals, pubic region, buttock or female breast.)

Agency Foster Home For Adults: A residential home in which foster care for adults is regularly provided by professional staff trained to provide services to older adults or adults with a disability, to four or fewer adults who are not related by blood or marriage to the owner or lessee, for hire or compensation that is licensed by the State of North Dakota.

Agriculture: The science or practice of cultivating the soil, producing crop, and raising livestock.

Agriculture Recreation, Minor: Any agricultural-related use that combines agriculture production with commercial recreation uses that are ancillary to the primary agricultural use. Such uses include education related events and tours, farm to table dinners, pumpkin patches, u-pick produce, Christmas tree farm, corn maze, and hayrides for someone other than the property owner. Minor agriculture recreation uses shall not exceed an occupancy of seventy-five (75) people at any one time.

Agriculture Recreation, Major: Any agricultural-related use that combines agriculture production with commercial recreation uses that are ancillary to the

primary agricultural use. Such uses include but are not limited to education related events and tours, a celebration, ceremony, wedding, reception, corporate function, u-pick produce, Christmas tree farm, pumpkin patches, corn maze and hayrides for someone other than the property owner. A Major agriculture recreation use shall not exceed an occupancy of two-hundred fifty (250) people at any one time and shall not exceed thirty (30) days per calendar year.

**Alley:** A strip of land, dedicated to public use, primarily to provide vehicular service access to the side or rear of properties otherwise abutting on a street.

**Animal Feeding Operation:** A place where: 1) livestock have been, are, or will be confined, concentrated and fed for forty-five (45) or more days in any twelve (12) month period; 2) pasture, crops, or other vegetation are not normally managed or sustained for grazing during the normal growing season; and 3) animal waste or manure accumulates. All such operations containing more than three hundred (300) animal units, including an animal wintering operation, shall be defined as an animal feeding operation. Adjoining animal feeding operations under the common ownership are considered to be one animal feeding operation if they use common areas or systems for manure handling. An animal feeding operation in place and operating on the date this ordinance amendment is effective shall be considered an existing animal feeding operation and shall not be allowed to expand by any number of animal units.

The following table outlines the maximum number of livestock allowed before the operation is considered an animal feeding operation, based on animal unit equivalents (AUE) for various types of livestock:

<u>Livestock Type</u>	<u>AUE</u>	<u>Maximum Number Allowed (300 AUE)</u>
Horse	2.00	150
Dairy Cow	1.33	225
Mature Beef	1.00	300
Beef Feeder-Finishing	1.00	300
Beef Feeder-Backgrounding	0.75	400
Mature Bison	1.00	300
Bison Feeder	1.00	300
Elk	1.00	300
Swine, >55 lbs.	0.40	750
Swine, Nursery	0.10	3,000
Sheep	0.10	3,000
Goose or Duck	0.20	1,500
Turkey	0.0182	16,500
Chicken	0.01	30,000

**Animal services, non-veterinary:** A commercial establishment which provides animal related services such as boarding/kenneling, grooming, and training services

for, and/or the sale of, customary household pets including, but not limited to, dogs, cats, other small mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. The establishments do not provide any service related to veterinary medicine, dentistry, or surgery, but may include commercial breeding operations. These establishments are further categorized into three classes:

- (a) Class 1: These establishments conduct the sale of, and provide services such as training and grooming for, customary household pets.
- (b) Class 2: In addition to all of the services provided by Class 1, these establishments provide animal boarding services entirely enclosed within the building.
- (c) Class 3: In addition to all of the services provided by Class 1, these establishments provide animal boarding services with an outdoor exercise or recreation area and may provide commercial breeding services.

**Animal Wintering Operation:** The confinement of cattle or sheep used or kept for breeding purposes in a feedlot or sheltered area at any time between October 15 and May 15 of each production cycle under circumstances in which these animals do not obtain a majority of their feed and nutrients from grazing. The term includes the weaned offspring of cattle and sheep, but it does not include: 1) breeding operations of more than three hundred (300) animal units or 2) weaned offspring which are kept longer than one hundred-twenty (120) days and that are not retained for breeding purposes.

**Auditor's Plat:** See "Plat-Auditor's".

**Basement:** That portion of a building below the first story joists, the floor of which is more than one-half clear ceiling height below the adjacent finished grade level.

**Bio Swale.** Landscape elements designed to concentrate or remove silt and pollution from surface water runoff.

**Block:** A unit of land bounded by streets or by a combination of streets and public land, railroad rights-of-way, waterways or any other barrier to the continuity of development.

**Bluff:** A topographic feature such as a hill, cliff or embankment having the following characteristics:

- (1) Part or all of the feature is located adjacent to the Missouri River;

(2) The slope rises at least 25 feet above the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River;

(3) The grade of the slope from the toe of the bluff to a point 25 feet or more above the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River averages 30 percent or greater; and

(4) The slope drains towards the Missouri River.

An area with an average slope of less than 18 percent over a horizontal distance of 50 feet or more shall not be considered part of a bluff.

Bluff, Toe Of The: The lower point of a 50-foot horizontal segment with an average slope exceeding 18 percent.

Bluff, Top Of The: The higher point of a 50-foot horizontal segment with an average slope exceeding 18 percent.

Brewery: A facility that manufactures over 10,000 barrels (31 gallons/barrel = 310,000 gallons) of fermented malt beverages per year for wholesale with no direct sales to the general public.

Brewer Taproom: A facility that manufactures no more than 25,000 barrels of fermented malt beverage per year for wholesale, sale directly to consumer or for consumption on the premises. A brewer taproom may be co-located within a restaurant or a separate stand-alone facility.

Buffer Zone: A strip of land, identified in the zoning ordinance, established to protect one type of land use from another with which it is incompatible.

Building: Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

Building-Accessory: A permanent, or semi-permanent, ancillary building or structure, the use of which is customarily incidental to that of a principal building on the same lot, including, without limitation, garages, storage sheds, playhouses, kennels, residential greenhouses, tent-like structures, or similar structures, storm or civil defense shelter, radio towers, satellite receiving or transmitting stations or antennas, and other structures, towers, antenna, ornaments or devices.

Building-Integrated Solar Energy System: Any active solar energy system that is an integral part of a principal or accessory building, rather than a separate mechanical device, replacing or substituting for an architectural or structural component of the building. Building-integrated systems include but are not limited to photovoltaic or hot water solar energy systems that are contained within roofing materials, windows, skylights, and awnings.

**Building Official:** The person designated by the Director of Community Development to administer and enforce the City's building regulations and other duties as specified in this chapter.

**Building-Principal:** A building occupied by the principal use of the lot on which it is situated.

**Building Line:** A line established in general, parallel to the front street line over which no part of a building shall project, except as otherwise provided by this ordinance.

**Carnival:** Any entertainment activity utilizing rides, side shows, games of skill, or any combination thereof, designed for participation by the public.

**Central Sewer System:** A system designed and constructed to allow for the disposal of sewerage from more than one user. Each system must be approved by the North Dakota State Health Department and the city engineer. Central sewer systems are intended for use on urban lots.

**Child Care Center:** Also known as a day care center, a child care center is a free-standing facility offering care, maintenance, and supervision for hire or compensation, for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day, for more than twelve (12) children under the age of twelve (12) years, and licensed by the North Dakota Department of Human Services as an early childhood program. The following shall not be considered a child care center: 1) child care provided in any educational facility, whether public or private, in grade one or above; 2) child care, preschool, kindergarten, and pre-kindergarten services provided to children under six (6) years of age in any educational facility through a program approved by the North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction; 3) child care provided in facilities operated in connection with a religious facility, business, or organization where children are cared for during periods of time not exceeding four (4) continuous hours while the child's parent, guardian or custodian is attending religious services or is engaged in other activities on the premises; 4) schools or classes for religious instruction conducted by religious orders, Sunday schools, weekly catechism or other classes for religious instruction; 5) sporting events, practices for sporting events, or sporting or physical activities conducted under the supervision of an adult; and 6) child care provided in a medical facility by medical personnel to children who are ill.

**Circus:** Any traveling entertainment event to be held in an open area or temporary structure involving acrobats, wild animals, events of skill, or any combination thereof, and designed for participation of the public as spectators.

**Commercial School:** Any educational facility owned and operated by a nonpublic sponsor and designed to provide occupational training in a job-related skill or craft.

**Commercial Parking Lot:** Any parking facility in which charges are made for vehicular parking privileges.

Comprehensive plan: A statement in documented text setting forth explicit goals, objectives, policies and standards of the jurisdiction to guide public and private development.

Data Center: Any facility that primarily contains electronic equipment used to process, store, and transmit digital information. Uses that include data processing as ancillary to the principal use on the property shall not be considered a Data Center.

Density: The number of families residing on, or dwelling units developed on, an acre of land.

Domestic Distillery: A facility that manufactures less than 25,000 gallons of spirits per year produced on-site and available for wholesale, for sale directly to consumers on-site, or sale to other domestic distilleries on-site. A domestic distillery may be co-located within a restaurant or a separate stand-alone facility.

Downtown Design Review Committee: The person or persons designated by the City of Bismarck to administer and apply the Downtown Design Guidelines for all new construction projects, building addition projects, exterior building renovation projects and historic restoration projects within the DC – Downtown Core and DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts. The Renaissance Zone Authority and its Technical Advisors have been designated as the Downtown Design Review Committee.

Drive-in Restaurant: Any establishment dispensing food or drink where the customers are served in their cars, pick up such food or drink by driving by a pass-out window, or where they step out of the automobile briefly to pick up food or drink.

Dwelling: A building or portion thereof arranged or designed to provide living facilities for one or more families. The term "dwelling" shall not be deemed to include transient housing facilities.

Dwelling-Group: In general, a building in which several unrelated individuals or families permanently reside, but in which individual cooking facilities are not provided for the individual persons or families. Specifically, "group dwelling" shall include rooming houses, fraternity house, sorority house, dormitory, halfway house and private club in which one or more members have a permanent residence. "Group dwelling" shall not be deemed to include uses such as a hotel, motel, mobile home park, sanitarium, hospital or nursing home.

Dwelling-Multifamily: A building containing three or more dwelling units or a group of two or more buildings on a single parcel with each containing at least two dwelling units.

Dwelling-Multifamily High Rise: A building containing over three dwelling units with a height of over sixty feet.

**Dwelling-Single-Family:** A building containing only one dwelling unit designed to be located on a permanent perimeter foundation and, if site built, constructed in accordance with the provisions of the applicable City codes governing construction; or, if manufactured off site, constructed in accordance with either the City codes governing construction or the HUD Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (24 CFR 3280). All single-family dwellings shall be considered and taxed as real property, as provided by law. Each single-family dwelling shall have a minimum width of twenty (20) feet, a minimum depth of twenty (20) feet, and a minimum ceiling height of seven (7) feet, six (6) inches. A manufactured home that meets all of the requirements herein is classified as a single family dwelling.

**Dwelling-Two-Family:** A building containing only two dwelling units.

**Dwelling Unit:** A building or portion thereof providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

**Easement:** A grant by the property owner of the use of land by the public, or by one or more persons or corporations for a specific purpose or purposes.

**Extraterritorial Jurisdiction:** The territorial zoning and subdivision authority of the City which extends to all unincorporated land located within four (4) miles of the corporate limits of the City as authorized by the North Dakota Century Code.

**Fair:** See "Carnival".

**Family:** One or more persons related by blood, adoption, marriage, or foster care for children, living and cooking together as a single housekeeping unit; or, a number of persons, but not exceeding four, living together as a single housekeeping unit, though not related by blood, adoption, marriage, or foster care for children. In accordance with the provisions of NDCC 25-16-13, a group home serving six or fewer developmentally disabled persons is classified as a family in all single-family residential districts (RR, RR5, and R5), and a group home serving eight or fewer developmentally disabled persons is classified as a family in all other residential zoning districts.

**Family Foster Home For Adults:** An occupied private residence in which foster care for adults is regularly provided by the owner or lessee of the residence, to four or fewer adults who are not related by blood or marriage to the owner or lessee, for hire or compensation that is licensed by the State of North Dakota.

**Family Foster Home For Children.** An occupied private residence in which foster care for children is regularly provided by the owner or lessee thereof to no more than four children, unless all children in foster care are related to each other by blood or marriage, in which case such limitation does not apply.

**Filling Station:** A building or lot having pumps and storage tanks where fuels, oils and/or accessories for motor vehicles are dispensed, sold or offered for sale at retail only; repair service is incidental; and no storage or parking space is offered for rent.

**Floodplain:** The channel and the relatively flat area adjoining the channel of a natural stream or river which has been or may be covered by floodwater.

**Floodway:** The channel of a natural stream or river and portions of the floodplain adjoining the channel, which are reasonably required to carry and discharge the floodwater or flood flow of any natural stream or river.

**Foster Care For Adults:** The provision of food, shelter, security and safety, guidance, and comfort on a twenty-four hour per day basis, in the residential home of a caregiver or agency, to an individual age eighteen or older, who is unable, neglects, or refuses to provide for the individual's own care.

**Foster Care For Children.** The provision of substitute parental child care for those children who are in need of care for which the child's parent, guardian, or custodian is unable, neglects, or refuses to provide, and includes the provision of food, shelter, security, and safety guidance and comfort on a twenty-four hour basis, to one or more children under twenty-one years of age to safeguard the child's growth and development and to minimize and counteract hazards to the child's emotional health inherent in the separation from the child's family. Foster care may be provided in a family foster home, group home, or residential child care facility.

**Funeral Home:** A facility used for pre-burial preparations of human cadavers including but not limited to a mortuary, crematorium, chapel, viewing area, vehicular storage, parking, but not including burial facilities.

**Functional Classification:** The process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes, or systems, according to the character of service they are intended to provide.

**Garage-Private:** An accessory building or part of a principal building used primarily for the storage of motor vehicles customarily accessory to the principal use.

**Garage-Public:** A building or premises which is operated for commercial purposes and used for the storage, care or repair of motor vehicles, but a "public garage" shall not be used for the storage of dismantled or wrecked motor vehicles, parts thereof, or junk.

**Group-Use:** See "Use Group".

**Group dwelling:** See "Dwelling-Group".

**Height of Building:** The vertical distance measured from:

The average finished ground level adjoining the building at all exterior walls (measured at fixed intervals around the base of the structure)

To:

- (a) the level of the highest point at the roof beams of flat roofs, or roofs including not more than one (1) inch of vertical rise to one (1) foot of horizontal travel,
- (b) the deck line of mansard roofs; or
- (c) the mean height level of the top of the main plate and highest ridge for other roofs. And when a building has multiple roofs, use the roof with the tallest ridge/height to calculate total building height.

Home Occupation: A business, business activity, profession, occupation, or trade activity occurring on a residential property that is conducted by at least one or more occupants of the residence, as an accessory use to the principal residential use of the dwelling, for economic gain other than agriculture or rental for residential occupation. Improvements made to a residential property shall not be considered activity of a home occupation.

Hotel: A building in which lodging, with or without meals, is provided and offered to the public for compensation, and which is open to transient guests. Hotels include motels and automobile courts, but do not include group dwellings as defined herein.

Improvements: Street grading and surfacing, with or without curbs and gutters, sidewalks, crosswalks, watermains, sanitary and storm sewers, culverts, bridges and street trees.

In-Home Child Care. A home occupation licensed by the State of North Dakota, or exempt from said licensing requirements, to provide early childhood services of care, supervision, education, or guidance of a child or children.

Interstate: Roadway which provides rapid movement of large traffic volumes between major population centers and other arterials. Interstates are multi-lane divided highways with grade separations at all crossroads, full access control and no parking. The locations of roadways classified as interstates shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

Junkyard: The use of any part of any premises whether inside or outside of a building for the storage of, keeping or abandonment of junk, including scrap metals, rags, paper or other scrap material, used lumber, salvage house wrecking and used structural steel material, and equipment or for dismantling. Demolition or

storage of unlicensed or abandoned automobiles or other vehicles, or machinery or parts thereof, is included in this definition.

**Lot:** The word "lot" when used alone shall mean, unless the context of the article clearly indicates otherwise, a "zoning lot" as defined herein.

**Lot-Auditor's:** Land designated as a separate and distinct lot, parcel or tract on a legally recorded plat of irregular description.

**Lot-Corner:** A zoning lot at the junction of and abutting on two or more intersecting streets or a curved street when the interior angle of the intersection does not exceed one hundred thirty-five degrees.

**Lot-Interior:** A zoning lot other than a corner lot.

**Lot-Rural:** All lots not meeting criteria for urban lots as defined herein.

Lot areas may be readjusted in size when, on building sites, the soil classification can be shown to be other than that shown by the soil survey manual. Proof of such differing classification shall be furnished by a qualified soils engineer who has taken soil samples on the site in question. All changes in soil classification must be approved by the Director of Inspections. In no case shall a lot area of less than forty thousand square feet be allowed.

**Lot-Urban:** All lots serviced by a central sewer system and a water system which equals municipal water system fire flow capacities.

**Lot-Zoning:** A tract of land occupied or to be occupied by a principal building and its accessory buildings, together with such open spaces and yards as are required under the provisions of this article, having not less than the minimum area required by this ordinance for a zoning lot in the district in which such land is situated and having its principal frontage on a dedicated public right-of-way or a permanent, exclusive, nonobstructed access easement to a dedicated public right-of-way, not less than twenty feet wide. A "zoning lot" need not necessarily coincide with a "record lot" and may consist of: 1) a single record lot; 2) a portion of a record lot; or 3) a combination of complete record lots, or complete record lots and portions of record lots, or portions of record lots.

**Lot Depth:** The mean horizontal distance between the front and rear lot lines, measured in the general direction of the side lot lines.

**Lot Line-Rear:** The lot line generally opposite or parallel to the front street line. If a rear lot line is less than ten feet long, or the lot comes to a point at the rear, said rear lot line is assumed to be a line at least ten feet long, lying wholly within the lot, parallel to the front street line, or if the front street line is curbed, parallel to the chord of the arc of said front street line.

**Lot Width:** The mean width of a lot measured at right angles to its depth.

Low and Moderate Income Multi-family housing: Multi-family housing for persons who are income qualified that is usually supported by state and federal funding programs.

Manufactured Home: A factory built structure which is to be used as a place for human habitation, which is not constructed or equipped with a permanent hitch or other device allowing it to be moved other than to a permanent site, which does not have permanently attached to its body or frame any wheels or axles, and which bears a label certifying that it was built in compliance with the HUD Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (24 CFR 3280).

Manufactured Home Park: A plat of ground under single ownership or management which has been planned and improved for the placement of at least twenty mobile or manufactured homes which are used for dwelling purposes.

Master Plan: Any plan meeting the requirements of Section 40-48 of the North Dakota Century Code.

Microbrew Pub: A facility that manufactures up to 10,000 barrels (31 gallons/barrel = 310,000 gallons) of fermented malt beverages per year for wholesale or sale directly to the consumer or for consumption on the premises. A microbrew pub may be co-located within a restaurant or a separate stand-alone facility.

Mobile Home: A transportable, factory built home, designed to be used as a year-round residential dwelling and built prior to enactment of the HUD Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (24 CFR 3280).

Model Home. A residential dwelling unit constructed and maintained as a display for sales and leasing of similar units in a subdivision or site.

Mortuary: See "Funeral home".

Motor Vehicle Parts Salvage Yard: The use of a premises for the storage of motor vehicles for dismantling and sale of used parts thereof.

Nonconforming Use: The use of a building or other structure or of a tract of land which does not conform to the use or regulations of this title for the district in which it is located, either at the effective date of this title, or as a result of subsequent amendments which may be incorporated into this title.

Nonconforming Structure: A structure which does not conform to the regulations of this title for the district in which it is located, either at the effective date of this title or as a result of subsequent amendments which may be incorporated into this title.

**Off-Street Parking Space:** An off-street area for the parking of one motor vehicle and complying with all requirements of Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance.

**Ordinary High Water Mark:** The elevation of the Missouri River at a flow rate of 33,000 cubic feet per second. In areas where there are multiple channels, the ordinary high water mark is the landward extent of the floodway, as delineated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps for the City of Bismarck and Burleigh County.

**Overlay Zone:** A district that contains a set of zoning requirements that is imposed in addition to those of the underlying district. Development within the overlay zone must conform to the requirements of both zones, or if in conflict, the more restrictive of the two.

**Parcel:** a tract of land created by any means other than a subdivision platted pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC.

**Parcel of Record.** A parcel that existed as a separate and unique legal description prior to the effective date of this title. For property not under the City's jurisdiction on the effective date of this title, a parcel that existed as a separate and unique legal description prior to coming under the City's jurisdiction.

**Parking lot, on-site:** An on-site parking lot shall mean any land legally used for the parking of motor vehicles that is located on the same lot or parcel as the use it is intended to serve.

**Parking lot, off-site:** An off-site parking lot shall mean any land legally used for the parking of motor vehicles that is located on a different lot or parcel as the use it is intended to serve.

**Planned unit development (PUD):** A form of development usually characterized by a unified site design for a number of housing units, clustered buildings and providing common space, density increases, and a mix of building types and land acres.

**Plat:** Any subdivision platted pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC.

**Plat of Irregular Description:** A plat made for taxation purposes at the request of the County Auditor in accordance with Section 57-02-39 NDCC. Such a County Auditor's plat is not platting pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC, but rather is made for the convenience of tax officials in describing property on the tax rolls. A plat of irregular description may also be referred to as an Auditor's Plat.

**Portable Storage Containers:** Containers that are used for storage purposes and are also known as shipping containers, cargo containers, cargo-trailer containers, metal freight containers, metal containers designed for freight and cargo. This definition also includes semi trailers, buses, vans, and other types of non-permanent containers used for storage purposes hereafter referred to as

"container(s)." This definition does not include the following: dumpsters actively used for solid waste or recycling collections, contractors' construction trailers or containers being used at active job sites, or trailers normally associated with private use such as stock car trailers, boat trailers, utility trailers, campers or other similar equipment.

Principal building: See "Building-Principal".

Private Riding Arena: A building or portion of a building used exclusively for private equestrian activities by the property owner. A private riding arena must be ancillary to a single-family dwelling.

Racetrack: A course in which vehicular races, either competitive or non-competitive, are run. Such courses shall include racetracks, drag strips, go-cart tracks and other similar facilities.

Rain Garden: A planted depression or hole that allows rainwater runoff from impervious urban areas the opportunity to be absorbed prior to entering municipal stormwater facilities.

Record Lot: Land designated as a separate and distinct lot on a legally recorded subdivision platted pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC.

Recreation Facility - Personal: A place designed and equipped for the conduct of sports and leisure-time activities provided as an accessory use on the same parcel as the principal permitted use and designed to be used by the occupants of the principal use and their guests.

Recreational Vehicle: A unit primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping or travel use, which either has its own motive power, is mounted on, stored in or drawn by another vehicle.

Recreational Vehicle Park: A plat of ground of at least ninety thousand square feet under single ownership or management which has been planned and improved for the parking of recreational vehicles and tents regardless of whether or not a charge is made for such accommodation.

Religious Institution. A building that primarily provides a meeting area for religious activities and related social events. Examples include churches, chapels, temples, synagogues, mosques or any other building or portion of a building used for this purpose.

Row House: A building which has dwelling units erected in a row as a single building on adjoining lots, each being separated from the adjoining unit or units by an approved two-hour or equivalent fire-rated wall extending from the footing to and through the roof and where each dwelling unit is located upon a separate parcel. Each unit in a row house has private front and rear entrances and its own front and rear yards. Row houses are constructed side-by-side and the line(s)

dividing the parcel(s) is a straight line from the front property line to the back property line along the common wall.

Rural Lot: See "Lot-Rural."

Salvage Yards: See "Motor vehicle parts salvage yards."

Senior Citizen Housing: Multi-family housing designed specifically for occupancy by senior citizens in separate dwelling units within a single building or multiple buildings, including assisted living facilities. Facilities providing a higher degree of care (such as nursing homes and Alzheimer's facilities) are not considered senior citizen housing.

Setback Line: See "Building line."

Short Impact Zone: The land located between the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River and a line parallel to it at a setback of 50 feet.

Short-Term Rental: A residential dwelling unit or any portion thereof which is rented by or on behalf of the owner to the public for compensation for temporary occupancy for a period of less than thirty (30) consecutive days. Short-term rentals do not constitute a long term residence for a guest(s).

Sight Triangle: An area of unobstructed vision at the intersections of streets, alleys and driveways. The purpose of the sight triangle is to ensure visibility for operators of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians on intersecting streets, driveways and alleys.

For any use on a corner lot, the sight triangle is the triangle formed by measuring from the point of intersection of the two (2) property lines a distance of twenty-five (25) feet in both directions along the street right-of-way lines and connecting the points to form a sight triangle on the area of the lot adjacent to the street intersection.

For a commercial, industrial, institutional or multi-family use on a lot at the intersection of a street and an alley, the sight triangle is the triangle formed by measuring from the point of intersection of the two (2) property lines a distance of fifteen (15) feet along the street right-of-way line and a distance of fifteen (15) feet along the alley right-of-way line and connecting the points to form a sight triangle on the area of the lot adjacent to the intersection of the street and alley.

For a commercial, industrial, institutional or multi-family use with a driveway, the sight triangle is the triangle formed by measuring from the point of intersection of the property line adjacent to a street and the edge of the driveway a distance of fifteen (15) feet in along the street right-of-way line and a distance of fifteen (15) feet along the edge of the driveway and connecting the points to form a sight triangle on the area of the lot adjacent to the intersection of the street and the driveway.

For commercial, industrial, institutional or multi-family uses, the City engineer may require a greater sight triangle than indicated above on a case-by-case basis when it is warranted based on the posted speed and traffic volumes on the adjacent roadway, topography, sight distances or any other engineering concern.

Site plan: A plan, to scale, showing uses, structures and associated amenities proposed for a parcel of land.

Small Animal Veterinary Clinic: A facility in which the veterinary practice conducted is essentially an out-patient type of practice with an occasional confinement limited to domestic household pets.

Small Wind Energy System (SWES): A wind turbine of less than 25 kilowatts maximum output capacity and all appurtenant structures and equipment.

Solar Collector: A solar photovoltaic cell, panel, or array, or solar hot water collection device, which relies upon solar radiation as an energy source for the generation of electricity or transfer of stored heat.

Solar Energy System: Any active mechanical or passive thermal device or feature of a structure designed to collect, distribute, and/or store the sun's radiant energy. A system may consist of a solar collector, battery, and/or any appurtenant features. Passive solar collecting architectural features, such as windows and skylights, are not included in this definition.

Special Use: A use permitted in a particular zoning district only upon showing that such in a specified location will comply with all the conditions and standards for the location or operation of such use as specified in a zoning ordinance and authorized by the city planning and zoning commission or the Zoning Administrator (where allowed).

Steep Slope: Land where agricultural activity or development is either not recommended or described as poorly suited due to slope steepness and/or the site's soil characteristics, as mapped and described in the Burleigh County Soil Survey or other technical report. Where specific information is not available, steep slopes are defined as lands having an average slope over 12 percent, as measured over horizontal distances of 50 feet or more, that are not bluffs.

Street: A public thoroughfare which affords principal means of access to abutting property.

Street-Collector: Roadway which provides traffic movements between local roads and arterial roads and also provides direct access to abutting property. Collectors are often only two-lane roads but should be planned and designed to minimize on-street parking and direct driveway access.

**Street-Local Commercial:** Roadway whose primary function is to provide access to abutting commercial, industrial, or multi-family residential property. Local Commercial roads are typically two-lane roads with parking and direct access to adjacent lands within all districts other than R5-Residential and R10-Residential.

**Street-Local Residential:** Roadway whose primary function is to provide access to abutting residential property. Local Residential roads are typically two-lane roads with parking and direct access to adjacent lands within the R5-Residential and R10-Residential zoning districts.

**Street-Parkway:** A multi-modal roadway designed according to complete street principles to operate at moderate speeds. Parkways typically include one drive lane and one bike lane in each direction, and raised and landscaped median, and landscaped boulevards and sidewalks on both sides of the street.

**Street-Minor Arterial:** Roadway which provides through traffic movements between areas and links collectors with other arterials. Minor arterials usually have two to four lanes and may be divided or undivided roads, preferably with little or no parking, and limited access. The locations of roadways classified as minor arterials shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

**Street-Principal Arterial:** Roadway which provides for rapid movements of relatively large traffic volumes between large land areas, major traffic generators and other arterials. Principal arterials should have controlled access and are usually multi-lane roads with no parking. The locations of roadways classified as principal arterials shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

**Structural Alteration:** Any change in the supporting members of a building, such as bearing walls or partitions, columns, beams or girders, or any structural change in the roof, or dimension of the rooms therein.

**Structure:** Anything constructed or erected, which requires location on the ground or is attached to something having a location on the ground; including but not limited to buildings, advertising signs, billboards and poster panels; but not including customary fences or boundary or retaining walls.

**Subdivision:** The division of a tract or parcel of land into record lots for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale or of building development, including any plat or plan which includes the creation of any part of one or more streets, public easements, or other rights-of-way, whether public or private, for access to or from such lots, and/or including the creation of new or enlarged parks, playgrounds, plazas or open spaces. However, the division of land for agricultural purposes into parcels of ten or more acres, not involving any new street or easement of access, shall be exempted from these regulations.

**Townhouse:** A building which has dwelling units erected together as a single building on adjoining lots, each being separated from the adjoining unit or units by an approved two-hour or equivalent fire-rated wall extending from the footing to and through the roof and where each dwelling unit is located upon a separate parcel. Each unit in a townhouse has a private front entrance. Townhouses are constructed side-by-side and back-to-back and the lines dividing the parcels are straight lines from the front property line to the back property line along the common walls.

**Urban Lot:** See "Lot-Urban."

**Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB):** An official line, established by the city commission, within the city's zoning and subdivision jurisdiction that distinguishes between future urban and rural densities. Municipal infrastructure expansions could be expected within 10 to 15 years on land within the USAB. Proposed development within the USAB is subject to standards consistent with potential urban expansion and higher-density land uses. Changes to the USAB correspond with growth and expansion of the city and the city's capital improvements plan.

**Use:** The term referring to:

- a. Any purpose for which buildings, other structures or land may be arranged, designed, intended, maintained or occupied; and
- b. Any occupation, business, activity or operation carried on (or intended to be carried on) in a building or other structure or on land; or
- c. A name of a building, other structure or tract of land which indicates the purpose for which it is arranged, designed, intended, maintained or occupied.

**Use Group:** Two or more uses similar in physical characteristics, traffic generation, locational, utility or municipal service requirements, or generally compatible with other uses in the use group. Members of the several use groups herein established are specifically listed in this article.

**Uses Permitted:** Any use permitted by the regulations of this article. The term "permitted" or its equivalent shall not be deemed to include any nonconforming use.

**Variance:** A device which grants a property owner relief from certain provisions of a zoning ordinance when, because of the particular physical surroundings, shape or topographical condition of the property, compliance would result in a particular hardship upon the owner, as distinguished from a mere inconvenience or a desire to increase the financial return.

**Vegetative Clearing, Intense:** The complete removal of trees, shrubs or natural vegetation in a contiguous patch, strip, row or block.

**Veterinary clinic:** See "Small animal veterinary clinic".

**Veterinary services – large animals:** A commercial establishment which provides veterinary medicine, dentistry, or surgery to livestock, or similar animals, such as horses, cattle, and swine. Animals may be kept overnight in connection to the veterinary services provided, but this is generally ancillary to the veterinary services provided.

**Veterinary services – small animals:** A commercial establishment which provides veterinary medicine, dentistry, or surgery to customary household pets including, but not limited to, dogs, cats, and other small mammals. Animals may be kept overnight in connection to the veterinary services provided, but this is generally ancillary to the veterinary services provided.

**Yard:** An open space of uniform width or depth on the same zoning lot with a building or group of buildings, which open space lies between the buildings or group of buildings and the nearest lot line and is unoccupied and unobstructed, from the ground upward except as may be specifically provided in this article. In measuring a yard, the line of a building shall be deemed to mean a line parallel to the nearest lot line drawn through the point of a building or group of buildings nearest to such lot line, exclusive of such features specified as not to be considered in measuring yard dimensions or as being permitted to extend into a yard, and said measurements shall be taken at right angles from the line of the building to the nearest lot line. When a private roadway easement or access easement is located along a lot line, the yard width or depth shall be measured from the interior edge of said easement rather than the actual lot line.

**Yard-Front:** A yard extending across the full width of the lot and lying between the front line of the lot and the nearest line of the principal building. When a private roadway easement or access easement is located along a front lot line, the front yard width shall be measured from the interior edge of said easement rather than the actual lot line.

**Yard-Rear:** A yard extending across the full width of the lot and lying between the rear line of the lot and the nearest line of the principal building. When a private roadway easement or access easement is located along a rear lot line, the rear yard width shall be measured from the interior edge of said easement rather than the actual lot line.

**Yard-Side:** A yard between the side line of the lot and the nearest line of the principal building and extending from the front yard to the rear yard, or, in the absence of either side yards, is a front or rear lot line, respectively, no case being closer than four feet. The first two feet of the overhang shall not be subtracted from the allowable side yard spacing provided that the overhang is not closer than four feet to the property line. When a private roadway easement or access easement

is located along a side lot line, the side yard width shall be measured from the interior edge of said easement rather than the actual lot line.

Zoning Administrator: The person or persons designated by the Director of Community Development to administer and enforce the City's zoning and subdivision regulations.

(Ord. 4165, 07-21-87; Ord. 4424, 03-31-92; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4529, 07-06-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4631, 08-30-94; Ord. 4735, 11-14-95; Ord. 4756, 05-14-96; Ord. 4828, 03-25-97; Ord. 4880, 12-30-97; Ord. 4912, 07-14-98; Ord. 4936, 09-08-98; Ord. 5122, 07-10-01; Ord. 5139, 11-13-01; Ord. 5163, 04-09-02; Ord. 5228, 01-28-03; Ord. 5278, 09-23-03; Ord. 5287, 12-16-03; Ord. 5365, 10-26-04; Ord. 5468, 10-25-05; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5528, 06-27-06; Ord. 5540, 08-22-06; Ord. 5584, 03-27-07; Ord. 5599, 04-24-07; Ord. 5678, 07-22-08; Ord. 5689, 08-26-08; Ord. 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5764, 01-12-10; Ord. 5811, 03-22-11; Ord. 5859, 01-24-12; Ord. 5887, 05-22-12; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6020, 11-26-13; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6050, 05-27-14; Ord. 6118, 05-12-15; Ord. 6172, 10-27-15; Ord. 6190, 03-08-16; Ord. 6203, 05-24-16; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6310, 02-27-18; Ord. 6311, 02-27-18; Ord. 6424, 06-12-20; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21; Ord. 6505, 06-01-22; Ord. 6513, 08-03-22; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6579, 06-29-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25; Ord. 6643, 11-04-25)

#### CHAPTER 14-03 - DISTRICTS: USES

14-03-01. Division of City Into Districts. For the purpose of these regulations, the city is hereby divided into twenty classes of districts, which are established as follows:

RR	Residential (rural single-family)
RR5	Residential (rural single-family – 5 acres)
R5	Residential (single-family)
RMH	Residential (manufactured home park)
R10	Residential (two-family)
RM	Residential (multifamily)
RT	Residential (office – multifamily)
HM	Health-Medical
CA	Commercial (neighborhood)
CG	Commercial (heavy commercial)
MA	Industrial (light industrial)
MB	Industrial (heavy industrial)
P	Public
A	Agricultural
PUD	Planned Unit Development
FP	Floodplain
AN	Airport Noise
DC	Downtown Core
DF	Downtown Fringe

Reference: NDCC Sec. 40-47-02

(Ord. 4424, 03-31-92; Ord. 4936, 09-08-98; Ord. 5422, 10-24-05; Ord. 6234, 10-25-16)

14-03-02. Boundaries of Districts and Zoning Map. The location and boundaries of districts established in the city are shown on the official zoning map of the city. This map is entitled "Zoning Map of the City of Bismarck, North Dakota" and is on file in the office of the city auditor. This map is hereby made a part of this article. This map shall reflect the ordinances adopted prior to this date and all ordinances adopted after this date relating to the boundaries of zoning districts. The city auditor is authorized and directed to make the necessary changes upon the official zoning map of the city in accordance with such ordinances as they are from time to time enacted.

14-03-03. Interpretation of District Boundaries. Where uncertainties exist as to the boundaries of the various districts as shown on the zoning map accompanying and made a part of this title, the following rules shall apply:

1. District boundary lines are intended to follow street, alley or lot lines, or lines parallel to or perpendicular thereto, and such lines shall be construed to be such boundaries.

2. Where district boundaries are so indicated that they approximately follow lot lines and are not more than ten feet distance therefrom, such lot lines shall be such boundaries.

3. Where land within the city limits is not subdivided into lots and blocks or where district boundary lines are not approximately street, alley or lot lines, the district boundary lines on the zoning map shall be determined by the scale shown on such map, and where uncertainty exists, the district boundary line shall be determined by the planning commission by written decision. If land within the city limits has been or is subsequently subdivided into lots and blocks by a duly recorded subdivision map and the lot and block arrangement does not conform to that anticipated when the district boundaries were established, or property is resubdivided by a duly recorded subdivision map into a different arrangement of lots and blocks than shown on said zoning map, the planning commission after notice to the owners of property affected thereby and public hearing, may interpret the zoning map and make minor readjustments in the district boundaries in such a way as to carry out the intent and purpose of these regulations and conform to the street and lot layout of the ground. Such interpretations or adjustments shall be by written decision, and thereafter the copies of the zoning map shall be changed to conform thereto.

4. Any street, alley or railroad right-of-way, watercourse, channel or body of water, included on the zoning map shall, unless otherwise indicated, be included within the zoning district of adjoining property on either side thereof. Where such street, alley, right-of-way, watercourse, channel or body of water, serves as a boundary between two or more different zoning districts, a line midway in such street, alley, right-of-way, watercourse, channel or body of water, and extending in the general direction of the long dimension thereof shall be considered the boundary between zones. If a dedicated street or alley shown on the zoning map is vacated by ordinance, the property formerly in said street or alley shall be included within

the zone of the adjoining property on either side of said vacated street or alley. In the event said street or alley was a zone boundary between two or more different zones, the new zone boundary shall be the former center line of said vacated street or alley.

5. Any land or territory in the city which is not indicated on the zoning map as being in any district shall be classified as A-Agricultural.

14-03-04. General Provisions. In interpreting and applying the provisions contained herein, the requirements contained herein are declared to be the minimum requirements necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance. The provisions of this title shall not be deemed to interfere with, abrogate, annul or otherwise affect in any manner whatsoever any easements, covenants or other agreements between parties so long as those agreements are not contrary to any laws or ordinances of the United States, the State of North Dakota, and the City of Bismarck. Provided, however, that where this article imposes a greater restriction upon the use of buildings or premises, or upon the height of buildings, or requires larger open spaces than are imposed or required by other articles, rules, regulations or permits, or by easements, covenants or agreements, the provisions of this article shall prevail. Except as hereinafter provided, the following general regulations shall apply:

1. Permitted uses. No building or structure shall be erected, and no existing building or structure shall be moved, altered, added to or enlarged; nor shall any land, building or structure be used, designed or arranged for use for any purpose or in any manner not included among the uses hereinafter listed as permitted in the district in which such building, structure or land be located.

2. Zoning lot. Every building hereafter erected shall be located on a zoning lot as herein defined; and, except as herein provided, there shall be no more than one principal building on such lot.

3. Height. No building or structure shall be erected, reconstructed or structurally altered to exceed in height the limit hereinafter designated for the district in which such building or structure is located.

4. Area and yards.

a. No building or structure shall be erected; nor shall any existing building or structure be altered, enlarged or rebuilt; nor shall any open space surrounding any building be encroached upon or reduced in any manner except in conformity with the yard, lot, area and building location regulations hereinafter designated for the district in which such building or open space is located.

b. No yard or other open space provided about any building, for the purpose of complying with the provisions of these regulations, shall be considered as a yard or open space for any other building; and no yard or

other open space on one lot shall be considered as a yard or open space for a building on any other lot.

c. All yards required by these regulations shall be open and unobstructed to the sky, except as hereinafter provided.

d. All yards required by these regulations shall be provided through the application of front, side and rear yards and setbacks, with widths being measured at the closest point between a building or structure and a property line.

5. Nonconforming uses. The Building Official is authorized to issue a certificate of occupancy for a building only if said building fully complies with the zoning ordinance in effect at the date of issuance of the building permit and with the building code and with other applicable ordinances of the City of Bismarck.

6. Property abutting the Missouri River. Zoning designations for property abutting the Missouri River that is not within the corporate limits shall be limited to A- Agricultural, RR – Residential, RR5 – Residential, or PUD – Planned Unit Development.

*(Ord. 5287, 12-16-03; Ord. 5371, 11-23-04; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19)*

14-03-05. Supplementary Provisions. The regulations specified in this title shall be subject to the following provisions and interpretations:

1. Structures excluded from height limits. A building height limit set forth in this title shall not apply to belfries, chimneys, cupolas, domes, flagpoles, flues, monuments, radio towers, spires, tanks, water towers or similar structures, nor to bulkheads, elevators, water tanks or similar roof structures and mechanical appurtenances. No such structure shall have a total area greater than one third of the roof area of the building; nor shall such structure be used for any use other than a use incidental to the main use of the building. Nothing in this paragraph nor in this article shall be interpreted to permit the erection of any structure in violation of any applicable provisions of the Bismarck municipal airport zoning regulation ordinances.

2. Projection into yards. Steps, terraces and uncovered porches may extend into any minimum front or rear yard not more than six feet, provided the floor thereof is no higher than that of the first floor entrance to the buildings; and such features may extend into any minimum side yard not more than four feet, provided, however, that such feature shall not be less than four feet from any lot line. Uncovered decks and patios no more than 18" above grade at any point, exclusive of guardrails, may extend into any minimum side or rear yard up to the lot line, and may extend into any minimum front yard no more than 15 feet provided the deck or patio is at least 10 feet from the front lot line. Fire escapes and outside open stairways may project not more than two feet into any minimum required yard. Chimneys may extend into any minimum yard not more than two feet. Civil defense shelters may extend into any required side yard to within two feet of the lot line; they

may extend into a required front or rear yard not more than twelve feet. The roof of the shelter that extends into any required yard shall not extend over eight inches above outside grade or above existing basement height, whichever is the lesser. Accessibility ramps for one and two-family dwellings shall be exempt from the provisions of this section, provided they are constructed with the minimum encroachment necessary to accommodate access and are removed when no longer needed.

3. Fences, Walls and Vegetation. The building line and yard requirements of these regulations shall not apply to retaining walls or other walls or fences not over six feet in height; except that, on any lot in any district, no fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery, planting, off-street parking spaces, or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three feet above the curb level shall be located within the sight triangle, as defined in section 14-02-03. Deciduous trees may be planted within the sight triangle provided they are not an obstruction to vision between three feet and ten feet above the curb level. On a corner lot in a commercial or industrial district, no portion of a building or other obstruction to vision between two and ten feet above the curb level, except a post or column, shall be located within the sight triangle, except for buildings located in zoning districts with no minimum front yard setback.

It shall be unlawful for any person to erect or maintain any barbed wire fence in or along a residential area in the City of Bismarck. Further, any barbed wire fence erected in other areas of the city shall, along any public street or sidewalk, maintain the lowest strand of barbed wire at least six (6) feet above sidewalk grade, over the top of a non-barbed fence over private property and at least six (6) inches inside the property line.

4. Location of residential accessory buildings.

a. In any residential zoning district except RR and RR5 (see the RR or RR5 district for accessory building regulations specific to that district), all accessory buildings shall be located ten (10) feet from the principal structure, shall be located behind the line created by the front wall of the principle structure, and shall not be less than three (3) feet from the rear or side lot line while noting that structures less than five (5) feet from the side or rear lot line may require fire separation precautions in accordance with City of Bismarck Building Code.

1. For lots situated directly between two roadways, the yard adjacent to the roadway which provides access to the property's principal structure (such as by means of a doorway or driveway) is the front yard.

2. If the ten-foot distance from the principal building cannot be maintained, the structure must be built in accordance with the appropriate fire protection features as determined by the City of

Bismarck Building Code and the same setbacks shall be maintained as is required for the principal building.

3. Any uncovered deck, patio or porch shall not be considered as part of the principal building for purposes of this subsection.

b. A garage located in a rear yard and with an approach perpendicular to an alley must be set back from the alley line at least twenty (20) feet to allow for an additional parking space without obstructing the alley. When the approach to the garage is parallel to the alley and the car maneuvers on private property, the distance from the alley and side lot lines to the garage may be not less than three (3) feet.

c. Accessory buildings, including garages, located on a corner lot in a residential district shall be set back from the side street no less than the principal structure setback requirements for the district. For the purpose of this section, the side street is the street that does not provide access to the house by means of a door or driveway. The minimum setback from the adjacent lot line of the lot also facing the side street shall be no less than three (3) feet and be in accordance with the City of Bismarck Building Code when relevant.

d. All setback measurements for accessory buildings shall be made from the walls, or the outermost exterior structurally supporting features (such as columns), and the structures must be built in accordance with the City of Bismarck Building Codes with regards to projections from the walls such as eaves.

e. No accessory building shall be allowed on any utility easement.

5. Through lots. Any building constructed on any interior lot having a frontage on two streets shall be located so as to comply with the regulations governing front yards on both streets.

6. Mixed uses. Any building containing two or more dwelling units and space designed or used for commercial purposes shall comply with all requirements for multifamily dwellings in the district in which it is located. Provided also that no such building designed or used for mixed residential and other uses shall be permitted in any district in which a multifamily dwelling is not permitted.

7. Rural road building setbacks. On platted lots having frontage on a road built to rural standards, the setback shall be the same as for platted lots having frontage on a road built to urban standards, unless otherwise specified in the setback regulations of underlying zoning district.

8. All structures in all zones except RR, RR5 and A shall be built on urban lots when municipal water and sewer service is available within one hundred fifty

(150) feet or they may be built on urban lots when a central sewer system and a central water system offering water availability equivalent to urban system fire flow requirements are provided. All other structures and all structures in RR, RR5 and A zones must be built on rural lots.

(Ord. 4322, 4-24-90; Ord. 4426 & 4427, 03-31-92; Ord. 4875, 10-14-97; Ord. 4955, 12-08-98; Ord. 5122, 07-10-01; Ord. 5147, 12-18-01; Ord. 5215, 11-12-02; Ord. 5286, 11-13-03; Ord. 5372, 11-23-04; Ord. 5501, 04-25-06; Ord. 5668, 05-27-08; Ord. 5887, 05-22-12; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6109, 03-24-15; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24)

14-03-06. Incidental Uses. Permitted uses and approved special uses shall be deemed to include accessory uses and accessory structures that are customarily incidental to the principal use, subject to the following standards:

1. Accessory Uses and Buildings.

a. General Requirements. Accessory uses and buildings shall comply with the following standards and all other applicable regulations of this chapter:

1. The accessory use or building shall be incidental and customarily associated with the principal use or structure.

2. The accessory use or building shall be located on the same zoning lot as the principal use or building.

3. The accessory use or building shall not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of surrounding properties.

4. No accessory building shall be located within any recorded public easement or over any known public utility.

b. One and two-family residential accessory uses and buildings.

1. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with residential uses include recreational activities, raising of pets, hobbies and parking of occupants' vehicles.

2. Customary domestic pets are allowed in accordance with the provisions of Title 3 of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances, but not including horses, poultry or agricultural livestock except as allowed in Sections 14-04-01, 14-04-01.1 or 14-04-17 of this ordinance. No more than three (3) dogs or cats, four months of age or older are allowed.

3. Private swimming pools are allowed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 4-06 of the City Code of Ordinances.

4. All allowable accessory buildings for a one or two-family residence in an urban residential zoning district (R5, R10, RM, RMH & RT) shall be limited to a maximum area of twelve hundred (1,200) square feet and a maximum building height of twenty-five (25) feet; accessory structures containing accessory dwelling units are also allowed a maximum height of twenty-five (25) feet as described in Section 14-03-08.4(y).

Accessory buildings for the above computations shall include the following buildings: barns, stables, coops, storage buildings, and detached garages. Attached garages are not included in the above computations, provided the area occupied by an attached garage does not exceed one and one-half times the area of the footprint of the dwelling portion of the principal structure to which it is attached.

5. All allowable accessory buildings for a single-family rural residence in a rural residential zoning district (RR & RR5) shall be limited to a maximum area of four (4) percent of the area of the parcel. The maximum building height shall be limited to twenty-five (25) feet.

Accessory buildings for the above computations shall include the following buildings: barns, stables, coops, storage buildings, garden sheds, and detached garages. Attached garages are not included in the above computations, provided the area occupied by an attached garage does not exceed one and one-half times the area of the footprint of the dwelling portion of the principal structure to which it is attached.

6. All allowable accessory buildings for a single-family rural residence in the agricultural zoning district (A) shall be limited to a maximum area of four (4) percent of the total parcel. The maximum building height shall be limited to twenty-five (25) feet.

A private riding arena up to 22,000 square feet, in addition to the accessory buildings allowed in this section for a single-family rural residence, may be located on a lot in the A – Agriculture zoning district with at least thirty-five (35) acres area, and located outside the Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB), as a special use in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-08.

Accessory buildings for the above computations shall include the following buildings: barns, stables, storage buildings, garden sheds, and detached garages. Attached garages are not included in the above computations, provided the area occupied by an attached garage does not exceed one and one-half times the area of the footprint of the dwelling portion of the principal structure to which it is attached.

7. Construction of an accessory building for a single-family rural residence on a lot in a rural residential or agricultural zoning district (RR, RR5 & A) is allowed prior to the construction of the principal dwelling provided the following conditions are met:

a. A petition waiving any objection to the proposed outbuilding is signed by 60% of all owners of land within one-quarter mile of the property on which the building will be located.

b. Any residential accessory building constructed pursuant to this section shall be limited to one structure of no more than one thousand two hundred (1,200) square feet for lots less than 10 acres in size, one thousand eight hundred (1,800) square feet for lots between 10 and 34 acres in size, and two thousand four hundred (2,400) for lots over 34 acres in size.

8. All allowable accessory buildings shall comply with the applicable provisions of Section 14-03-05.

c. Multi-family accessory uses and structures.

1. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with multi-family residential uses include recreational activities, management offices, and parking of occupants' vehicles.

2. Customary domestic pets are allowed in accordance with the provisions of Title 3 of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances, but not including horses, poultry or agricultural livestock except as allowed in Sections 14-04-01, 14-04-02 or 14-04-17 of this ordinance. No more than three (3) dogs or cats, four months of age or older are allowed per dwelling unit.

3. Swimming pools for the use of residents and their guests are allowed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 4-06 of the City Code of Ordinances.

4. Accessory buildings shall be located on the side or rear of the principal building and are not permitted within any required front yard.

5. The design and construction of any accessory building shall be similar to or compatible with the design and construction of the principal building.

6. All allowable accessory buildings shall comply with the applicable provisions of Section 14-03-05.

d. Non-residential accessory buildings or uses in residential zoning districts:

1. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with non-residential uses in residential zoning districts, such as schools and religious facilities, include offices, athletic and recreation facilities, and maintenance facilities.

2. A parish house or similar residential facility is allowed as an accessory use to a religious facility, along with any accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with a residential use.

3. Signage shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 14-03.1 of the City Code of Ordinances.

4. All non-residential accessory buildings in residential zoning districts shall be subject to the applicable provisions of Section 14-03-05.

5. The design and construction of any accessory building shall be similar to or compatible with the design and construction of the principal building.

e. Non-residential accessory uses and buildings in all other zoning districts.

1. Health and Medical Uses. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with health and medical uses (health care facilities, not including free-standing medical clinics) include outpatient clinics, offices, laboratories, teaching facilities, meeting areas, cafeterias, housing for staff or trainees and maintenance facilities.

2. Office Uses. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with office uses, including medical clinics and financial institutions, include cafeterias, health facilities, maintenance facilities and other amenities primarily for the use of the employees in the building.

3. Institutional Uses. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with non-residential uses in residential zoning districts, such as schools and religious facilities, include offices, athletic and recreation facilities, and maintenance facilities.

4. Commercial Uses. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with commercial uses include offices, storage of goods for sale on the premises and maintenance facilities.

5. Industrial Uses. Accessory uses and buildings commonly associated with industrial uses include offices, cafeterias, health facilities, maintenance facilities and other amenities primarily for the use of the employees in the building.

6. Gate houses, guard shelters, and structures for parking attendants may be located in a front or side yard at least five (5) feet from the property line and outside of any required sight triangle.

7. All other accessory buildings and structures, including mechanical equipment and electrical transformers, shall comply with the applicable setbacks (front, side and rear) and lot coverage requirements for principal buildings within the underlying zoning district. The provisions of Section 14-03-05 of the City Code of Ordinances do not apply to non-residential accessory buildings in non-residential zoning districts.

8. The design and construction of any accessory building shall be similar to or compatible with the design and construction of the principal building.

9. Manufacturing and repair facilities incidental to the principal use subject to the following limitations:

a. Floor space so used shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the total floor space devoted to the principal use.

b. No motive power other than electricity shall be used.

c. No motor used on any machine for manufacturing and repair shall exceed one horsepower.

d. All operations shall be conducted so that no dust, odor, smoke, noise, vibration, heat or glare created by such operation is perceptible from any boundary line of the lot on which the principal use is located.

2. Home Occupations: A home occupation is permitted as an accessory use on any residential property in any zoning district, subject to the following provisions:

a. Permitting Process. Home occupations are further divided

into major and minor types based on standards contained in this section and subject to a separate approval process for each type:

i. Minor home occupations are permitted by right. A property owner may choose to request a letter to verify compliance with provisions of this section, and the Zoning Administrator will issue a letter of compliance based on information provided by the property owner and in accordance with a process set by the Zoning Administrator.

ii. Permitting for major home occupations shall vary by zoning district:

1. In the RR – Residential, RR5 – Residential, or A Agricultural zoning districts, major home occupations are permitted by right.

2. In all other zoning districts, major home occupations may be permitted by a special use permit, according to procedures set in Section 14-03-08 of this title.

iii. Home occupations that do not meet either major or minor standards may be permitted only in RR – Residential, RR5 – Residential, or A – Agricultural zoning districts by a special use permit, according to procedures set in Section 14-03-08 of this Title upon a finding that:

1. The issuance of the permit would conform to the intent of that zoning district and the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan

2. Requirements of the International Building Code (IBC) would be met, as applicable.

3. The proposed home occupation remains clearly subordinate to the principal residential use.

iv. More than one (1) home occupation may be permitted on any residential property. In such cases, all standards and permits of this section apply to the cumulative total of all home occupations on the property.

b. Minor home occupations. A minor home occupation is any

home occupation that meets all of the following standards:

i. The home occupation is conducted on-premises by one (1) or more residential occupants of the dwelling and no more than one (1) additional employee, business partner, independent contractor or any person affiliated with the home occupation that does not reside on-premises.

ii. Up to fifty percent (50%) of the floor area of the principal structure and up to one hundred percent (100%) of one (1) accessory structure is utilized by the home occupation, including storage of associated goods, provided that customary residential amenities, such as a kitchen and bathroom, are not removed such that the structure would no longer meet building code standards as a dwelling unit.

iii. There exists no outward visual evidence to indicate the presence of the home occupation to an uninformed person, such as alterations of the dwelling from a customary residential appearance, overnight storage of products or materials outside.

iv. No more than one (1) non-illuminated commercial on premise wall sign is placed on the property of no greater than three (3) square feet, attached to a primary or accessory structure on the lot, subject to all requirements of Chapter 14-03-01 of the City Code of Ordinances.

v. There exists no noise, odor, vibration, or electrical interference associated with the home occupation that is noticeable at the property line.

vi. Visits from customers, clients, or patients are by appointment only and limited to no more than one (1) party, or up to four (4) students for group lessons, at any time. Notwithstanding, multiple said parties may be present on the property during not more than four (4) events per year, with each event not to exceed four (4) days and no events occurring consecutively. At no time may a home occupation generate traffic significantly greater than that of a conventional residential use.

vii. Visits from customers, clients, patients, or deliveries

occur only during the hours of 7 AM to 11 PM.

viii. Not more than two (2) vehicles and/or two (2) trailers associated with the home occupation may park or stand on the property or street, if permitted, at any time, and any on-street parking shall meet requirements of Chapter 12-13-19 of the City Code of Ordinances or any requirements of Burleigh County, as applicable.

ix. Any vehicles, including trailers and equipment, associated with the home occupation must be parked in an orderly manner on surface suitable for parking, devoid of tall grass or other potential fire hazards, and debris from vehicles may not enter a public right-of-way, in accordance with Section 8-07.1-01(2) of the City Code of Ordinances.

x. No vehicles associated with the home occupation which require a Commercial Driver License (CDL) to operate in North Dakota may park overnight on the property or the street.

xi. There is no storage of any flammable, toxic, explosive, or otherwise hazardous materials to a greater extent than stored in a typical residential household, and no hazardous material is discharged into any sewer, storm drain, or the ground.

xii. The use is not an adult entertainment center, adult bookstore, or registered in North Dakota as a compassion center to dispense or produce medical marijuana.

c. In-Home Child Care. Notwithstanding provisions of Section 14-03-06(2)b(i), Section 14-03-06(2)b(ii), and Section 14-03-06(2)b(v), in-home child care may be permitted as a minor home occupation, subject to the following standards:

i. In any single-family or two-family dwelling, the in-home child care is licensed by the State of North Dakota as a Family Child Care or a Group Child Care for no more than twelve (12) children under the age of twelve (12) years, including any children of the operator/provider on the premises that are under the age of twelve (12) years.

ii. In any dwelling unit, the in-home child care is classified

by the State of North Dakota as a Self-Declaration Provider for no more than five (5) children under the age of twelve (12) years, including any children of the operator/provider on the premises that are under the age of twelve (12) years.

d. Major home occupations. A major home occupation is any home occupation that meets all of the following standards:

i. The home occupation does not meet all standards required of a minor home occupation.

ii. The home occupation is conducted on-premises by one (1) or more residential occupant of the dwelling and no more than three (3) additional employees, business partners, independent contractors or any person affiliated with the home occupation that do not reside on-premises.

iii. Up to fifty percent (50%) of the floor area of the principal structure, one hundred percent (100%) of accessory structures, is utilized for the home occupation, provided that customary residential amenities, such as a kitchen and bathroom, are not removed such that the structure would no longer meet building code standards as a dwelling unit.

iv. The home occupation may utilize one (1) contiguous outdoor area of up to five (5) percent of the total lot area or 10,000 square feet, whichever is less, including storage of associated goods, vehicles, equipment, and trailers. Notwithstanding, no limit on area of outdoor area shall apply in the A – Agricultural zoning district.

v. The principal residential dwelling is not altered from a customary residential appearance.

vi. Outdoor and overnight storage of products or materials associated with the home occupation may not be in a front yard and must be screened by fencing, buildings, or landscaping buffer yards, in accordance with Section 14-03-11(10) of the City Code of Ordinances, such that materials are not clearly visible from a public right-of-way and adjoining properties during all seasons. Trailers may be loaded with items.

vii. No more than one (1) non-illuminated commercial on

premise sign is placed on the property of no greater than three (3) square feet, plus one (1) square foot per acre in the lot, of sign area, subject to all requirements of Chapter 14-03-01 of the City Code of Ordinances.

viii. Noise ordinance requirements contained in Chapter 08-10 of the Code of Ordinance are met at all times, and there exists no objectionable odor, vibration, or electrical interference associated with the home occupation and above typical residential levels that is noticeable at the property line.

ix. Visits from customers, clients, patients, employees, or deliveries do not create an undue burden on traffic safety and congestion or on-street parking availability in the neighborhood. At no time may a home occupation generate traffic significantly greater than that of a conventional residential use.

x. Visits from customers, clients, patients, employees, or deliveries occur only during the hours of 7 AM to 11 PM.

xi. Any vehicles, including trailers and equipment, associated with the home occupation must be parked in an orderly manner on surface suitable for parking, devoid of tall grass or other potential fire hazards, and debris from vehicles may not enter a public right-of-way, in accordance with Section 8-07.1-01(2) of the City Code of Ordinances.

xii. Any on-street parking of vehicles associated with the home occupation shall meet requirements of Chapter 12-13-19 of the City Code of Ordinances or any requirements of Burleigh County, as applicable.

xiii. No more than one (1) vehicle associated with the home occupation which requires a Commercial Driver License (CDL) to operate in North Dakota may park on the property at any time. At no time may said vehicle exceed the load restrictions in place for any time of the year on the adjoining street or park on the street.

xiv. There is no storage of any flammable, toxic, explosive, or otherwise hazardous materials to a greater extent than stored in a typical residential household, and no hazardous material is discharged into any sewer, storm drain, or the ground.

xv. The use is not an adult entertainment center, adult bookstore, or registered in North Dakota as a compassion center to dispense or produce medical marijuana.

3. Model Homes. A model home is permitted on any residential property in any zoning district, subject to the following provisions:

a. Model homes are subject to all sign requirements for Non-Residential Uses in a residential zoning district.

b. Model homes shall be converted to residential use or removed upon complete development of the subdivision or site.

c. Model homes may contain ancillary office or indoor storage use provided the principal use of the property remains sales or leasing of homes in the subdivision or site and all building and fire codes of the International Building Code (IBC) are met.

4. Portable Storage Containers.

a. General Requirements. Container usage in all zoning districts as allowed in this section is subject to the following requirements.

1. Containers shall not occupy any required building setback area, landscaped area or buffer yard.

2. Containers shall not be placed within a sight triangle as defined in Section 14-02-03.

3. Containers shall be included in lot coverage computations.

4. Containers shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 8-08 of the City of Bismarck Code of Ordinances concerning rodent control.

5. Containers shall be subject to the provisions of the Fire Code concerning fire department access and hydrant blockage.

b. Portable storage containers in industrial zoning districts.

1. Portable storage containers are allowed in the MA and MB Industrial Zoning Districts.

2. A container that is not temporary in nature may only be used in a manner that would result in the container being subject to taxation as real property and subject to all applicable provisions of the Building Code and Zoning Ordinance.

c. Portable storage containers in commercial zoning districts.

1. Portable storage containers are allowed in the CA and CG Commercial Zoning Districts for the purpose of storage of seasonal merchandise during the following time periods: November 1 through January 15, and April 1 through June 15.

d. Portable storage containers – other requirements in non-industrial zoning districts. Container usage in any non-industrial zoning district is allowed only as follows:

1. Residential moving. Containers may be used for a period not to exceed 30 days for the purpose of loading or unloading furniture and other household goods associated with a residential relocation.

2. Loading & unloading. Semi trailers in the process of transferring goods may occupy a site for up to 48 hours for loading and unloading purposes.

3. Parking lot truckload sales, fund raising activities or similar promotional or charitable events which utilize containers are permitted for a period not to exceed 30 days within any 90-day period.

5. Accessory Solar Energy Systems:

a. Intent: Encourage investment in solar energy generation on all parcels in the city, both residential and non-residential, while providing that all such systems are safe and harmonious with the surrounding area.

b. Solar Access: an applicant may obtain solar easements from the adjoining property owners to preserve direct access to sunlight, as authorized by Section 47-05-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code. A permit granted by the City of Bismarck to install a solar energy system does not guarantee solar access.

c. Accessory Use: Solar energy systems are permitted in all zoning districts as an accessory use, subject to all requirements of this Section 14-03-06 and building code requirements of Title 4 of the Code of Ordinances.

1. An accessory solar energy system must be located on the same lot or parcel of land as the primary use it is intended to serve.

2. An accessory solar energy system is intended to produce energy primarily for on-site consumption but excess electrical power may be transferred to a power supply grid pursuant to utility company interconnection agreements.

d. Permits Required: The following permits shall be required prior to installation of an accessory solar energy system:

1. A building-integrated accessory solar energy system requires no additional permits beyond the building permit required for the structure.

2. A building permit must be obtained prior to installation of any building-mounted or freestanding accessory solar energy system. A building permit will be granted by the Building Official to any applicant who has demonstrated that all requirements of this section and other applicable sections of the Code of Ordinances have been met.

e. Building-mounted Solar Energy Systems: Any system that is mounted to the roof or attached to the wall of a principal or accessory structure shall meet the following requirements:

1. The building-mounted system shall not render the structure to which it is attached non-compliant with the height or setback requirements of the underlying zoning district.

2. No roof-mounted system may extend beyond the edge of a roof, and no wall-mounted system may extend beyond the façade of a wall.

3. A system mounted to a residential roof shall have a pitch oriented in the same direction as and no more than twenty percent (20%) steeper than the pitch of the roof on which the system is mounted, and no part of the system shall be higher than two (2) feet above the surface of the roof. Measurements are made from any position of an adjustable system.

4. A system mounted to a non-residential roof shall be no higher than twelve (12) feet above the surface of the roof, measured from any position of an adjustable system.

5. A system mounted to a wall of a structure shall not project more than five (5) feet from the structure.

f. Freestanding Solar Energy Systems: Any accessory solar energy system that is ground-mounted or pole-mounted and not attached to a structure shall meet the following requirements:

1. Freestanding accessory systems shall be counted toward lot coverage requirements of the underlying zoning district.

2. No freestanding accessory solar energy system on a residential property may exceed eight hundred (800) square feet in area per dwelling unit, except that such systems on lots or parcels zoned A - Agricultural, RR - Rural Residential, or RR5 – Rural Residential are permitted to be up to an additional two hundred (200) square feet in area per acre of land in the lot or parcel.

3. No freestanding accessory solar energy system on a non-residential property may exceed one-half (1/2) the area of the building footprint of the principal use on the lot or parcel, except that any system collocated with and above a required off-street parking lot shall not be counted toward total allowable area.

4. A freestanding accessory solar energy system must meet all setback restrictions that apply to accessory buildings in the zoning district in which it is located, as outlined in Subsection 4 of Section 14-03-05. Setbacks must be met for all positions of an adjustable system.

5. No freestanding accessory solar energy system may exceed twelve (12) feet in height, measured from any position of an adjustable system to the ground adjacent to the base of the system.

6. No freestanding accessory solar energy system may extend into or over a legally-recorded easement.

7. All abandoned or unused freestanding accessory solar energy systems in a state of disrepair shall be removed by the property owner within twelve (12) months of the cessation of operations. Removal of any foundation is not required.

g. Interconnection: The property owner of any solar energy system that will be connected to the electrical power grid shall receive authorization to enter into an interconnection agreement with the applicable utility company prior to applying for permits from the City.

h. Appearance: The following provisions apply when any part of an accessory solar energy system may be visible from any public right-of-way of any adjacent street frontage, except for alleys.

1. All electrical and plumbing lines serving a freestanding accessory solar energy system shall be buried.

2. All exterior electrical and plumbing lines, batteries, and other appurtenant features serving a building-mounted accessory solar energy system shall be either screened or painted/coated to match the color of adjacent roofing or siding materials. This provision does not apply to a solar collector.

3. The non-collecting side of a solar collector and other appurtenant features of any freestanding accessory solar energy system shall be screened from view of said public right-of-way with vegetation and/or fencing.

i. Information Requirements: Prior to the issuance of a permit, the Zoning Administrator shall be provided with any requested information necessary to prove compliance with this subsection, including but not limited to:

1. For freestanding accessory solar energy systems, a scaled and dimensioned site plan of the lot or parcel, including existing structures on the lot, location and orientation of proposed system, property lines, required setbacks, easements, rights-of-way, and a utility diagram applicable to the proposed system.

2. Specifications and/or drawings of the system and any component parts provided by the manufacturer, including heights and lengths at various positions for adjustable systems.

3. Acknowledgement from the applicable utility company that an interconnection agreement has been requested, if applicable.

6. Short-Term Rental. A short-term rental is permitted as an accessory use on any residential property in any district, subject to the following provisions:

a. Residential unit utilized for a short-term rental shall not be altered in a way that changes their general residential appearance.

b. A short-term rental may be allowed in an accessory dwelling unit.

c. A recreational vehicle or other vehicle or structure not classified as a permanent residential dwelling unit may not be used as a short-term rental.

d. Short-term rentals are subject to parking requirements in accordance with Section 14-03-10 (Off-Street Parking and Loading) of the City Code of Ordinances.

e. No noise, odor, vibration, or electrical interference associated with the short-term rental beyond what is typically permitted for residential uses is restricted in accordance with Chapter 8-10 (Noises) of the City Code of Ordinances.

f. Requirements of the International Building Code (IBC) would be met, as applicable.

*(Ord. 4235, 1-17-89; Ord. 4327, 4-24-90 & 5-01-90; Ord. 4341, 9-11&18-90; Ord. 4529, 07-06-93; Ord. 4634, 09-27-94; Ord. 4772, 06-25-96; Ord. 4880, 12-30-97; Ord. 5237, 02-25-03; Ord. 5372, 11-23-04; Ord. 5447, 07-26-05; Ord. 5468, 10-25-05; Ord. 5528, 06-27-06; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5902, 06-26-12; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6109, 03-24-15; Ord. 6203, 05-24-16; Ord. 6234, 10-25-16; Ord. 6235, 10-25-16; Ord. 6278, 08-22-17; Ord. 6283, 09-26-17; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6579, 06-29-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24; Ord. 6643, 11-04-25; Ord. 6651, 02-03-26)*

14-03-07. Use Groups. In order to carry out the purposes of this title, certain uses having similar characteristics are classified together as "use groups". In any district in which a use group is permitted, it is the intent of this title to permit any particular member of that use group to be located within that district. In any district in which a use group is not listed as a permitted use, it is the intent of this title to prohibit each and every member of that use group from locating within that district. These use groups shall apply to all zoning districts except the Downtown Core and Downtown Fringe district.

1. Group dwelling. A group dwelling is a building used for residential purposes, and in which:

a. The occupants are unrelated.

b. Separate cooking facilities are not provided for individuals or groups of individuals.

c. Persons residing in the building are domiciled more or less permanently, in contrast to transient residents characteristic of hotels.

d. The following uses are declared to be typical group dwelling uses:

1) Boardinghouse.

2) Convent, monastery.

3) Fraternity, sorority house.

4) Rooming house or dormitory.

5) Halfway house.

6) Nursing, convalescent or orphan's home.

2. Retail group A. A use in retail group A is one in which the principal activity is the sale at retail of merchandise and which:

a. Merchandise is not of such a nature as to be customarily taken away by the customer in a truck.

b. Includes no incidental manufacturing or processing carried on in such a manner as to provide offensive noise, dust, odor, glare, heat or vibration perceptible or measurable from outside the building in which the use is located.

c. All household merchandise shall be kept and displayed within an enclosed building.

d. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in retail group A:

- 1) Antique store.
- 2) Appliance, radio, television store.
- 3) Auto accessory store.
- 4) Book, magazine, newspaper store.
- 5) Butcher shop.
- 6) Camera store, art supply store.
- 7) Candy store.
- 8) Clothing, clothing accessories store.
- 9) Delicatessen.
- 10) Department store.
- 11) Drugstore.
- 12) Flower shop.
- 13) Furniture, office equipment store.
- 14) Gift shop.
- 15) Grocery store.

- 16) Hardware store.
- 17) Hobby, toy store.
- 18) Jewelry store.
- 19) Music store.
- 20) Notion, variety store.
- 21) Office supply, stationery store.
- 22) Package liquor store.
- 23) Photographic studio.
- 24) Shoe store.
- 25) Sporting goods store.
- 26) Bakery, in which nothing is baked except for retail sale on the premises.

3. Retail group B. A use in retail group B is one in which the principal activity is the sale at retail of merchandise, and in which one or more of the following factors is present:

- a. Merchandise is of such a nature as to be customarily taken away by the customer in a truck.
- b. Merchandise is of such a nature as to require fifty percent or more of the space within the building for storage of the merchandise.
- c. Merchandise is of such a nature as to be stored or customarily displayed outside a building.
- d. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in retail group B:

- 1) Auto, truck sales.
- 2) Farm implement store.
- 3) Feed, grain, farm supply store.
- 4) Trailer sales.
- 5) Commercial greenhouse.

6) Lumberyard provided all building materials are stored within a building or fenced area.

4. Service group A. A use in service group A is one in which the principal activity is the serving of food for consumption on the premises, personal service, household or clothing service, or the repair of small equipment and which:

a. Operations are carried on in such a manner as to produce no offensive noise, dust, odor, glare, heat or vibration perceptible or measurable from outside the building in which the use is located.

b. All household merchandise for repair, disposal or parts shall be kept within an enclosed building.

c. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in service group A:

1) Barbershop.

2) Beauty shop.

3) Dressmaker, tailor.

4) Laundry pickup agency.

5) Laundry, self-service.

6) Radio and appliance repair.

7) Food service establishment, exclusive of drive-in restaurant.

8) Shoe repair.

9) Watch, jewelry, camera repair.

10) Dry cleaning plants, providing service for wearing apparel only and complying with all provisions of the fire prevention code for a class four system.

11) Mortuary or funeral home.

12) Commercial child care facility for child care not in excess of four (4) hours in any twenty-four (24) hour period. Facilities shall provide at least thirty-five (35) square feet of play area per child and one (1) parking space per employee as well as one (1) space per ten (10) children.

5. Service group B. The use in service group B is one in which the principal activity is technical or vocational instruction by a private organization for profit, repair and service to motor vehicles (not including a filling station as defined herein) and other service uses not necessary in or appropriate to neighborhood commercial districts, and for which one or more of the following factors is present:

a. Repair or service operations are such as to produce some offensive noise, dust, odor, glare, heat or vibration perceptible or measurable from outside the building in which the use is located.

b. The use is one which, if placed on a lot adjacent to a lot in a residential district, would create an unusual safety hazard for the lot or other lots in said residential district, or would otherwise unduly depreciate the value of any lot in said residential district.

c. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in service group B:

1) Reserved.

2) Motor vehicle repair garage.

3) Commercial school, including business, secretarial, dancing, music, physical culture, technical trade school, adult education or vocational education.

4) Commercial parking lot or structure.

5) Tire and battery repair.

6) Furniture repair and upholstery.

7) Radio, television or communication broadcast and receiving facilities.

6. Office-bank group. A use in the office-bank group is one in which the principal activity is the conduct of commercial, governmental, financial, professional or management activities. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the office-bank group:

a. Bank.

b. General office.

c. Medical office, including doctor, dentist and chiropractor office, where patients are not kept overnight.

7. Commercial recreation group. A use in the commercial recreation group is one in which the principal activity is the furnishing of recreation, and for which one or more of the following factors is present:

a. Alcoholic beverages are offered for sale for consumption on the premises.

b. The activity is not operated by a governmental agency.

c. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the commercial recreation group:

1) Bowling alley.

2) Dance hall.

3) Pool or billiard parlor.

4) Roller and ice skating facilities.

5) Athletic facility.

6) Tavern, saloon, bar.

7) Theater within an enclosed structure, auditorium.

8) Coin-operated amusements and game devices provided they are accessible to minors and do not require a license under Chapter 5-03 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck.

9) Private or fraternal clubs.

10) Miniature golf course.

8. Wholesale group. A use in the wholesale group is one in which the principal activity is the sale of merchandise to individuals and corporations for resale to the public, and for which:

a. The merchandise offered for sale is stored wholly within a completely enclosed building.

b. No unusual fire or safety hazard is caused by the storage of the merchandise.

c. No live animals are sold.

d. No junk, wrecked automobiles, secondhand equipment or other salvaged materials or dead animals are stored or sold on the premises.

e. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the wholesale group:

- 1) Newspaper, magazine distributor.
- 2) Wholesale food and grocery sales.
- 3) Wholesale material sales.

9. Health-medical group. A use in the health-medical group is one in which the principal activity is related to the care or medical treatment of human beings and the training of medical staff. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the health-medical group:

- a. Hospital for human beings.
- b. Medical clinic.
- c. Medical schools.
- d. Adult care facility.

10. Education group. A use in the education group is one in which the principal activity is the education of children or adults by a public or private nonprofit agency. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the education group:

- a. College or junior college.
- b. Elementary school.
- c. High school or junior high school.
- d. Kindergarten.
- e. Private or parochial school offering a curriculum substantially equivalent to that offered by public schools.
- f. Student or faculty dormitory on college campus.
- g. Stadium, gymnasium or field house as an accessory use.

11. Public recreation group. A use in the public recreation group is one in which the principal activity is public recreation and which is carried on by a governmental agency. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the public recreation group:

- a. Community center.
- b. Golf course.
- c. Museum.
- d. Park.
- e. Playground or athletic field.
- f. Swimming pool.
- g. Ice arena.
- h. Zoo.

12. Farming group. A use in the farming group is one that is customarily carried on in non-urban areas. It is the intent of this article to permit as an integral part of any particular use in the general farming group all customary accessory buildings for breeding and rearing poultry and livestock and for the storage of feed and farm crops. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the farming group, provided the operation is not defined as an animal feeding operation:

- a. Field crop farming.
- b. Dairy farming.
- c. Fur farming.
- d. Greenhouse, commercial.
- e. Livestock raising.
- f. Farrowing operation.
- g. Poultry hatchery.
- h. Poultry farming.
- i. Riding stable.
- j. Roadside stand for sale of products grown on premises.
- k. Apiary.
- l. Tree, shrub or plant nursery.

13. Industrial group A. A use in industrial group A is one involving manufacturing or the storage and sale of heavy building materials or equipment and which conforms to the following requirements:

a. There is no unusual fire, explosion or safety hazard.

b. There is no production of noise at any boundary of this district in which such use is located in excess of the average intensity of street and traffic noise at that point.

c. There is no emission of smoke in excess of any density described as No. One as measured by a standard Ringelmann Chart as prepared by the United States Bureau of Mines; provided, however, that smoke of a density not in excess of No. Two on a Ringelmann Chart will be permitted for a period not in excess of four minutes in any thirty minute period.

d. There is no emission of dust, dirt, or toxic or offensive odors or gas.

e. There is no production of heat or glare perceptible from any lot line of the premises on which the use is located.

f. There is no activity which produces electrical, electronic or radio frequency interference beyond the boundaries of the property on which the activity is located.

g. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the industrial group A:

1) Manufacture, compounding, processing, packaging, treatment or assembly of the following materials and products:

a) Bakery goods, candy, cosmetics, dairy products, drugs, perfumes, pharmaceuticals, and food products except fish and meat products, sauerkraut vinegar, yeast and the rendering or refining of fats and oils.

b) Products from the previously prepared materials: Bone, cellophane, canvas, cloth, cork, feathers, felt, fiber, metals, stones, fur, glass, hair, horn, leather, paper, plastics, shell, textiles, wood and yarns.

c) Pottery and other ceramic products using only previously pulverized clay, and kilns fired only by electricity or gas.

d) Electric and neon signs, outdoor advertising signs, commercial advertising structures, and light sheet metal

products, including heating and ventilating ducts and equipment, cornices, eaves, and similar products.

e) Musical instruments, toys, novelties and rubber and metal stamps.

f) Welding and machine shop.

g) Laundry, cleaning and dyeing works, and carpet and rug cleaning.

h) Ice manufacturing.

i) Assembly of electric appliances, electronic instruments and devices, including the manufacture of small parts only, such as coils, condensers, transformers, crystal holders and similar products.

j) Soft drink bottling plant.

2) Storage building and warehouses including refrigerated storage.

3) Experimental and testing laboratories.

4) The following uses when conducted wholly within a completely enclosed building, or within an area enclosed on all sides with a solid wall, compact hedge or security fence, not less than six feet in height:

a) Building materials sales yard, including the sale of rock, sand and gravel.

b) Contractors' equipment storage yard.

c) Pipe storage yard, including sales.

d) Feed or fuel storage yard including sales.

e) Public utility service yard.

f) Sale, rental or storage of oil and gas well drilling equipment.

5) Concrete products, material storage and mixing.

6) Petroleum bulk plants, if in compliance with Title 11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck.

7) Manufacturing and storage of alcoholic beverages, including brewery.

14. Industrial group B. A use in industrial group B is one involving manufacturing or the storage, sale of products and material, and in which the operations create a greater degree of hazard or more annoyance than the operations of uses in industrial group A, but which conforms to the following requirements:

a. The design and the operation of the building, and design and use of the premises fully comply with all special requirements established by this paragraph and this article.

b. There is no emission of smoke in excess of a density described as No. Two as measured by a standard Ringelmann Chart as prepared by the United States Bureau of Mines; provided, however, that smoke of a density not in excess of No. Three on a Ringelmann Chart will be permitted for a period not in excess of four minutes in any thirty minute period.

c. There is no emission of toxic gases or fumes.

d. There is no production of heat or glare perceptible from any lot line of the premises on which the use is located.

e. The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the industrial group B:

1) Any use listed in industrial group A, provided that all other requirements of industrial group B uses are complied with.

2) Manufacture, compounding, processing, refining or treatment of the following materials and products:

a) Acetylene.

b) Alcohol.

c) Asphalt and bituminous products.

d) Brick, tile or terra-cotta.

e) Oilcloth or linoleum.

f) Paint, shellac, turpentine, lacquer or varnish.

g) Paper or pulp.

h) Petroleum products.

i) Plastics.

3) Any of the following uses provided that they shall not be located closer than five hundred (500) feet from any zone in which they are prohibited:

a) Cement, lime, gypsum, or plaster of paris manufacture.

b) Drop forge industry, manufacturing forgings with power hammer.

c) Fertilizer manufacturing.

d) Garbage, offal, bone or dead animal reduction.

e) Gas manufacture or utility regulating stations.

f) Electric generating plant.

g) Smelting of tin, copper, zinc or iron ores.

h) Soap manufacture.

i) Stockyards, feeding pens or livestock sale facilities.

j) Slaughter and packing of animals and meat products.

k) Tannery, curing or storing of raw hides.

15. Uses permitted in any district. The following uses are allowed in any district:

a. Utility service group. A use in the utility service group is one necessary for the safe or efficient operation of a gas, water, communication or electric utility or sewerage system for the benefit of the public, and is one in which the following factors are present:

1) The structure or use is necessary for the safe or efficient operation of the utility.

2) The utility which the structure or use serves is one available to the general public.

3) The design and location of the facility and structures are in compliance with all applicable requirements of this section.

4) The use is located on a lot no smaller in area than the minimum lot area required for the zoning district in which it is located.

5) Any building associated with the use complies with all setback regulations for a principal building for the district in which it is located. Structures and equipment other than buildings, such as those found in an electric transformer station, must be setback no less than 15 feet from the front property line in any zoning district, no less than 15 feet from the side or rear lot line in or abutting any agricultural or residential district, and no less than 10 feet from the side or rear lot line in any non-residential zoning district.

6) Wherever the lot on which the use is located adjoins a lot in any residential zoning district, a landscaped buffer yard no less than fifteen (15) feet in width is required along the entire length of any side or rear lot line adjacent to the residential zoning district. Said buffer yard shall be planted with two (2) shade trees, two (2) ornamental trees, and two (2) large upright coniferous trees per 100 linear feet in conjunction with site development. Alternative material types and numbers may be allowed in situations where there are concerns with site security. Minimum material size at the time of planting shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11(10) (Landscaping and Screening/Buffer Yards) of this chapter.

7) Proper security fencing shall be erected around the perimeter of the site where there is any safety hazard whatsoever for children or for site security purposes. Said fencing shall be at least six (6) feet high and may be placed within the required setback along a front, side, or rear yard provided said fence is not located within a required sight triangle and provided that the location of any gated entrance is set back at least twenty (20) feet from any property line.

8) For the proper operation of the utility, it is necessary that the proposed use be located on, or within a short distance of, the site on which it is proposed to be located.

9) The following uses are declared to be typical uses in the utility service group:

- a) Electric transformer station, but not a steam generating plant.
- b) Electric transmission line.
- c) Sewage pumping station.
- d) Water pumping station.

- e) Storm water pumping station.
- f) Water reservoir.
- g) Telephone switching or exchange station.
- h) Gas regulator stations, excluding stations emitting noise of more than fifty (50) decibels at any property line adjacent to any residentially zoned area.
- i) Radio or cellular communication tower.

b. Fire station. Fire stations are permitted as a principal use in any district as a necessity for the protection and safety of the public, subject to district requirements in which it is located. The design of the structure shall be compatible with surrounding structures in the district.

c. Railroad line or spur trackage.

*(Ord. 4325, 4-24-90 & 5-01-90; Ord. 4326, 4-26-90 & 5-01-90; Ord. 4428, 3-31-92; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5139, 11-13-01; Ord. 5205, 10-08-02; Ord. 5422, 05-24-05; Ord. 5501, 04-25-06; Ord. 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5944, 01-22-13; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6190, 03-08-16; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21; Ord. 6618, 04-28-2025)*

14-03-08. Special Uses. In order to carry out the purposes of this title, the Board of City Commissioners finds it necessary to require that certain uses, because of unusual size, safety hazards, infrequent occurrence, effect on surrounding area, or other reasons, be reviewed by the city planning and zoning commission and by the Zoning Administrator (where allowed) prior to the granting of a building permit or certificate of occupancy and that the city Planning and Zoning Commission and the Zoning Administrator (where allowed) are hereby given limited discretionary powers relating to the granting of such permit or certificate.

#### 1. General provisions.

a. The uses listed in this section are designated as special uses, and no building permit or certificate of occupancy shall be issued by the Building Official until the application for such permit or certificate has been reviewed and authorized by the city planning and zoning commission except that certain uses may be authorized by the Zoning Administrator.

b. The city planning and zoning commission shall not authorize the issuance of a building permit or certificate of occupancy until the applicant has appeared at a public hearing on such application, notice of the time and place of which hearing has been given in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the date of such hearing. Not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the scheduled public hearing, the City shall attempt to notify all known adjacent property owners within three hundred (300) feet

of the proposed special use. "Notify" shall mean the mailing of a written notice to the address on record with the City Assessor or Burleigh County Auditor. The failure of adjacent property owners to actually receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings.

c. Before approving the issuance of a building permit or certificate of occupancy for a special use, the city planning and zoning commission or the Zoning Administrator (where allowed) shall find:

1) The proposed use is in harmony with the purpose and intent of this title and with the master plan of the City of Bismarck.

2) The proposed use will not adversely affect the health and safety of the public and the workers and residents in the area, and will not be detrimental to the use or development of adjacent properties or of the general neighborhood.

3) The proposed use will comply with all special regulations established by this section, and all special conditions necessary for the safety and welfare of the public.

d. The city planning and zoning commission or the Zoning Administrator (where allowed) is authorized to impose any conditions on the granting of a building permit or certificate of occupancy for a special use as deemed necessary for the protection of the neighborhood and the general welfare of the public.

e. The city planning and zoning commission or the Zoning Administrator (where allowed) shall not authorize the location of a special use in any district from which it is prohibited.

f. The city planning and zoning commission or the Zoning Administrator shall not be authorized to permit the issuance of a building permit or certificate of occupancy for any special use if it is found that such special use would fail to comply with any of the requirements of this title or this section.

g. The city planning and zoning commission or the Zoning Administrator (where allowed) shall require the applicant for authorization of a special use to furnish any engineering drawings or specifications, site plans, operating plans or any other data necessary to appraise the need for or effect of such special use.

h. A special use granted under this article must be put into use within twenty-four (24) months of the granting of the special use or it shall lapse and the landowner must re-apply.

i. Special use permit applications that require approval by the city planning and zoning commission shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development by the specified application deadline and on the proper form. The following items shall accompany the special use permit application:

i. The applicable fee.

ii. Three (3) copies of a preliminary site plan at a scale of one (1) inch equals twenty (20) feet or less containing all items required by the Zoning Ordinance for each particular special use, unless waived by the Director of Community Development.

iii. A photographic reduction of the preliminary site plan described above designed to fit an 8-1/2 x 11 inch sheet.

2. Temporary uses (administrative approval). The Zoning Administrator is authorized to grant permits for certain temporary uses without a public hearing or approval of the city planning and zoning commission. All temporary structures used for the following uses shall be removed within fifteen (15) days after termination of the use. The following are temporary uses to which such regulations apply:

a. For a religious meeting in a tent or other temporary structure in a CG, MA, MB or A district for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

b. For the open lot sale of Christmas trees in a CA, CG, MA, MB or A district for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days.

c. For seasonal sales of nursery and bedding stock for a period of not more than ninety (90) days in a CA, CG, MA, MB or A district.

d. For sale of fireworks for a period of not more than thirty (30) days in a MA, MB or A district.

e. For sale of locally grown farm or garden produce in a CA, CG, MA, MB or A district of not more than ninety (90) days.

f. For temporary retail sales in a CA, CG, or MA district for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days.

g. For a show, circus, menagerie or carnival in a CA, CG, MA, MB, A or P Zone for a period of no more than ten days provided that proof of a bond or liability insurance as required by City Ordinance 5-03-08 is provided prior to the first day of the event and that no less than thirty days prior to the first day of the event the applicant shall submit an application for the event to the Zoning Administrator. Such application shall be accompanied by a fee, as established by the City, for each day of the event which shall be in addition

to any other license or inspection fees, and a site plan of the event showing at least the following details:

- 1) General layout with dimensions and legal description.
  - 2) Location and type of sanitary facilities. There shall be at least one toilet facility for each sex for every ten concessions.
  - 3) Circulation plan showing access points, pedestrian areas and parking areas.
  - 4) At least nine hundred square feet of area shall be required for each concession.
  - 5) No public right-of-way shall be utilized for any portion of the event without special permission of the Board of City Commissioners.
  - 6) No noise in excess of sixty decibels may be emitted after 11:00 p.m.
  - 7) No event may begin earlier than 9:00 a.m. nor continue later than 1:00 a.m.
  - 8) Each event which conducts, operates, manages, or sponsors any ferris wheel, merry-go-round, or other amusement ride shall post a \$500,000 bond or liability insurance as required by City Ordinance 5-03-08.
  - 9) Shows, circuses, menageries, or carnivals held at the Civic Center or the Missouri Valley Complex do not require a special use permit. Events held at those locations must still comply with all applicable City ordinances and adopted codes.
  - 10) The Zoning Administrator will provide a copy of each application for a temporary special use permit for a show, circus, menagerie, or carnival to the Police Department, Fire Department, the Building Official, the Traffic Engineer, and to the Environmental Health Administrator for events held within the City, and to the Sheriff, the County Engineer, the Building Official, and the Rural Fire Department for events held outside the City.
- h. For the placement of a temporary structure for a school or religious institution for a period of not more than twelve (12) months, provided the structure meets the setback requirements for the underlying zoning district, does not reduce the amount of required off-street parking, and meets all applicable building code requirements. The temporary use permit may be renewed for up to two (2) additional twelve (12) month periods, for a total of

not more than thirty-six (36) consecutive months, except as provided by the provisions of the North Dakota Century Code.

3. Permanent uses (administrative approval). The Zoning Administrator may issue special use permits for the following uses without a public hearing or approval of the city planning and zoning commission:

a. Veterinary services – small animals, may be permitted in a CG, MA, MB or A district as a special use provided.

1. All animal treatment shall be conducted within the confines of the clinic building.
2. In order to prevent objectionable noise or odor from being detected outside of the building, the facility must be maintained within a completely enclosed, sound-resistant building, the building must contain adequate heating and cooling, and the ventilation system must have filters incorporated.

b. Animal services, non-veterinary, shall be permitted in the following districts.:

1. Class 2: CA, CG, MA, MB, provided that:

a) In order to prevent objectionable noise or odor from being detected outside of the building, the facility must be maintained within a completely enclosed, sound-resistant building, the building must contain adequate heating and cooling, and the ventilation system must have filters incorporated.

b) A minimum amount of square footage per animal within the boarding facility is provided to the ratio of fifteen (15) square feet for animals less than thirty (30) pounds, and thirty (30) square feet for animals thirty (30) pounds or more.

2. Class 3: MA, MB, A, provided that:

c) In order to prevent objectionable noise or odor from being detected outside of the building, the facility must be maintained within a completely enclosed, sound-resistant building, the building must contain adequate heating and cooling, and the ventilation system must have filters incorporated.

d) A minimum amount of square footage per animal within the boarding facility is provided to the ratio of fifteen (15)

square feet for animals less than thirty (30) pounds, and thirty (30) square feet for animals thirty (30) pounds or more.

e) If any exercise yard, run or corral is maintained outside of an enclosed structure, they must be shielded from view, the sound muffled by a fixed and immovable barrier, and no residence or residentially zoned area may be located closer than one thousand (1,000) feet to any such facility. The minimum size of the outdoor space must comply with the area per animal ratio of subsection b) of this section.

4. Permanent uses (Planning and Zoning Commission approval). The city planning and zoning commission is authorized to grant special use permits for the following uses:

a. Airports. An airport or heliport may be permitted in any A, MA, MB or P district as a special use, provided:

1. The area shall be sufficient to meet the Federal Aviation Administration's requirements for the class of airport proposed.

2. There are no existing flight obstructions such as towers, chimneys or other tall structures, or natural obstructions outside the proposed airport which would fall within the approach zone to any of the proposed runways or landing strips of the airport.

3. There is sufficient distance between the end of each usable landing strip and the airport boundary to satisfy the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration or any other appropriate authority. In cases where air rights or easements have been acquired from the owners of abutting properties in which approach zones fall, satisfactory evidence thereof shall be submitted with the application.

4. Any buildings, hangars or other structures shall be at least one hundred feet from any street or lot line.

5. Adequate space for off-street parking of at least fifty (50) vehicles has been provided. If, in the opinion of the City Planning and Zoning Commission, off-street parking space for more than fifty (50) vehicles will be required, the commissioners shall increase this requirement.

6. The application for authorization of an airport shall be accompanied by a plan, drawn to scale, showing the proposed location of the airport; boundary lines; dimensions; names of owners of abutting properties; proposed layout of runways, landing strips or areas, taxi strips, aprons, roads, parking areas, hangars, buildings,

and other structures and facilities; the location and height of all buildings, structures, trees and overhead wires falling within the airport approach zone and less than five hundred (500) feet distant from the boundary lines of the airport; other pertinent data such as topography and grading plan, drainage, water and sewage, etc.

7. In its approval of the proposed airport, the city planning commission shall make at least the following two findings:

a) The airport is not in conflict with any existing element of a master plan.

b) The benefits of and need for the airport are greater than any depreciating effects and damages to neighboring property.

b. Cemetery. A cemetery, mausoleum or columbarium (except for columbarium allowed as an accessory use to a religious institution in accordance with this section) may be permitted in any A or P district as a special use, provided:

1. No graves shall be located less than ten (10) feet distant from any property line.

2. No public mausoleum, columbarium or cemetery chapel shall be erected within one hundred (100) feet of any boundary of the lot or parcel on which it is located.

3. The owners of any cemetery parcel which lies across any proposed major or secondary thoroughfare shown on a master plan of the City of Bismarck shall reserve and dedicate a right-of-way for such thoroughfare having a minimum width of one hundred (100) feet, or such greater minimum width as the city engineer of the City of Bismarck shall determine necessary in the fee simple to the City of Bismarck for highway purposes and those portions of said cemetery lying on either side of such dedicated thoroughfare shall be considered as separate cemeteries for the purpose of determining grave setbacks, landscaped strips, and building setbacks.

4. Crematoriums may be allowed as an accessory use to a cemetery, provided that no crematorium shall be located within fifty (50) feet of any boundary of the lot or parcel on which it is located. The addition of a crematorium to an existing cemetery requires a special use permit.

c. Golf driving range. A golf driving range not an accessory use to a golf course may be permitted in an A, CG, or MA district as a special use, provided:

1. The area within one hundred (100) feet of the range is not developed in residences.
2. Any floodlights used to illuminate the premises are so directed and shielded as not to be an annoyance to any developed property.
3. The driving range shall be arranged so as to keep golf balls from leaving the property, particularly near public rights-of-way.
4. Parking shall be provided to equal 90% of the facility's rated capacity.

d. Recreational vehicle parks. A recreational vehicle park may be permitted in any A or MA district as a special use provided all recreational vehicle parks hereinafter erected or altered shall conform to the following:

1. The minimum total area of the premises shall contain at least ninety thousand (90,000) square feet.
2. The site shall be well-drained and not exposed to objectionable noise or odors.
3. Each recreational vehicle space shall contain at least fifteen hundred (1,500) square feet and be at least thirty (30) feet wide. Each space shall be clearly defined on the ground by stakes or markers.
4. Recreational vehicle spaces shall be so arranged that no recreational vehicle will be parked less than fifteen (15) feet from an adjacent recreational vehicle. Recreational vehicle spaces adjacent to a major street or highway shall provide a setback of at least thirty (30) feet.
5. Access to recreational vehicle parks shall be directly from a major street or highway and such access shall be of a design that will minimize traffic congestion. The minimum street or roadway within such park shall be twenty (20) feet in width. Dead-end streets shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five (175) feet in length and the turning circle shall be at least eighty (80) feet in diameter.
6. All entrance and exit lanes within such park shall be lighted to provide an intensity of at least five (5) footcandles.

7. A recreational area shall be provided in each recreational vehicle park at a ratio of at least two hundred (200) square feet per space, with a minimum of five thousand (5,000) square feet per park.

8. All provisions for water, laundry, sanitary facilities, swimming facilities, fire protection, and electrical services shall be installed and maintained in accordance with all applicable city ordinances.

9. No recreational vehicle shall occupy any space for more than ninety (90) days continuously.

e. Filling stations. A filling station may be permitted in a CA, CG, or MA district as a special use provided:

1. The minimum total area of the premises shall be at least twenty-one thousand (21,000) square feet with minimum lot dimensions of one hundred forty (140) feet in width and length.

2. Pump dispensers shall have a setback of at least fourteen (14) feet from the property line.

3. The filling station building shall have a fifty (50) foot setback from property lines adjacent to public streets.

4. A filling station may front on only one arterial or collector street and may also be adjacent to a local street.

5. Ingress and egress points shall be maintained at not less than sixty (60) feet from an intersecting street corner of arterial or collector streets, and not less than forty (40) feet from intersecting street corner on local streets.

6. All repair areas, grease and wash racks shall be maintained within the principal building.

7. Rubbish bins and storage racks shall be maintained within a screened area only.

8. Adequate off-street parking must be provided for all operator equipment and at least one space for each two employees and at least five (5) spaces for each service stall or bay on the premises.

9. No storing or parking of wrecked or partially disassembled automobiles or trucks for periods of greater than ninety-six (96) hours shall be allowed.

10. Above-ground storage of petroleum products may be allowed only in MA-Industrial District subject to prior written approval of the Fire Department and adherence to the requirements of subsection p of this section.

EXCEPTION: LPG storage in any zoning district must meet all the requirements of Chapter 82 of the Uniform Fire Code.

f. Religious Institutions. A religious institution may be permitted in any RR, RR5, R5, R10, RM, or RT district as a special use, provided:

1. The lot area, lot width, front yard, side yard, rear yard and height limits of a religious institution shall conform to the lot, yard and height requirements specified for a principal building in the district regulations where the building permit is requested.

2. The ground area occupied by the principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed thirty-five (35) percent of the total area of the lot.

3. Space for off-street parking shall be provided as per section 14-03-10 hereof or as the city planning and zoning commission may require.

4. No application for a building permit or certificate of occupancy in any zone shall be approved unless there is included with the plan for such building a plot plan showing the open space designated as being reserved for off-street parking purposes to be provided in connection with such building and no certificate of occupancy shall be issued unless the required facilities have been provided in accordance with those shown on the approved plan.

5. A columbarium is allowed as an accessory use to a religious institution in any district in which a religious institution is permitted, provided it is included within the principal structure.

g. Drive-in/drive-through retail or service establishments. An establishment dispensing goods at retail or providing services through a drive-in/drive-through facility, including, but not limited to drive-in/drive-through restaurants, banks or other drive-in/drive-through facilities, exclusive of theatres, in a CG, MA or HM district; drive-in/drive-through facilities for banks and drive-in/drive-through windows for pharmacies as an ancillary use to a medical office/clinic only in a CA district; and drive-in/drive-through

facilities for banks only in the RT district, only when located adjacent to an arterial roadway, may be permitted as a special use provided:

1. The lot area, lot width, front yard, side yards, rear yard, floor area and height limit of the structure and its appurtenances shall conform to the requirements of the district in which it is located.

2. Access to and egress from a drive-in/drive-through establishment shall be arranged for the free flow of vehicles at all times, so as to prevent the blocking or endangering of vehicular or pedestrian traffic through the stopping or standing or backing of vehicles on sidewalks or streets.

3. Adequate off-street parking shall be provided in conformance with section 14-03-10 of this ordinance. In addition, vehicle stacking spaces shall be provided on the premises in accordance with section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, in addition to all common ingress and egress areas provided.

4. Ingress and egress points shall be maintained at not less than sixty (60) feet from an intersecting street corner of arterial or collector streets, and not less than forty (40) feet from an intersecting street corner on local street.

5. All access and egress driveways shall cross a sidewalk only in such a manner that its width at the inner edge of the sidewalk is no greater than its width at the curb, excluding any curved or tapered section known as the curb return. Any portion of a parking or loading area abutting a sidewalk at a point other than a permitted driveway shall be provided with wheel stops, bumper guards, or other devices to prevent encroachment of parked, standing or moving vehicles upon any sidewalk area not contained within a permitted driveway. All curb cuts, widths and other specifications shall comply with the standards established by the city engineer.

6. On a corner lot no fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery or automobile shall be parked or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three (3) feet above the curb shall occupy the space in a triangle formed by measuring ten (10) feet back along the side and front property lines.

- h. Motor Vehicle Parts Salvage Yard. In addition to other provisions of Title 14 of the revised ordinances of the City of Bismarck, a motor vehicle parts salvage yard may be operated in the MA or MB industrial districts as a special use, provided:

1. That the special use permit granted under the provisions of this article shall be revoked by the Zoning Administrator if the

holder violates any provisions of this ordinance or any special provision imposed by the city planning and zoning commission.

2. That all storage and salvage operations be conducted within an enclosed building or within an area enclosed on all sides with an opaque wall or fence not less than eight (8) feet in height or as approved by the city planning and zoning commission.

3. That the wall or fence be set back at least fifteen (15) feet from those property lines which border public rights-of-way.

4. That there shall be no burning of wrecked motor vehicles and that there shall be no stacking of motor vehicles.

5. There shall be no parts handled other than for motor vehicles.

6. That a completely and permanently landscaped setback strip of at least fifteen (15) feet be installed around those portions of the salvage yard perimeter which border public rights-of-way. All area between the property line and the required wall or fence shall be landscaped. The primary landscaping materials used in the setback strip shall be trees, shrubbery, ground cover, hedges, lawn, and other live planting materials. The land owners shall be responsible for providing, protecting and maintaining all landscaping materials in healthy growing condition.

7. That the total area of the premises shall be a minimum of two (2) acres and a maximum of five (5) acres in size.

i. Junkyards. A junkyard may be permitted in a MA or MB industrial district as a special use, provided:

1. That the total area of the premises shall be a minimum of two (2) acres and a maximum of five (5) acres in size.

2. That no burning of salvaged material or junk be permitted on the premises.

3. That the buildings comply with the setback requirements of the city zoning regulations.

4. That the entire junkyard be enclosed with an opaque wall or fence at least eight (8) feet in height or as approved by the city planning and zoning commission.

5. That the wall or fence be set back at least fifteen (15) feet from those property lines which border public rights-of-way.

6. That all junk be stored within the fenced area.
  7. That the operation not be located immediately adjacent to any arterial street or highway.
  8. That the operation be conducted and the area be maintained in such a manner as to prevent unsightliness to the adjacent area.
  9. That a completely and permanently landscaped setback strip of at least fifteen (15) feet be installed around those portions of the junkyard perimeter which border public rights-of-way. All area between the property line and the required wall or fence shall be landscaped. The primary landscaping materials used in the setback strip shall be trees, shrubbery, ground cover, hedges, lawn and other live planting materials. The land owners shall be responsible for providing, protecting and maintaining all landscaping materials in healthy growing condition.
- j. Mortuary or funeral homes. A funeral home or mortuary may be permitted in an RT residential district as a special use, provided:
1. An application for a special use to locate a funeral home or mortuary in an RT residential district shall be accompanied by a plat plan filed with the city planning and zoning commission showing compliance with the following minimum provisions:
    - a) Minimum lot size shall be twenty thousand (20,000) square feet.
    - b) The lot width, front yard, height limits, and lot coverage shall conform to the district requirements.
    - c) Off-street parking - One space for each four (4) seats for patron use or one space for each sixty (60) square feet of building area, whichever is greater.
    - d) Funeral home or mortuary shall have a horizontal separation of at least fifty (50) feet from any adjacent residential building site.
    - e) Adjacent streets shall not be considered as automobile parking space for any use of the funeral home and ingress and egress from premises shall be so designed to prevent traffic congestion.

f) All property owners within a three hundred (300) foot radius of the proposed site shall be notified of the time and date of the public hearing for the proposed special use.

k. Veterinary services – large animals, may be permitted in any A, MA, or MB district as a special use, provided:

1. In order to prevent objectionable noise or odor from being detected outside of the building, the facility must be maintained within a completely enclosed, sound-resistant building, the building must contain adequate heating, and the ventilation system must have filters incorporated.

2. If any exercise yard, run or corral is maintained without an enclosed structure provided they must be shielded from view, the sound muffled by a fixed and immovable barrier, and no residence or residentially zoned area may be located closer than one thousand (1,000) feet to any such facility.

l. Adult entertainment centers. Notwithstanding anything in this zoning ordinance to the contrary, an adult entertainment center shall be permitted only in an MA or MB district and in no other district, providing the center meets the following conditions:

1. The center is located no closer than two thousand (2,000) feet from any preexisting religious institution, school, or residentially zoned property and/or property used for residential purposes.

2. The center excludes from its premises those persons less than eighteen years of age.

3. The center displays no signs visible from the exterior of the center except signs identifying the center as an adult bookstore or adult cinema or both.

4. No materials depicting specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas shall be visible from the exterior of the center.

5. The manager and the owners of the center are registered with the chief of police and have provided him with such information as he reasonably may require with respect to their identities, including fingerprints, and prior criminal records, if any.

6. The business premises of the center which are generally open to its patrons are open equally at the same time without charge to members of the city police force who may wish to enter thereon,

provided the entry is in the course of the discharge of the policemen's duties.

7. The business premises of the center which are generally open to its patrons shall be closed to its patrons from 1:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. daily, except Sundays 12:01 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. the following day.

8. The center shall be licensed by the city.

m. Auto laundry-car wash. An auto laundry or car wash may be permitted in a CG, MA or MB district as a special use, provided:

1. The lot area, lot width, front yard, side yards, rear yards, floor area and height limit of the structure and its appurtenances shall conform to the requirements of the district in which it is located except that the minimum front yard setback shall be twenty-five (25) feet.

2. Access to and egress from an auto laundry facility shall be arranged for the free flow of vehicles at all times, so as to prevent the blocking or endangering of vehicular or pedestrian traffic through the stopping or standing or backing of vehicles on sidewalks or streets. In addition, vehicle stacking spaces shall be provided on the premises in accordance with section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, in addition to all common ingress and egress areas provided.

3. Ingress and egress points shall be maintained at not less than sixty (60) feet from an intersecting street corner of arterial or collector streets, and not less than forty (40) feet from an intersecting street corner on local streets.

4. An auto laundry-car wash may front on only one arterial or collector street and may also be adjacent to a local street.

5. All access and egress driveways shall cross a sidewalk only in such a manner that its width at the inner edge of the sidewalk is no greater than its width at the curb, excluding any curved or tapered section known as the curb return. All curb cuts, widths, and other specifications shall comply with the standards established by the city engineer.

6. No fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three (3) feet above the curb shall occupy the front ten (10) feet of any lot except a sign pole as permitted in Chapter 14-03.1 of the City Code of Ordinances.

7. No automobile shall be parked in the first fifteen feet of a required setback area.

n. Racetracks. A racetrack not within an enclosed structure may be allowed as a special use in any A, MA or MB district provided:

1. Adequate direct road access to the site is provided, with such access designed to minimize traffic congestion; and
2. Sufficient off-street parking areas are provided in conformance with Section 14-03-10; and
3. The site is located at least one (1) mile from any residentially zoned area; and
4. The sound produced by the use shall not exceed 55 decibels, measured at a distance of one (1) mile or more from the perimeter of the racetrack.

o. Flammable, combustible or hazardous material bulk storage plants. Bulk storage plants for the purpose of storage and distribution of flammable, combustible or hazardous materials in a liquid, gaseous or solid state may be allowed in an MA, MB or A district as a special use, provided such installations:

1. Meet all requirements of the city's fire code;
2. Shall not be adjacent to waterways or drainage ways;
3. Copies of appropriate certificates of siting from the Environmental Protection Agency shall be furnished by the applicant;
4. Shall be located at least four hundred (400) feet from any residential area;
5. Shall be located within eight hundred (800) feet of a dependable water supply for fire suppression purposes.

p. Solid Waste Disposal Facility. Solid waste disposal facilities as regulated by this section shall include all facilities for the incineration or disposal of solid waste or solid waste residue which are required to be permitted under statute or rule by the North Dakota Department of Health and Consolidated Laboratories. A solid waste disposal facility may be allowed in any A Agricultural, or MA and MB Industrial zones as a special use provided:

1. It is located at least one-half (1/2) mile from any residences or residentially zoned area and the approval required by Section 4 hereof is obtained.

2. It is continuously licensed and approved by the North Dakota Department of Health and Consolidated Laboratories as to location and operation.

3. There is no substantive evidence that the facility will endanger the public health or the environment.

4. The special use permit will be valid for a period of time set by the Board of City Commissioners. For the permit to be approved sixty percent (60%) of all property owners within one-half (1/2) mile of the proposed location must approve of the proposed facility.

5. Medical waste incinerators:

a. No medical waste incinerator may be constructed in the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck or its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

*(Source: Section 5 was enacted as the result of an initiated ordinance adopted in an election held June 9, 1992)*

q. Child Care Center. Child Care centers may be permitted as a special use in all zoning districts except RMH or MB districts, provided:

1) Each building shall provide not less than thirty-five (35) square feet of interior recreation area per child. Work areas, office areas, and other areas not designed for use of the children may not be counted in this computation.

2) Each lot shall provide an outdoor recreation area of not less than seventy-five (75) square feet per child. The recreation area shall be fenced, have a minimum width of twenty (20) feet, a minimum depth of twenty (20) feet, be located on the same lot or parcel of land as the facility it is intended to serve, and must be located behind the building setback lines.

3) Adequate off street parking shall be provided at the following ratio: One space for each employee and one space for each ten (10) children.

4) Child Care centers shall conform to all applicable requirements of the International Building Code and The International Fire Code as adopted by the City of Bismarck (Title 4 of the City Code of Ordinances – Building Regulations), and all requirements of the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

5) Child care centers shall comply with all applicable requirements relating to health and sanitation that have been adopted

by the City of Bismarck (Title 8 of the City Code of Ordinances – Health and Sanitation), and all requirements of the North Dakota Department of Health.

r. Moving of buildings and structures. The following moved-in buildings and structures that have been previously located for use may be permitted in any zoning district as a special use,

1. Principal buildings and structures; and
2. Accessory buildings and structures that are twelve hundred (1,200) square feet or larger in size.

The above described principal buildings and structures may be permitted, provided:

a. The moved-in building or structure is a permitted use and complies with all requirements of the zoning district in which it is to be located.

b. All provisions of Chapters 4-02 (Uniform Building Code) and 4-06 (Moving of Buildings) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck; and if applicable, the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (24 CFR 3280) have been complied with.

c. The moved-in building or structure shall be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

s. Retail Liquor Sales. Retail liquor sales for Burleigh County Class AA, B, D and E liquor license holders may be permitted within the city's four-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction in any CA, CG, or MA district as a special use provided:

1. The site is not within three hundred (300) feet from the nearest lot line point of any religious institution, public or parochial school, public library, hospital, or college or university building used for academic purposes.

2. The site is a minimum of three hundred (300) feet from similarly licensed premises, to be measured upon a straight line drawn directly between the nearest primary public accesses onto the licensed liquor premises. The line may not pass through obstructions but shall follow the public right-of-way around them as nearly as possible.

3. The site will not impede the orderly development of the city.

4. The site must not have an adverse impact on the character of the neighborhood. The following criteria may be used to evaluate proposed sites: the effect on traffic movements in the area, the number and nature of sites already existing in the area, the general nature, character, age and condition of the adjacent development, the proximity to residential areas, regardless of zoning, or any other criteria the city may deem pertinent.

5. The site will be licensed by the county and comply with the requirements of the license.

6. The site must comply with applicable building code, health and sanitation, and zoning regulations.

t. Asphalt and Concrete Production Facilities. Asphalt production facilities, either permanent or temporary, may be permitted in any A or MA district, and temporary concrete production facilities may be permitted in any A district as a special use provided:

1. The site is located at least 1/2 mile from any residential principal structure or any residentially zoned property.

2. A site plan is submitted showing the overall dimensions of the site, the location of specific activities, fences, parking areas and access roads.

3. A written narrative is submitted describing the operation of the facility, including fugitive dust management, run-off control, and spill containment.

4. A permit to operate is issued by the North Dakota Department of Health prior to operation of the facility, if required.

5. The County Engineer and/or City Engineer, depending on location of the site, has approved the proposed access (ingress/egress) for the operation.

6. For temporary asphalt or concrete production facilities, the following additional provisions apply:

a) The temporary asphalt or concrete production facility is for a specific construction project and not for general sale of product to the public.

b) At the time of initial consideration, the applicant provides a detailed written explanation of the length of time needed for the use.

c) The use is for a specified period of time, tied to the duration of the construction project, which shall be clearly stated in the approval of the temporary use permit.

u. Microbrew Pub and Domestic Distillery. A microbrew pub and/or domestic distillery may be permitted in any CA, DC or DF district as a special use provided:

1. The site may not be located within three hundred (300) feet of the nearest lot line of any religious institution, public or parochial school, public library, hospital, or college or university building used for academic purposes, unless the entity(s) affected by the above limitation consent to the granting of the special use permit.

2. A facility at the proposed site will not have an adverse impact on the character of the neighborhood. The following criteria may be used to evaluate proposed sites: the effect on traffic movements in the area; the general nature, character, age and condition of the adjacent development; the proximity to residential areas, regardless of zoning; or any other criteria the City may deem pertinent.

3. All brewing, and/or distilling and storage activities are located within a completely enclosed building.

4. The facility complies with all applicable building code, health and sanitation, and zoning regulations.

5. The facility complies with all applicable licensing and operational requirements of the State.

6. Beverages brewed or distilled onsite cannot be sold or otherwise provided for consumption on the premises unless the owner holds the appropriate liquor license from the City.

7. Beverages brewed or distilled onsite cannot be sold or otherwise provided to non-wholesale customers for consumption off the premises unless the owner holds appropriate liquor license from the City.

8. Adequate parking is provided onsite in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-10.

v. Small Wind Energy Systems. This section is intended to provide reasonable standards for the use of a Small Wind Energy System (SWES) which would allow electrical power consumers to supplement or

replace their use of utility-provided electrical power without creating negative impacts to adjacent properties or the public.

1. For the purposes of this section, a SWES is defined as a wind turbine of less than 25 kilowatts maximum output capacity and all appurtenant structures and equipment. A SWES is incidental and accessory to a permitted principal use located on the same lot or parcel of land. A SWES is intended to produce electricity primarily for on-site consumption but excess electrical power may be transferred to a utility company power supply grid pursuant to utility company interconnection agreements.

2. A SWES may be permitted in any zoning district subject to approval of a special use permit by the Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission. A special use permit may be revoked at any time if the SWES is found to be in violation of any of the rules of this or other sections of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances or in violation of any of the conditions imposed by the Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission in granting the special use permit.

3. The minimum building setback distance shall be 150% of the height of the structure.

a. The setback distance is the horizontal distance from the center of the supporting structure to the nearest property line or to the nearest overhead utility easement or underground petroleum product pipeline easement.

b. The height of the structure is the vertical distance from the ground surface to the highest point of a rotor blade when in an upright position.

4. The bottom of the rotor blade sweep shall be no closer than 35-feet above the ground surface. Blades may not extend over parking areas, driveways, or sidewalks.

5. The location of any SWES shall not result in the net displacement of required parking as specified in Chapter 14-03-10 of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances.

6. Sound produced by a SWES shall not exceed the following limits at the property line:

<b>Zoning District</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Night</b>
Residential: RR, RR5, R5, RMH, R10, RM, RT, HM, DF	55	45
Commercial: CA, CG, DC	60	50
Industrial: MA, MB, P, A	65	60

a. Sound pressure level limits are measured in dB(A) as specified in the latest edition of the American National Standards Institute specifications.

b. Sound is measured at the property line of any receiving property.

c. Day is defined as the time period from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Night is defined as the time period from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

7. Additional rules regarding SWES's.

a. Sound Measurements. Following approval and installation of a SWES, the Zoning Administrator may require the owner/operator of the SWES to engage a certified technician to perform sound measurements at the closest property line to determine and report ambient and operating decibel levels.

b. Braking Controls. A SWES shall be equipped with both automatic and manual braking controls to prevent uncontrolled rotation and to limit the rotation speed to the design limits of the SWES.

c. Insurance. The owner/operator of a SWES must provide proof of liability insurance at the time of application.

d. Shadow Flicker. Shadow flicker shall not negatively impact any adjacent properties.

e. Electronic Interference. The SWES shall not cause electronic or electromagnetic interference with signal receptions or transmissions beyond the boundaries of the property upon which the SWES is located.

f. Monopole Requirement. Within the corporate boundary of the City of Bismarck, wind turbines are required to be mounted on monopole structures without guy wires. Within the extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction of the City of Bismarck, monopole structures are not required for wind turbines and guy wires may be used.

g. Roof-mounted SWES. A roof-mounted SWES is not allowed on residential structures.

h. Color. To minimize off-site visibility to the greatest extent possible, the color of a structure shall be a neutral white or light gray and the surface finish shall be non-reflective.

i. Lighting. The use of flood lights, laser lights, strobe lights, searchlights, beacons and similar lighting is prohibited unless required by the FAA.

j. Signs. No signs are allowed on SWES structures except for safety or warning signs which are limited to three square feet in area.

k. Climbing Apparatus. No climbing apparatus shall be located within 12-feet of the ground on any structure. All structures shall be designed to prevent climbing by unauthorized persons.

l. Removal of Defunct Systems. Facilities shall be well maintained in an operational condition that poses no potential safety hazard.

1. If a SWES remains nonfunctional for a continuous period of one-year, the system shall constitute a public nuisance and shall be removed.

2. The owner shall remove a defunct system at the owner's expense.

3. Removal includes the entire structure and related appurtenances including any foundation and transmission systems.

m. Building Permit Required. Following approval of a special use permit and prior to installing a SWES, the applicant shall obtain a building permit from the Building Inspections Division.

n. Compliance with Airport Zoning. A SWES must comply with Airport zoning rules under Chapter 10-09.

8. An application for a special use permit for the placement of a SWES shall include the following:

a. Scaled and dimensioned site plan drawing showing features of the property and adjacent land within 300-feet of the subject parcel, including but not limited to:

1. Location and height of the SWES;

2. Property boundaries;
3. Distances from a SWES to closest points on adjacent property boundaries;
4. Location and dimensions of structures;
5. Zoning districts of all adjacent properties;
6. Owners of all adjacent properties;
7. Locations, dimensions and descriptions of utility easements;
8. Location of overhead utility lines;
9. Location of underground petroleum pipelines; and
10. Distances from the SWES to the closest points on utility easements.

b. Written information from the manufacturer on the proposed SWES stating the following:

1. Compliance with noise standards established by paragraph v(6) of this section;
2. Compliance with electronic interference standards established by paragraph v(8) of this section;
3. Evidence that the proposed SWES model has an operational history of at least one year; and
4. Shadow flicker properties.

c. Unless certified by the manufacturer as not causing shadow flicker in the proposed installation, a shadow flicker model and map showing:

1. Shadow flicker map coverage area of 1,000-feet from a SWES; and
2. Shadow flicker model representing locations affected, intensity, and duration.

d. Copy of letter of compliance of the proposed SWES with airport zoning from the Bismarck Municipal Airport.

e. Copies of letters of compliance of the proposed SWES from the following:

1. Federal Aviation Administration;
2. United States Fish and Wildlife Service;  
and
3. The local electrical utility company serving the subject property.

9. An application for a building permit for the placement of a SWES must include:

a. A copy of the special use permit, with the site plan, as approved by the city planning and zoning commission;

b. Dimensioned engineering drawings of the structure including the tower, base, and footings;

c. Line drawing of the electrical components in sufficient detail to allow for a determination that the manner of installation will meet compliance with the electrical code; and

d. Documentation certifying that the SWES will meet structural loading requirements for a 90 m.p.h. sustained wind. Wind load certification shall be prepared by a professional structural engineer registered in the State of North Dakota.

w. Roadway Maintenance Facilities. Roadway maintenance facilities necessary for the provision of services by a governmental entity may be permitted in any A - Agricultural district as a special use provided:

1. The parcel meets the dimensional requirements for the A – Agricultural zoning district.

2. The parcel is located along an improved section line roadway or other roadway classified as an arterial.

3. The parcel is located at least 1/2 mile (2640 feet) from any residentially zoned property.

4. All proposed buildings will meet the setback requirements for the A – Agricultural zoning district.

5. All exterior equipment and material storage areas will be set back no less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from a front property line and no less than seventy-five (75) feet from a side or rear property line.

6. A landscaped buffer yard is provided around the perimeter of the site to screen the operation from adjacent land uses. Said buffer yard shall be no less than fifty (50) feet in width and shall be densely planted in conjunction with site development in accordance with the requirements of Section 14-03-11 of the City Code of Ordinances (Landscaping and Screening).

7. A site plan is submitted showing the overall dimensions of the site, the location of specific activities, fences, landscaped buffer yards, parking areas, adjacent roadways and proposed access (ingress/egress).

8. A written narrative is submitted describing the operation of the facility, including fugitive dust management, run-off control and spill containment.

x. Off-site Parking Lots. Off-site parking lots for any use may be permitted in any R5-Residential, R10-Residential, RM-Residential and RT-Residential district as a special use provided:

1. The lot or parcel meets the dimensional requirements for the underlying zoning district.

2. The lot or parcel is located along a public roadway and obtains access from a roadway classified as either a local roadway or a collector.

3. The lot or parcel is located no further than four hundred (400) feet from the use it is intended to serve.

4. A landscaped buffer yard is provided along any common lot line with an existing residential use and the buffer yard is installed in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11(10) of the City Code of Ordinances (Landscaping and Screening/Buffer Yards).

5. A site plan is submitted showing the overall dimensions of the site, the location and dimensions of parking spaces and access aisles, perimeter landscaping, landscaped

buffer yards, adjacent roadways and proposed access (ingress/egress).

y. Accessory Dwelling Units:

1. Intent: Provide for a broader range of housing options, efficiently utilize existing infrastructure and housing stock, and preserve the character of existing single-family neighborhoods.

2. Applicability: An accessory dwelling unit to a single-family dwelling is permitted as a special use within any R5 – Residential, R10 – Residential, RM – Residential, RR – Rural Residential, RR5 – Rural Residential, and A – Agricultural zoning district subject to all requirements of the City of Bismarck Code of Ordinances, unless otherwise stated within this section.

3. Requirements for All Accessory Dwelling Units. Prior to receiving a special use permit an applicant shall demonstrate that the following requirements will be met:

a. No more than one accessory dwelling unit may be permitted on each lot or parcel.

b. An accessory dwelling unit must be contained completely within the principal structure on the lot or parcel, or contained within an accessory structure that meets all requirements of this Code, including size and setback requirements of the underlying zoning district. The height of any accessory structure containing an accessory dwelling unit may be up to twenty-five (25) feet.

c. The principal or accessory dwelling unit must be occupied by the owner of the subject parcel as a legal residence for more than six (6) months of any given year. The home may not be owned by a corporation, but the owner-occupant may be a benefited person in a private trust or life estate. The owner-occupancy requirement applies to the applicant as well as all subsequent owners of the property.

d. At least one off-street parking space shall be provided for an accessory dwelling, in addition to any parking required for the principal dwelling unit on the lot. However, in such cases where existing conditions render additional parking infeasible, the applicant may submit a parking plan to demonstrate how on-street facilities or other methods are sufficient to meet anticipated parking demand, such as the dwelling unit being reserved for a class or individual who does not need to store a personal vehicle on-site.

e. Size requirements.

1. No accessory dwelling unit may include more than one (1) bedroom.

2. Units within Principal Structure: The floor area of an accessory dwelling unit may not exceed forty percent (40%) of the gross floor area of the principal structure, excluding any attached garage, and may not be greater than 800 square feet or less than 300 square feet.

3. Units within Accessory Structure: The floor area of an accessory dwelling unit may not be greater than 800 square feet or less than 300 square feet on any lot or parcel five (5) acres in area or less. The floor area of an accessory dwelling unit may be up to 1,200 square feet on any lot or parcel that is greater than five (5) acres in area.

f. An accessory dwelling unit on any lot or parcel that does not conform to the minimum lot size requirement of the underlying zoning district may only be permitted inside the principal building.

g. An accessory dwelling unit must be connected to public utilities if available on the lot or parcel. If the lot is serviced by an on-site sewage treatment facility, the applicant must show that sufficient sewage treatment capacity will be available to meet anticipated needs.

h. An accessory dwelling unit must comply with all residential building code requirements outlined in Title 4 of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances.

i. An accessory dwelling unit may be occupied by no more than one family, as defined by Title 14 of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances.

4. Methods of Creation. A new accessory dwelling unit may be created in any of the following ways:

a. Conversion of a portion of an existing principal or accessory structure into a separate accessory dwelling unit.

b. Expansion of an existing structure that is in compliance with all setback, lot coverage, and height requirements of the underlying zoning district.

c. Construction of a new structure containing a single family dwelling unit with an internal accessory dwelling unit.

d. Construction of a new detached accessory structure containing a dwelling unit on a lot with an existing principal structure.

e. Reuse of a non-conforming second dwelling unit within a residence that has ceased to be continuously utilized as a dwelling unit and thus does not qualify as a non-conforming use under Section of 14-03-09 of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances.

5. Special Use Permit Submittal Requirements. The following documents shall be submitted with any application for a special use permit to allow an accessory dwelling unit:

a. A building plan that demonstrates compliance with all requirements of the residential building code.

b. For all new construction of an accessory structure, a site plan is required. The site plan must show, to scale, the location and dimensions of the building, all required setbacks, and any easements on the property.

c. For all accessory dwelling units that would not comply with required parking, a parking plan as detailed in Subsection 3.d of this Section is required.

d. For all accessory dwelling units that would be served by an on-site sewage treatment facility, sufficient evidence to assure compliance with Subsection 4.f of this Section to the satisfaction of the Building Official is required.

6. Termination of Special Use Permit. A special use permit for an accessory dwelling shall automatically expire if the permitted accessory dwelling unit is substantially altered and no longer in conformance with these provisions, the owner of the property no longer occupies one of the units, the required parking is no longer maintained and available for use by the occupant, or the permit is not put to use within twenty-four (24) months of approval.

z. Data Center. A data center may be permitted in any MA district as a special use or any MB district as an administrative special use provided:

1. All data processing and storage is contained within a building constructed in compliance with the International Building Code and International Fire Code.

2. Written verification is submitted from the utility provider that sufficient capacity will be available to meet anticipated needs for electrical power.

3. Facilities are equipped with environmental controls to maintain the proper conditions for the operation of electronic equipment.

4. The applicant verifies at the time of application that all requirements of Chapter 8-10 (Noises) of the Bismarck Code of Ordinances will be met during operations, as measured from the property line of the subject parcel. Verification may be in the form of a noise study, manufacturer specifications, data from comparable facilities, or any combination thereof.

aa. Agriculture Recreation, Major. Agriculture Recreation, Major may be permitted in any A – Agricultural district as a special use provided:

1. The use is ancillary to the primary agricultural use.

2. The lot in which the use is located is at least thirty-five (35) acres in area.

3. The lot in which the use is located is outside the Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB).

4. Attendance is limited to two hundred and fifty (250) persons in attendance at any one time.

5. No more than thirty (30) days per calendar year, not to include minor agriculture recreation uses.

6. Site design and building(s) must conform to all applicable requirements of the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Fire Code (IFC) as adopted by the City of Bismarck (Title 4 of the City Code of Ordinances – Building Regulations).

7. All parking areas shall be mowed and designed to prevent debris from the site entering the public right-of-way and be arranged to provide for orderly and safe loading or unloading and parking.

8. Access to buildings or areas associated with the agriculture recreation use shall be an all-weather access and be designed for safe and orderly access for patrons and emergency services.

9. Sound generated by the use shall meet the requirements outlined in Chapter 08-10 of the City Code of Ordinance.

10. All outdoor light fixtures shall be installed in a manner intended to limit the amount of off-site impacts. Light fixtures

located near adjacent properties may require special shielding devices to prevent light trespass.

11. The use is setback a minimum of 50 feet adjacent to properties with a residential use, zoning, or land use classification.
  12. A site plan, and if necessary, a stormwater management plan is submitted for review and approval prior to the issuance of a building permit or commencement of operations.
- bb. Private riding arena: A private riding arena may be permitted in any A - Agricultural district as a special use provided:
1. The use is ancillary to and in conjunction with a single-family dwelling.
  2. The lot in which the use is located is at least thirty-five (35) acres.
  3. The lot in which the use is located is outside the Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB).
  4. There will be no sales, shows, competitions, training, clinics, or similar events within or on the premises in which the private riding arena is located. There will be no spectator seating, stands or bleachers within the arena.
  5. The proposed building is setback a minimum of 100 feet adjacent to properties with a residential use or zoning.
  6. Site design and building(s) must conform to all applicable requirements of the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Fire Code (IFC) as adopted by the City of Bismarck (Title 4 of the City Code of Ordinances – Building Regulations).
  7. A site plan, and if necessary, a stormwater management plan is submitted for review and approval prior to the issuance of a building permit.

*(Ord. 4136, 4-28-87; Ord. 4286, 08-22-89; Ord. 4312, 2-20-90; Ord. 4331, 6-05-90; Ord. 4425, 03-31-92; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4563, 12-07-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4598, 04-28-94; Ord. 4598, 04-28-94; Ord. 4620, 07-19-94; Ord. 4702, 06-13-95; Ord. 4713, 08-22-95; Ord. 4738, 11-14-95; Ord. 4739, 11-14-95; Ord. 4745, 02-13-96; Ord. 4802, 11-12-96; Ord. 4808, 11-12-96; Ord. 4912, 07-14-98; Ord. 4913, 06-09-98; Ord. 4936, 09-08-98; Ord. 4946, 10-27-98; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5214, 11-12-02; Ord. 5218, 11-26-02; 5224, 12-17-02; Ord. 5228, 01-28-03; Ord. 5278, 09-23-03; Ord. 5317, 06-22-04; Ord. 5343, 06-22-04; Ord. 5348, 07-27-04; Ord. 5351, 08-24-04; Ord. 5438, 06-28-05; Ord. 5467, 10-25-05; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5764, 01-12-10; Ord. 5820, 4-26-11; Ord. 5852, 11-22-11; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6050, 05-27-14, corrected 06-10-14; Ord. 6121, 05-26-15; Ord. 6122, 05-26-15; Ord. 6175, 11-24-15; Ord. 6179, 12-22-15; Ord. 6190, 03-08-16; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6234, 10-25-16; Ord. 6279, 08-22-17; Ord. 6288, 10-24-17; Ord. 6299, 12-26-17; Ord. 6310, 02-27-18; Ord. 6424, 06-12-*

20; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21; Ord. 6505, 06-01-22; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6579, 06-29-24; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25)

14-03-09. Nonconforming Uses. Any lawful use of the land or buildings existing at the date of passage of this title, and located in a district in which it would not be permitted as a new use under the regulations of this title, is hereby declared to be a nonconforming use, and not in violation of this title. Provided, however, a nonconforming use shall be subject to, and the owner shall comply with the following regulations:

1. Certificate of occupancy. After the adoption of this title, the owner of a nonconforming use shall be notified, by the Building Official, of the provisions of this title. Within thirty days after receipt of said notice, the owner shall apply for and be issued a certificate of occupancy for the nonconforming use. The application for such certificate shall designate the location, nature and extent of the nonconforming use and such other details as may be necessary for the issuance of the certificate of occupancy. If the owner of a nonconforming use fails to apply for a certificate of occupancy within thirty days after receipt of the foregoing notice, the use ceases to be nonconforming and is hereby declared to be in violation of this title. The Building Official and city attorney shall take appropriate action to enjoin such violation. If the Building Official shall find, upon reviewing the application for a certificate of occupancy that the existing use is illegal or in violation of other ordinances or laws, or if he finds that the building for which the certificate is requested has been constructed or altered for the existing use or any other use without full compliance with the building code or zoning ordinance in effect at the time of construction or alteration, he shall not issue the certificate of occupancy, but shall declare such use to be in violation of this article.

2. Nonconforming Use-Extension. The nonconforming use of a building may be extended throughout any part of a building clearly designed for such use but not so used at the date of the adoption of this title. No nonconforming use may be extended to occupy any land outside the building nor any additional building not used for such nonconforming use at the date of adoption of this title. The nonconforming use of land shall not be extended to any additional land not so used at the date of the adoption of this title.

3. Nonconforming Use-Additions, repair, alteration. No building used for a nonconforming use shall be enlarged, extended, reconstructed, or structurally altered, unless the use is changed to one which complies with the provisions of this title. Provided, however, permits may be issued for the reconstruction of an existing building to be continued as a nonconforming use if the following conditions are complied with:

a. New use would decrease the number of living units or population density in case such is violated.

b. New use would decrease the automobile parking congestion in the area.

c. New use would not increase the cubical contents of the structure if such would violate provisions of this ordinance.

d. Such reconstruction would be one in accordance with the city building, plumbing, electrical codes and fire prevention code.

e. The issuance of such permit would not violate the provisions of paragraph 4 of this section.

In addition, repairs and maintenance work may be carried out each year in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the assessed value of the building for that year. Such repairs and maintenance work shall not increase the cubical content of the building, nor the floor area devoted to the nonconforming use. Nor shall it increase the number of dwelling units provided in a building. Nothing in this article shall be deemed to prevent the strengthening or repair of a building which may be necessary to restore the building to a safe condition or to improve the sanitary conditions of the building, provided that such strengthening and repair may not be used to restore a building to the provisions of paragraph 4 of this section.

Alterations may be made to a nonconforming principal residential structure or any principal building in which there is a nonconforming residential use when the alteration will improve the livability thereof, provided it will not increase the number of dwelling units or the outside dimensions of the building.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, any principal nonconforming use or structure that is located in an R5 – Residential or R10 – Residential zoning district, occupied by a single-family or two-family residence, and not subject to the provisions of the FP Floodplain overlay district, may be expanded if all of the following conditions are met:

- a. Nonconforming setbacks are not further reduced;
- b. Nonconforming building separations are not further reduced;
- c. Nonconforming height is not further increased;
- d. No additional nonconforming conditions are created.

4. Nonconforming Use-Destruction. If any nonconforming structure or any building in which there is a nonconforming use is damaged by fire, flood, explosion, wind, war or other catastrophe, in an amount equal to or greater than fifty percent (50%) of its assessed valuation, it shall not be again used or reconstructed to be used for any use except one complying with the provisions of this article for the district in which it is located.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, any principal nonconforming use or structure devoted in whole or in part to a residential use that is damaged or destroyed by any means, to the extent of more than fifty percent

(50%) of its structural value prior to the damage, that structure may be restored, repaired or rebuilt in its entirety if all of the following conditions are met:

- a. The building or structure will not occupy any portion of the lot that was not occupied by the destroyed structure;
- b. The building or structure will not have a greater floor area than the destroyed structure;
- c. The building or structure will not exceed the height or number of stories contained in the destroyed structure;
- d. The number of off-street parking spaces located on the property will not be reduced from the number available before the damage; and
- e. The building permit for the repair or restoration must be obtained within six (6) months of date of the damage and restoration must begin within one (1) year of the date of the damage.

5. Nonconforming Use-Moving Building. Any building in which there is a nonconforming use shall not be moved unless it is moved to a district in which the use for which the building was designed is permitted by this title. If any building in which there is a nonconforming use is moved any distance whatsoever, the building shall thereafter be used only in compliance with the provisions of this article for the district in which it is located.

6. Nonconforming Use-Change. A nonconforming use may be continued in accordance with the provisions of this section, but it shall not be changed to any other use except the one which would be permitted as a new use in the district in which the building is located.

7. Nonconforming Use-Discontinuance.

a. If for any reason a nonconforming use of land ceases for a continuous period of more than thirty (30) days, the land shall thereafter not be used except in compliance with the provisions of this article for the district in which the land is located.

b. If for any reason a nonconforming use of a building ceases for a continuous period of more than six (6) months, the building shall thereafter not be used except in compliance with the provisions of this title for the district in which the building is located.

8. Nonconforming Use-Continuance. Any legal nonconforming use, except those listed in paragraph 9 of this section, may be continued. The certificate of occupancy issued by the Building Official for a nonconforming use shall state that

the use may be continued indefinitely or, for those uses listed in paragraph 9 of this section, that the use must be discontinued.

All periods of time shown below in paragraph 9 shall begin thirty-one (31) days after receipt by the owner of notice of the provisions of this title. Upon application to the board of adjustment the board may, in certain cases, extend the date of the certificate of occupancy for one period of time not to exceed the limit indicated in paragraph 9 of this section.

9. Nonconforming Use-Period of Continuance. Certain nonconforming uses, indicated in the following table shall be discontinued at the expiration of the periods of time shown, or at the expiration of one extension period, as provided in paragraph 8 of this section:

Nonconforming Use	Period of Continuance	Limit of Extension
Loam stripping	30 days	10 days
Garbage, trash dump	30 days	10 days
Livestock feeding	90 days	90 days
Junk, auto wrecking yard	180 days	30 days
Sand, gravel extraction	1 year	60 days
Other open uses of land	1 year	90 days

(Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5901, 06-26-12; Ord. 6300, 12-26-17)

14-03-10. Off-Street Parking and Loading.

1. Purpose. The provisions of this section are intended to provide accessible, attractive, secure and well-maintained off-street parking and loading areas with the appropriate number of spaces in proportion to the needs of proposed and future uses and to prevent overflow parking into adjacent properties. The provisions of this section are also intended to help protect the public health, safety and general welfare by:

- a. Helping to avoid and mitigate traffic congestion;
- b. Encouraging multi-modal transportation options and enhanced pedestrian safety; and
- c. Providing flexible methods for responding to the transportation and access demands of various land uses.

2. Applicability. The off-street parking and loading requirements contained herein shall apply to any of the following:

a. New Development. The parking, stacking and loading requirements of this section shall apply to any new building constructed and to any new use established.

b. Expansion and Alterations. The parking, stacking and loading requirements of this section shall apply when an existing structure or use is expanded or enlarged. Additional parking and loading spaces will be required only to serve the enlarged or expanded area. The parking, stacking and loading space provided for the existing use prior to the expansion or alteration may not be reduced below what is required.

c. Change of Use. The parking, stacking and loading requirements of this section shall apply to any change of use that would result in a requirement for more parking, stacking or loading spaces than the existing use. Additional parking, stacking and loading spaces will only be required in proportion to the extent of the change, not for the entire building or use.

In the case of a change of use where the current use does not meet the minimum parking requirements and the proposed change of use would require less parking, stacking or loading spaces than the current use, regardless of the number of spaces actually provided on the site, the Zoning Administrator may allow such change of use provided the parking, stacking and loading spaces for the new use is no less conforming than the current use.

3. Reductions and Exemptions.

a. Mixed Use Parking Reductions. Parking requirements may be reduced by an additional ten (10) percent for mixed use developments including a combination of residential, or a hotel or motel in combination with office and/or commercial uses.

b. Bicycle Parking Reductions. The following reductions may be used to provide relief from off-street parking requirements:

i. The number of vehicle parking spaces may be reduced by one (1) for five (5) bicycle parking spaces provided on the parcel, up to ten (10) percent of the total required vehicle parking spaces.

ii. A fixed bicycle rack shall be installed with the following design guidelines:

- a. Support the bicycle at two points above its center of gravity.
  - b. Accommodate high security U-shaped bike locks.
  - c. Accommodate locks securing the frame and one or both wheels, preferably without removing the front wheel from the bicycle.
  - d. Provide adequate distance between spaces so that bicycles do not interfere with each other.
  - e. Do not contain protruding elements or sharp edges.
  - f. Do not bend wheels or damage other bicycle parts.
  - g. Do not require the user to lift the bicycle off the ground in order to place it into the rack.
- iii. The bicycle rack is provided with an aisle one side of the bicycle parking space to allow for adequate access and maneuvering.
  - iv. The bicycle rack is connected to an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible side-walk or corridor.
  - v. The bicycle rack is placed on a dustless all-weather hard surface material.
  - vi. The bicycle rack is located so as to not interfere with pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic.
  - vii. Bicycle parking may be provided within a building, but the location must be easily accessible.
- c. **Parking Exemption.** Properties located within the DC – Downtown Core, DF – Downtown Fringe, and HM – Health Medical zoning districts are not subject to the off-street parking and loading requirements of this section.

4. **Required Parking.** Except as provided elsewhere in this section, no application for a building permit or certificate of occupancy in any zone shall be approved unless required parking is provided in connection with such building

improvements or use in accordance with this section; and no certificate of occupancy shall be issued unless the required facilities have been provided.

When the installation of required parking cannot be completed in conjunction with site development due to seasonal constraints, the Zoning Administrator may issue a temporary certificate of occupancy with the understanding that the installation of the required parking be completed by a date agreed upon by the Zoning Administrator and property owner(s).

5. Design Standards for Required Off-Street Parking and Loading Spaces. All applications for a building permit or certificate of occupancy shall include a site plan, drawn to scale, that depicts the location and arrangement of required parking and loading spaces, driveways, and walkways as provided for in this section.

a. Parking Spaces. Each required off-street parking space shall be of an area at least nine (9) feet wide and eighteen (18) feet in length, in addition to the ingress and egress driveways required.

b. Compact Parking Spaces. A compact parking space shall be of an area at least eight (8) feet wide and sixteen (16) feet in length in addition to the ingress and egress driveways required. Compact parking spaces may count for up to 10 percent of required parking spaces and must be marked or signed as compact parking.

c. For each parking space, not under a roof, there shall be provided additional area for access lanes, aisles and drives necessary for safe and adequate parking maneuvering. Access lanes, aisles and drives must be designed according to acceptable professional industry design standards.

d. Accessible Parking Spaces and Aisles. The size, number and location of stalls reserved for ADA parking shall be provided and identified as required by applicable ADA regulations. These spaces are included in the calculation for the total required parking.

e. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. Charging station stalls must meet local, state and federal requirements. These spaces are included in the calculation for the total required parking.

f. Surfacing. All applications for required off-street parking and loading spaces and all driveways on private property leading to such parking areas shall be surfaced with a dustless all-weather hard surface material. Acceptable surfacing materials include asphalt, concrete, brick, cement pavers or similar materials installed and maintained according to

industry standards. Crushed rock, crushed asphalt, crushed concrete, or gravel shall not be considered an acceptable surfacing material.

g. Turnarounds. All off-street parking areas shall be designed so that vehicles do not have to back into the public right-of-way to exit parking areas.

h. Encroachment. No parking space may block access to another parking space. No open area in an off-street parking area shall be encroached upon by buildings, storage or any other use.

i. Pedestrian Facilities. Off-street parking areas for fifty (50) or more vehicles shall have walkways separated from the parking area and surfaced with a dustless all-weather hard surface material to provide safe access from parking areas, bicycle storage areas, public rights-of-way and existing pedestrian facilities to building-entrances.

j. Striping. All off-street parking areas containing four (4) or more spaces or containing angled parking shall have the parking spaces and aisles clearly marked on the pavement.

k. All required parking, stacking and loading spaces, and access areas shall be used exclusively for the temporary parking and maneuvering of vehicles and shall not be used for the sale, lease, display, repair, or storage of vehicles, trailers, boats, campers, mobile homes, merchandise, or equipment, or for any other use not authorized by the provisions of this Title.

l. Loading Facilities. For each off-street loading space required by this section there shall be provided space clear and free of all obstructions, at least ten (10) feet in width, fifty feet (50) feet in length and fourteen (14) feet in height. Off-street parking and off-street loading space shall be provided with methods of ingress and egress such that it will be unnecessary for trucks or tractor trailer combinations to back into them from a public street or out of them into a public street; however, off-street loading spaces may utilize adjacent local streets as needed for ingress and egress when specifically approved in writing by the City Engineer or designee, based upon a submitted drawing using truck turning radius templates that demonstrates how the loading spaces will be utilized.

m. Maintenance. All off-street parking and loading facilities for the use of the public required pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be paved, drained, lighted and periodically maintained by the owner in accordance with specifications of the City Engineer.

n. Reductions. Required off-street parking spaces may not be reduced except upon the approval of the Zoning Administrator and then only after proof that, by reason of a decrease of floor space, seating capacity, number of employees, or change in other factors controlling the regulation of the number of parking spaces, the proposed reduction is reasonable and consistent with the intent of this section.

6. Calculation of Required Parking.

a. When the determination of the number of parking, stacking, bicycle parking or loading spaces results in a requirement of a fractional space, any fraction up to and including one-fourth shall be disregarded and fractions over one-fourth shall require one additional parking, stacking, bicycle parking or loading space.

b. When there are multiple structures on a lot or multiple uses within a structure, parking shall be calculated separately for each different use area within a building or site, including all accessory uses, unless a plan for shared parking or joint-use parking is approved by the Zoning Administrator.

c. One parking space for each twenty-five (25) uninterrupted linear feet of available street frontage of a local roadway usable for on-street parking directly adjacent to a parcel may be deducted from the total off-street parking spaces required for a site. The width of drive accesses, designated non-parking areas, sight triangles, and similar circumstances may not be considered as available for the purpose of on-street parking space. Parking on roadways classified as an arterial roadway or a collector roadway will not be considered.

d. Parking spaces required on a per-employee basis shall be based on the maximum number of employees on the largest shift.

e. When parking is required based on seating as a unit of measurement, all calculations shall be based on the number of fixed seats. If fixed seats are not provided, then parking shall be determined at a rate of one space per five (5) occupants.

f. The number of parking spaces shall be provided on the basis of the following minimum requirements:

USE	REQUIRED NUMBER OF OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES
<b>Residential Uses</b>	
Single-family	Two (2) spaces for each dwelling unit.
Two-family	Two (2) spaces for each dwelling unit.

Accessory dwelling unit	One (1) space for accessory dwelling unit.
Low and moderate income multi-family housing	0.65 spaces for each dwelling unit.
Multi-family	One (1) space for each efficiency unit or each one-bedroom unit; and  Two (2) spaces for each two-bedroom unit or larger.
Rooming & boarding houses	One (1) space for each sleeping room rented, plus two (2) additional spaces for the owner or operator of the house.
Senior housing	0.65 spaces for each living unit.
Dormitories	One (1) space for each sleeping room.
Adult or disabled care centers, convalescent homes and nursing homes	One (1) space for each four (4) patient beds, plus one additional space for each employee on the largest shift.
<b>Institutional Uses</b>	
Elementary and middle schools	One (1) space for each employee, plus additional space for any places of public assembly in accordance with the requirements set forth in this section for such uses.
Schools including colleges, and high schools	One (1) space for each employee, plus additional space for any places of public assembly in accordance with the requirements set forth in this section for such uses and one space for every three (3) students.
Libraries and museums	One (1) space for each three hundred sixty (360) square feet of gross floor area.
Places of public assembly including exhibition halls, convention halls, auditoriums, sports arenas, athletic fields and theaters	One (1) space for each five (5) seats provided. If fixed seats are not provided, then parking shall be determined at a rate of one space per five (5) occupants.
Religious institutions	One space for each five (5) seats provided in an assembly area. If fixed seats are not provided, then parking shall be determined at a rate of one space per five (5) occupants.
<b>Commercial Uses</b>	
Child care centers	One (1) space for each employee and one (1) space for each ten (10) children.
Motor fueling stations/	Four (4) spaces plus two (2) spaces for each service stall or bay. Facilities designed for sale of other items

convenience stores	shall be required to provide additional parking in accordance with other applicable provisions of this Section.
Motor vehicle repair garages	Two (2) spaces for each repair stall, plus additional spaces as needed to store vehicles waiting to be repaired or picked up after repair.
Hospitals	One (1) space for each two (2) patient beds plus one (1) additional space for each two (2) employees.
Hotels and motels	One (1) space for each guest room. If, in addition to the guest rooms, patrons are provided with assembly halls, bars, restaurants, nightclubs, retail shops, service establishments or other businesses, additional off-street parking spaces will be required for such other uses in accordance with the regulations of this Section for those uses.
Funeral homes and mortuaries	One (1) space for each four (4) seats or one (1) space for each seventy-five (75) gross square feet of building area, whichever is greater.
Office buildings	One (1) space for each three hundred sixty(360) square feet of gross floor area.
Medical, chiropractic and dental clinics	One (1) space for each three hundred (300) square feet of gross floor area.
Veterinary clinics	One (1) space for each three hundred (300) square feet of gross floor area.
Sports and fitness clubs	One (1) space for each three hundred sixty(360) square feet of gross floor area.
Retail sales and service	One (1) space for each three hundred (300) square feet of gross floor area.
Multi-tenant shopping center	One (1) space for each three hundred (300) square feet of gross leasable area, provided the area of all dining and drinking establishments within the shopping center do not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the total leasable area.
Furniture and appliance sales	One (1) space for each seven hundred twenty (720) square feet of gross floor area.
Bar, tavern or lounge	One (1) space for each sixty (60) square feet of gross floor area, plus one (1) space for each employee on the largest shift. Outdoor patio areas shall not be included when calculating floor area.
Full service restaurant	One (1) space for each seventy-five (75) square feet of gross floor dining area, plus one (1) space for each employee. Outdoor patio areas shall not be included when calculating gross floor area. If the restaurant includes designated bar areas, off-street parking shall be provided for that area at a ratio of one (1) space for each sixty (60) square feet of gross floor area.

Fast food restaurant with or without drive-through facilities, including coffee shops, ice cream or yogurt shops	One (1) space for each sixty (60) square feet of gross floor dining area. Outdoor patio areas shall not be included when calculating gross floor area. If a drive-through is included, stacking space in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Section must also be provided.
Take out restaurant with no patron seating	One (1) space for each two hundred forty (240) square feet of gross floor area.
Amusement uses	One (1) space for each three hundred sixty (360) square feet of gross floor area.
<b>Industrial Uses</b>	
Service businesses located within the MA - Industrial or MB – Industrial zoning districts with fifty (50) percent or more of the gross floor area devoted to storage, warehouse and/or industry use, including those facilities commonly referred to as shop condos	One (1) space for each four hundred (400) square feet of each unit storage area.  Sufficient space to park all company-owned or leased vehicles including passenger automobiles, trucks, tractors, trailers and similar company-owned motor vehicles must be provided in addition to the required off-street parking. These provisions shall apply on a per unit basis for multi-tenant or multi-owner buildings such as shop condos.
Self-service storage facilities	A dedicated parking lane with a minimum width of nine (9) feet shall be provided adjacent to each storage unit opening in the building. Driveways adjacent to each parking lane shall be a minimum of twenty (20) feet in width. In facilities provided with a dedicated rental or leasing office, one (1) space for each three hundred (300) gross square feet of office area must be provided.
Manufacturing and industrial plants, public utility buildings, fabricating plants and all other similar structures	One (1) space for each manufacturing employee on the largest shift, plus one (1) space for each three hundred (300) gross feet of office area. Sufficient space to park all company-owned or leased vehicles including passenger automobiles, trucks, tractors, trailers and similar company-owned motor vehicles must be provided in addition to the required off-street parking.
Warehousing and distribution	One (1) space for each employee on the largest shift or one (1) space for each two thousand four hundred (2,400) square feet of gross floor area, whichever is greater, plus one (1) space for each three hundred (300) gross square feet of office area. Sufficient space to park all company-owned or leased vehicles including passenger automobiles, trucks, tractors, trailers and

	similar company-owned motor vehicles must be provided in addition to the required off- street parking.

g. Interpretation. For uses not specifically listed in this Section, parking requirements shall be determined by the Zoning Administrator on the same basis as required for the most similar listed uses. In such cases, the Zoning Administrator may also consult parking reference materials including, but not limited to, manuals prepared by the American Planning Association and the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

7. Location of Required Parking Facilities. The off-street parking facilities required by this section shall be on the same parcel of land as the structure they are intended to serve. When practical difficulties prevent the establishment of such facilities upon the same parcel, off-site parking shall be furnished within four hundred (400) feet of the premises to which they are appurtenant. In addition, adequate and safe pedestrian access shall be provided to and from the off-site parking facility.

8. Off-street vehicle stacking. Except as provided elsewhere in this section, no application for a building permit or certificate of occupancy for a commercial or industrial use shall be approved unless there is included with the plan for such building improvement or use, a site plan showing the required space designated as being reserved for off-street vehicle stacking purposes to be provided in connection with such building improvements or use in accordance with this section; and no certificate of occupancy shall be issued unless the required facilities have been provided. Each required vehicle stacking space shall be of an area at least ten (10) feet wide and twenty (20) feet in length. Vehicle stacking lanes shall be located completely upon the parcel of land that includes the structure they are intended to serve and shall be so designed as to not impede on- or off-site traffic movements. All vehicle stacking spaces shall be surfaced with a dustless all-weather hard surface material. Acceptable surfacing materials include asphalt, concrete, brick, cement pavers or similar materials installed and maintained according to industry standards. Crushed rock, crushed asphalt, crushed concrete or gravel shall not be considered an acceptable surfacing material. The number of off-street vehicle stacking spaces shall be provided on the basis of the following minimum requirements:

Type of Use	Minimum Number of Stacking Spaces	Measured From
Financial institution- ATM	3 spaces per lane	Kiosk
Financial institution – teller	4 spaces for first lane, 3 spaces for each additional lane	Window or pneumatic tube kiosk
Drive-through restaurant	12 spaces	Pick-up window
Drive-through coffee shop	10 spaces	Pick-up window
Car wash, automatic	6 spaces per bay	Entrance
Car wash, self-service	3 spaces per bay	Entrance

Drive-through car service (oil change and similar)	3 spaces per bay	Entrance
Drive-through pharmacy	3 spaces	Window
Drive-through cleaners	3 spaces	Window
Drive-through photo lab	3 spaces	Window
Self-service fueling station	2 spaces per fueling island	Each end of the fueling island
Gated parking lots and entrances	2 spaces	Gate

a. Interpretation. For uses not specifically listed above, stacking requirements shall be determined by the Planning and Zoning Commission, in conjunction with approval of a special use permit, on the same basis as required for the most similar listed uses.

9. Special Use Permit for a Drive-in/Drive-through Retail or Service Establishment. Drive-in/drive-through for retail or service establishments are subject to the requirements of Section 14-03-08(4)(g). A drive-through facility with vehicle stacking spaces based on one type of use may not be converted to another type of use without the submittal and approval of a new site plan. A new special use permit shall be required for any change to a use with greater vehicle stacking space requirements.

10. Administrative Approval of Parking and Stacking Alternatives. The Zoning Administrator, where appropriate, may approve a reduction of required parking, provided a parking study prepared by the applicant or their consultant is submitted for review. Such study shall include estimates of parking demand based on recommendations of the Institute of Traffic Engineers, the American Planning Association, Urban Land Institute, or other acceptable estimates as approved by the zoning administrator. The study should also include other reliable data collected from uses or combinations of uses that are the same as or comparable with the proposed use. Comparability will be determined by development type, density, size and scale, and location. Additional considerations will be given to adaptive re-uses surrounding land uses, anticipated users, seasonal uses, low and moderate housing, availability of transportation choices, walkability index score and existing or proposed pedestrian infrastructure. The study shall document the source of data used to develop the recommendations. Any subsequent change in use or dimensions of a site approved utilizing this Section of the ordinance will require a review to determine if adequate parking exists for any new use.

a. Shared Parking. The Zoning Administrator, where appropriate, may approve shared or simultaneous use of parking provided a parking study prepared by the applicant or their consultant is submitted for review. Such study shall include estimates of parking demand based on recommendations of the Institute of Traffic Engineers, the American Planning Association, Urban Land Institute, or other acceptable estimates as approved by the Zoning Administrator. Such study must provide the following:

i. It can be demonstrated that the location and design requirements of this section are met.

ii. Adequate and safe pedestrian access is provided from and to parking areas.

iii. In the event that an off-site parking area is not under the same ownership as the principal use served, a written shared parking agreement, for heirs and assigns of the properties will be required. An attested copy of the agreement between the owners of record must be submitted to the Zoning Administrator for review and approval. The agreement must be recorded with the Burleigh County Recorder prior to the issuance of a building permit for any use served by the off-site parking area.

iv. Any subsequent change in use or dimensions by either party will require proof that the minimum parking requirements of the approved shared parking agreement are met.

b. **Parking Determination.** The Zoning Administrator may apply to the Board of Adjustment for an interpretation of the provisions of this article for required parking, stacking and loading requirements and the Board of Adjustment shall render a decision in writing in the manner provided for in this section for such action.

11. **Off-street loading.** Except as provided elsewhere in this section, no application for a building permit or certificate of occupancy for a commercial or industrial use shall be approved unless there is included with the plan for such building improvement or use, a site plan showing the required loading space or structural design for off-street loading purposes to be provided in connection with such building, improvement or use, in accordance with this section; and no certificate of occupancy shall be issued unless the required facilities have been provided in accordance with those shown on the approved plan.

a. the number of off-street stacking spaces shall be provided on the basis of the following minimum requirements:

i. Each department store, freight terminal or railroad yard, medical facility, industrial plant, manufacturing establishment, retail establishment, storage warehouse or wholesale establishment which has an aggregate gross floor area of twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet or more, arranged, intended or designed for such use, shall provide off-street truck loading or unloading berths in accordance with the following table:

<b>Square feet of Aggregate Gross Floor Area Devoted to Such Use</b>	<b>Required Number of Berths</b>
25,000 but less than 40,000	1

40,000 but less than 100,000	2
100,000 but less than 160,000	2
160,000 but less than 240,000	4
240,000 up to and including 320,000	5
For each additional 90,000	1 additional berth

ii. Each auditorium, convention hall, exhibition hall, funeral home, hotel, office building, restaurant, sports arena, or medical facility which has an aggregate gross floor area of fifty thousand (50,000) square feet or more used or intended to be used for service to the arranged, intended or designed uses shall provide off-street truck loading or unloading berths in accordance with the following table:

Square feet of Aggregate Gross Floor Area Devoted to Such Use	Required Number of Berths
50,000 up to and including 250,000	1
For each additional 250,000	1 additional berth

12. Continuing character of obligation. The schedule of requirements for off-street parking space and off-street loading space shall be a continuing obligation of the owner of the real estate on which any such structure is located as long as the structure is in existence and its use requiring vehicle parking or vehicle loading facilities continues. It shall be unlawful for an owner of any building affected by this section to discontinue, change or dispense with, or to cause the discontinuance or change of the required vehicle parking or loading spaces apart from the discontinuance, sale or transfer of such structure, without establishing alternative vehicle parking or loading space which meets with the requirements of and is in compliance with this section. It shall be unlawful for any firm or corporation to use such building without acquiring such land or other suitable land for vehicle parking or loading space which meets with the requirements of and is in compliance with this Section.

13. Special Use Permit for Off-Site Parking Lots. Off-site parking lots within residential areas are subject to the requirements of Section 14-03-08(4)(x). The off-street loading facilities required by this section shall in all cases be on the same lot or parcel of land as the structure they are intended to serve. In no case shall the required off-street loading space be part of the area used to satisfy the off-street parking requirements of this Section. All required off-street parking and loading facilities along with all ingress and egress driveways thereto shall be zoned appropriately for the principal use which they are intended to serve.

14. Nonconforming uses. In the case of nonconforming uses where major repairs, substantial alterations or extensions are made, no such major repairs, substantial alterations or extensions shall be permitted unless and until the off-street parking and off-street loading facility space requirements of this section, so far as they apply to the use to which such building is devoted, shall be fully provided for.

Provided, however, this item shall not apply to the rebuilding of nonconforming uses that are being rebuilt according to section 14-03-09 of the zoning ordinance.

(Ord. 4117, 12-30-86; Ord. 4213, 8-02-88; Ord. 4323, 4-24-90; Ord. 4236, 1-17-89; Ord. 4325 and 4326, 4-24-90 & 5-01-90; Ord. 4333, 6-05-90; Ord. 4332, 6-05-90; Ord. 4336, 7-31-90; Ord. 4770, 06-25-96; Ord. 4821, 02-25-97; Ord. 4863, 08-12-97; Ord. 4936, 09-08-98; Ord. 5206, 10-08-02; Ord. 5207, 10-08-02; Ord. 5247, 04-22-03; Ord. 5295, 02-24-04; Ord. 5501, 04-25-06; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5693, 09-23-08; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5852, 11-22-11; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6043, 04-22-14; Ord. 6050, 05-27-14; Ord. 6120, 05-26-15; Ord. 6157, 8-25-15; Ord. 6171, 10-27-15; Ord. 6195, 03-22-16; Ord. 6271, 07-25-17; Ord. 6424, 06-12-20)

#### 14-03-11. Landscaping and Screening.

1. Purpose. The purpose of these regulations are to maintain the City's quality and character by enhancing its visual appearance through the use of landscaping; enhance environmental conditions by providing shade, air purification, reduction of storm water run-off, and filtering of noise and light; promote neighborhood character, traffic calming, wildlife habitat, pedestrian amenity and aesthetic value, screen off-street parking areas and exterior storage areas from view of persons on public streets and adjoining properties and mitigate off-site headlight projection; provide buffer areas between land uses of differing intensity; and encourage the planting of trees and other plant materials throughout the community that are native or generally suitable for this area.
2. Applicability. The landscaping requirements contained herein shall apply to any of the following:
  - a. The construction of any principal commercial, industrial, institutional, or multi-family building(s) with three (3) or more units or an accessory building for any of the above uses;
  - b. The installation of any parking area or the expansion of any existing parking area by five (5) or more off-street parking spaces;
  - c. A change in the use of the property that requires rezoning to a more intensive zoning classification or a special use permit; and
  - d. The reconstruction of a portion of an existing off-street parking lot equal to or greater than twenty percent (20%) at one time or forty percent (40%) over a five (5) year period, regardless of whether or not required parking spaces are added, and provided the required plant materials do not reduce the number of off-street parking spaces below what is required. Reconstruction includes any land disturbance activity or exposure of any subgrade or soil material. Regular maintenance, minor repairs, patch work or a partial mill and overlay would not constitute reconstruction. Only those portions of the off-street parking areas being reconstructed would be subject to

these requirements. Consideration may be given by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester on a case-by-case basis to modify the requirements for the reconstructed off-street parking areas.

3. General Requirements. All exposed ground areas, including areas not devoted to off-street parking, drives, sidewalks or other such improvements shall be landscaped with grass, vegetative ground cover, shrubs, trees or other ornamental landscape materials in conjunction with site development. All landscaped areas shall be kept neat, clean and uncluttered. No required landscaped area shall be used for parking of vehicles or for the storage or display of materials, supplies or merchandise. Boulevard areas shall be subject to the requirements of Sections 10-03-14 and 10-05-04.

The Director of Community Development and the City Forester may allow the placement of existing and/or required landscaping to be altered as deemed appropriate.

4. Landscaping Plan Required. A landscape plan shall be required for all development subject to the provisions of this subsection. All landscape plans submitted for approval shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:
  - a. North point and scale;
  - b. The boundary lines of the property with dimensions and area;
  - c. The location of all driveways, parking areas, sidewalks, structures, utilities, or other features, existing or proposed, affecting the landscaping of the site;
  - d. The location, common name, scientific name to the species level, size and quantity of all existing trees, shrubs or other vegetation intended for use in meeting the requirements of this subsection;
  - e. The location, common name, scientific name to the species level, size and quantity of all proposed landscape materials;
  - f. The location and height of any proposed earthen berms, masonry fences or other features used to meet the landscaping or buffer yard requirements;
  - g. The location of any existing and/or proposed easements; and
  - h. The square footage of each interior parking lot landscaping area and the overall square footage of all interior parking lot landscaping areas shown.

- i. An opinion of cost prepared by the landscape architect, landscape designer, landscape contractor or civil engineer submitting the landscape plan in the amount sufficient to guarantee the installation of all the required landscaping elements and materials, including trees, shrubs, perennials, ornamental grasses, ground cover, rock mulch, wood mulch, top soil, edging material, or any other materials necessary to install the required landscape materials, as well as all labor costs to implement the landscape plan.
  - j. A landscaping phasing plan must be provided if the required landscaping will be installed with phased development.
5. Landscape Design Considerations. Landscape design should serve to provide visually interesting open space, reduce the potential negative impact of development on adjacent land uses, and complement the scale of the development and its surroundings. The following items are to be considered in developing a landscape plan for submittal to the City:
- a. Landscape materials and structural items placed within the sight triangle of a corner lot, as defined in Section 14-02-03, shall not have a height of more than three (3) feet above the curb level during all stages of plant growth. Deciduous trees may be planted within the sight triangle provided they are not an obstruction to vision between three (3) feet and ten (10) feet above the curb level;
  - b. Landscape materials and structural items at driveway entrances shall be placed so that visibility for vehicles entering or exiting a parking lot is not obstructed;
  - c. Trees or shrubs shall not be planted under utility lines when their ultimate height may interfere with the lowest lines;
  - d. Landscaped areas shall be of adequate size to promote proper plant growth and to protect plantings from pedestrian traffic, vehicle traffic, and other types of concentrated activity;
  - e. Landscaped areas and plantings shall be located in a manner to allow adequate room for proper maintenance;
  - f. A variety of tree and shrub species shall be utilized to provide year around visual interest. Except for continuous hedges and street trees, not more than fifty percent (50%) of the required number of trees or shrubs may be comprised of any one (1) species. In addition, not more than fifty percent (50%) of the shrubs and perennials within any planting bed larger than five hundred (500) square feet in area may be comprised of any one (1) genus;

- g. Final slopes greater than a 3:1 ratio, including slopes on earthen berms, will not be permitted without special approval or treatment, such as special seed mixtures or reforestation, terracing or retaining walls; and
- h. Within the DC – Downtown Core and DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts, streetscape elements from the City’s Streetscape Guidelines should be incorporated into the perimeter parking lot landscaping.
- i. The use of rain gardens, bioswales, storm water infiltration areas are encouraged.

6. Landscape Materials Standards.

- a. Plant Quality. Plants installed to satisfy the requirements of this subsection must meet or exceed the plant quality standards of the most recent edition of *American Standards for Nursery Stock*, published by the American Association of Nurserymen, be nursery grown and adapted to the local area.
- b. Artificial Plants. No artificial plants or vegetation may be used to meet any standard of this section.
- c. Sizes.

Type of Material	Minimum Size at Time of Planting
Shade Trees	Caliper of 1½ inches measured 6 inches above the root collar for trees with a mature height of 30 feet or greater
Ornamental Trees	Caliper of 1 inch measured 6 inches above the root collar for trees with a mature height of less than 30 feet
Upright Coniferous Trees	Minimum height of 4 feet above grade
Shrubs	Minimum container size of 2 gallons and minimum mature height of 3 feet above grade
Perennials	Minimum container size of 1 gallon

- d. Existing Plant Material. Existing, healthy plant material may be utilized to satisfy landscaping requirements, provided it meets the minimum sizes specified above.
- e. Ground Cover. Vegetative ground cover shall be of a size and spacing to provide a minimum of fifty percent (50%) coverage during the first full growing season and complete coverage upon maturity.

Only pervious weed barriers shall be allowed. Mulch may not be used in lieu of vegetative ground cover, except in those situations where mulch is necessary to promote healthy tree and shrub growth.

Where mulch is used, an adequate vertical barrier must be included around the perimeter of the mulch area to prevent mulch from washing into the public right-of-way or on to adjacent properties.

- f. Soil in Landscaped Areas. Soil in landscaped areas shall consist of loose, friable, loamy topsoil that is free of excess acid and alkali. It shall be free from objectionable amounts of sod, hard lumps, gravel, subsoil or other undesirable material, to a depth of eighteen (18) inches.

## 7. Street Trees.

- a. Purpose. The street tree requirements are intended to promote air quality, shade, neighborhood character, traffic calming, reduced storm water runoff, wildlife habitat, pedestrian amenity and aesthetic value.
- b. Applicability. Street trees shall be installed in conjunction with the construction of any principal commercial, industrial, institutional or multi-family building with more than three (3) units along a section of public roadway with curb and gutter installed or scheduled to be installed in conjunction with the project.
- c. Location. Street trees shall be installed within the public right-of-way or within ten (10) feet of the public right-of-way.
- d. Spacing and Planting Requirements. Unless the City Forester determines that it is necessary to address specific site conditions, three (3) deciduous trees are required for every one hundred (100) linear feet of street frontage. Street trees need not be placed at exact intervals, but they must be placed evenly along the street frontage. The City Forester shall have the authority to determine the final location of street trees in accordance with Section 13-02-01 of the City Code. Mulch shall be installed to a minimum coverage thickness of two (2) inches within a radius of three (3) feet of the trunk base, and in accordance with the City Forester's planting standards and specifications. Tree grates may be used in lieu of mulching at the discretion of the City Forester.
- e. Permit Required. A planting permit must be obtained from the Forestry Division of the Public Works Department prior to planting any trees within the public right-of-way.

## 8. Perimeter Parking Lot Landscaping.

- a. Purpose. The perimeter parking lot landscaping requirements are intended to screen views of parking lots and access lanes from public rights-of-way, mitigate off-site headlight projection, and provide pervious surfaces to reduce storm water run-off.
- b. Applicability. Perimeter parking lot landscaping shall be required with the installation or reconstruction (as defined in subsection 2(d)) of any off-street parking area or access lane adjacent to the public right-of-way and/or visible from and within three hundred (300) feet of a public right-of-way.
- c. Standards. All parking lots and access lanes shall provide perimeter landscaping between said off-street parking areas and access lanes and adjacent public rights-of-way. Said perimeter landscaping shall be constructed with standard poured-in-place concrete curbing on the parking lot side in order to minimize damage to plant material. Said perimeter curbing may be modified to allow for storm water management applications designed to function as rain gardens, bioswales or storm water infiltration areas at the discretion of the Director of Community Development and the City Forester.
- d. Trees and Shrubs. Trees and shrubs shall be installed in accordance with the following table. The intent of the minimum requirements column is to provide a total number of trees and shrubs required based on street frontage, not to dictate the spacing of the trees and shrubs within that frontage. For fractions of the specified linear feet, the number of trees and shrubs required shall be the corresponding fraction.

Parking Lot Size (Number of Spaces)	Minimum Landscaping Width	Minimum Requirements
Less than 100	4 feet; or	Masonry wall, decorative fencing or continuous evergreen or deciduous hedge with a minimum height of 3 feet.
	6 feet	1 shade or ornamental tree and 5 shrubs for every 25 linear feet of street frontage.
100 to 399	10 feet; or	4 shade or ornamental trees and 40 shrubs for every 100 linear feet of street frontage; or

		Masonry wall, decorative fencing combined with a variety of landscape materials, or continuous evergreen or deciduous hedge with a minimum height of 3 feet
	20 feet; or	Earthen berm with a minimum height of 3 feet plus 2 shade or ornamental trees for every 100 linear feet of street frontage; or 2 shade or ornamental trees and 15 shrubs for every 100 linear feet of street frontage.
	30 feet	4 shade or ornamental trees and 10 shrubs for every 100 linear feet of street frontage.
400 or more	20 feet	Earthen berm with a minimum height of 3 feet plus 4 shade or ornamental trees for every 100 linear feet of street frontage; or
		4 shade or ornamental trees and 15 shrubs for every 100 linear feet of street frontage; or
		Masonry wall, decorative iron fencing combined with a variety of landscape materials, or continuous evergreen or deciduous hedge with a minimum height of 4 feet.
	30 feet	4 shade or ornamental trees and 10 shrubs for every 100 linear feet of street frontage.
	40 feet or greater	4 shade or ornamental trees for every 100 linear feet of street frontage.

- e. Applicability to Industrial Districts. Within the MA – Industrial and MB – Industrial zoning districts, the Director of Community Development and the City Forester may waive or modify perimeter parking lot landscaping requirements based on site conditions if the parking lot has twenty-five (25) or fewer parking spaces and the property is not located along a collector or arterial roadway.
- f. Grade Differential. Consideration will be given for parking areas and access lanes that are significantly above or below the finish grade of the adjacent public right-of-way. Modifications to the required plant quantities will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester with the submittal

of section and/or elevation drawings showing how the design will meet the intent of the ordinance.

- g. Separation. For off-street parking areas with varying widths adjacent to a public right-of-way, the average separation distance between the parking area and the right-of-way will be the basis for the required plant materials.
- h. Substitutions. The Director of Community Development and the City Forester may allow perennials to be substituted for a portion of the required shrubs on a two-to-one basis (two perennials to one shrub), and for one shade tree to be substituted for three shrubs, based on specific site conditions and the overall landscape design for the site.

#### 9. Interior Parking Lot Landscaping.

- a. Purpose. The interior parking lot landscaping requirements are intended to break up large expanses of pavement, provide relief from the heat island effect associated with paved areas, promote air quality, shade, aesthetic value, and provide pervious surfaces to reduce storm water run-off.
- b. Applicability. Interior parking lot landscaping applies to any new or reconstructed parking lot (as defined by subsection 2(d)).
- c. Standards. All parking lots containing fifty (50) or more off-street parking spaces shall provide interior landscape areas within the parking lot. Said landscape areas shall be provided at the rate of ten (10) square feet per parking space, shall be no less than ten (10) feet by ten (10) feet (100 square feet), and shall be constructed with poured-in-place concrete curbing to minimize damage to plant material. Said curbing may be modified to allow for storm water management applications designed to function as rain gardens, bioswales or storm water infiltration areas at the discretion of the Director of Community Development and the City Forester. For parking lots with one hundred (100) to four hundred (400) parking spaces, at least fifty percent (50%) of the landscape areas shall be no less than six hundred (600) square feet in area with a minimum width dimension of ten (10) feet. For parking lots with more than four hundred (400) parking spaces, at least fifty percent (50%) of the landscape areas shall be no less than twelve hundred (1200) square feet in area with a minimum width dimension of ten (10) feet.
- d. Placement of Landscape Areas. Live plant material should be evenly dispersed throughout the parking area.
- e. Trees and Shrubs. At least one (1) shade tree and three (3) shrubs shall be provided for every twenty (20) parking spaces or fraction

thereof within the off-street parking area. One (1) shade tree may be substituted for three (3) shrubs, but shrubs may not be substituted for shade trees. The Director of Community Development and the City Forester may allow perennials to be substituted for a portion of the required shrubs on a two-to-one basis (two perennials to one shrub), based on specific site conditions and the overall landscape design for the site.

- f. For sites located within industrial zoning districts, the required plant material for interior landscape islands located in areas designated for truck maneuverability may be relocated throughout the site at the discretion of the Director of Community Development and the City Forester.

#### 10. Buffer Yards.

- a. Purpose. The buffer yard requirements are intended to provide separation between land uses of differing intensity. Buffer yards utilize a combination of distance and plantings to form a dense landscaping screen to mitigate the undesirable impacts associated with incompatible land uses on adjacent properties. Earthen berms and/or opaque wood or similar screening fence as defined in this section may also be used where appropriate at the discretion of the Director of Community Development and the City Forester.
- b. Applicability. Buffer yards shall be required between a single- or two-family residential use and zoning and any other non-agricultural land use, and between a multiple family residential use (three (3) or more units) and any commercial, industrial or institutional use in all zoning districts except when both properties are located within the Downtown Core (DC) and/or Downtown Fringe (DF) zoning districts. Buffer yards shall also be required for parking lots and access lanes associated with these uses, whether they are located on the same parcel or on a separate parcel.
- c. Location of Buffer Yards. Buffer yards shall be located along the entire length of any lot line where two (2) land uses of differing intensity abut, excluding areas adjacent to access points and sight triangles. Such buffer yards may be located within required yards, but not within any portion of the public right-of-way or over any established trail or access easement.
- d. Responsibility for Buffer Yard Installation. Installation of all required buffer yards shall be the responsibility of the proposed higher intensity use and shall be located on the lot of the higher intensity use unless a perpetual landscape easement is obtained from the property owner with the lower intensity use, in which case the buffer yard may be located on the lot with the lower intensity use. In

situations where the higher intensity use was in place prior to the adoption of this section (October 8, 2002), or any subsequent amendments, a buffer yard shall not be required with the subsequent development of the adjacent lower intensity land use. Landscape easements for buffer yards may be required in conjunction with the platting process in situations where such buffer yards will be required based on existing or proposed zoning and/or land uses.

- e. Standards. Buffer yards shall be installed in accordance with the following table:

Area Where Buffer Yard Required	Minimum Width of Buffer Yard	Landscape Materials Required per 100 Linear Feet
Side or rear yard of any expanding higher intensity land use adjacent to single and two-family residential uses or zoning	10 feet w/6-foot screening fence	4 shade trees and 2 ornamental trees
Side or rear yard of any new multi-family land use adjacent to single and two-family residential uses or zoning  or  Side or rear yard of any new commercial or institutional use adjacent to a multi-family residential use or zoning	15 feet  or  15 feet w/6-foot screening fence	3 shade trees, 4 ornamental trees, 2 large upright coniferous trees, 10 small upright coniferous trees and 14 shrubs (25% of shrubs must be evergreens)  2 shade trees and 2 ornamental trees and 2 large upright coniferous trees

Side or rear yard of any new commercial or institutional land use adjacent to a single or two-family residential use or zoning	20 feet	2 shade trees and 4 ornamental trees and 3 large upright coniferous trees and 10 small upright coniferous trees and 14 shrubs
	or 20 feet w/6-foot screening fence	2 shade trees and 3 ornamental trees and 2 large upright coniferous trees
Side or rear yard of any new industrial use adjacent to any residential use or zoning	50 feet w/6-foot berm	5 shade trees and 7 ornamental trees and 10 large upright coniferous trees and 10 small upright coniferous trees and 24 shrubs

A screening fence may be made of solid wood, composite material with the appearance of solid wood, vinyl with the appearance of solid wood, masonry, or a combination of masonry and any of the other materials listed. In situations where the rear walls of accessory garages are located within twenty (20) feet of a property line, the planting material numbers required for a buffer yard with a screening fence will apply, provided the wall of the accessory garages is at least one hundred (100) feet in length and provided that the number of planting materials required for a buffer yard without a fence are provided in areas not occupied by such garages.

In order to provide flexibility in the application of this ordinance, the Director of Community Development and the City Forester may allow material numbers and/or types to be modified on a case-by-case basis with the submittal of an oblique view or elevation sketch of the buffer yard showing how the proposed materials will meet the dense landscaping screen intent of this ordinance within five (5) years of initial installation and at full maturity.

- f. **Sizes.** In order to provide an effective landscaping screen in conjunction with site development, minimum sizes at the time of planting and minimum heights at maturity have been established. The classification of various types of materials shall be based on the City of Bismarck's Forestry standards and specifications.

Type of Materials	Minimum Size at Time of Planting	Minimum Height at Maturity
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Shade Trees	Caliper of 1.5 inches measured 6 inches above the root collar	20 feet
Ornamental Trees	Caliper of 1 inch measured 6 inches above the root collar	15 feet
Small Upright Coniferous Trees	Minimum height of 2 feet above grade or minimum container size of 5 gallons	6 feet
Large Upright Coniferous Trees	Minimum height of 4 feet above grade	20 feet
Shrubs	Minimum height of 2 feet above grade or a minimum container size of 2 gallons	3 feet

- g. Applicability to Non-Conforming Uses. Proposed modifications to a required buffer yard adjacent to any non-conforming use, based on zoning, may be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester.
- h. Applicability to Buffer Yards in Areas Within the Extraterritorial Area. Consideration will be given by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester on a case-by-case basis to allow a modified buffer yard in developing areas within the extraterritorial area. Consideration will be given for reduced plant quantities, sizes, locations and plant species.
- i. Grade Differential. Consideration will be given for required buffer yards that are significantly above or below the finish grade of the adjacent property. Modifications to the required plant quantities may be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester with the submittal of section and/or elevation drawings showing how the design will meet the intent of the ordinance.

11. Installation, Maintenance, Replacement, Inspection and Enforcement.

- a. Installation of Street Trees. The City Forester shall determine the time for installation of street trees.

- b. Installation of Other Required Landscaping. All other landscaping and buffer yards required by this subsection shall be healthy and in-place as soon as grading or construction has been completed to eliminate or reduce wind and/or water erosion. When landscaping cannot be completed in conjunction with site development due to seasonal constraints, the plant material shall be installed at the beginning of the next growing season, unless otherwise approved by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester.
- c. Maintenance and Replacement. The owner, or successors in interest, or agent, if any, shall be responsible for regular maintenance of all landscaping in good condition in a way that presents a healthy, neat and orderly appearance. All landscaping must be maintained free from disease, pests, weeds and litter. This maintenance must include weeding, watering, fertilizing, pruning, mowing, edging, mulching and other maintenance, as needed and in accordance with acceptable horticultural practices. Dead plants must be promptly removed and replaced within the next growing season. Trees located along fire department access routes, as identified on an approved site plan, must be pruned as needed to maintain a vertical clearance height of no less than fourteen (14) feet.
- d. Inspection and Enforcement. All landscaping shall be subject to periodic inspection by the City Forester. Landscaping that is not installed, maintained or replaced as needed to comply with the approved landscape plan shall be considered a violation of this Section and shall be subject to the enforcement provisions Chapter 13-02-14.
- e. Surety Requirement.
  - 1. For landscaping required under Section 14-03-11, the landscaping shown in the approved landscaping plan must be installed prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy. If the required landscaping cannot be installed in conjunction with site development because of extenuating circumstances, such as seasonal concerns, the Director of Community Development and City Forester may allow the installation of the required landscaping to be delayed on a case-by-case basis. Unless waived by the Director of Community Development and City Forester for good cause shown, said delay would only be allowed in conjunction with the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy and a receipt of a cash deposit with the City of Bismarck in an amount equal to the estimate submitted with the landscape plan, updated if required by the City Forester, plus ten percent (10%) sufficient to guarantee the installation of the landscaping according to the landscape plan.

If the required landscaping is not installed by the date set by the Director of Community Development and the City Forester, the City may utilize the cash deposit and order the installation of the landscaping according to the approved landscape plan, based on an estimate prepared by the landscape architect, landscape designer, landscape contractor or civil engineer submitting the landscape plan and agreed to by the City.

(Ord. 5437, 06-28-05; Ord. 5450, 08-23-05; Ord. 5562, 11-28-06; Ord. 5640, 10-09-07; Ord. 5812, 03-22-11; Ord. 6051, 05-27-14; Ord. 6311, 02-27-18)

14-03-12. Screening of Mechanical Equipment and Solid Waste Collection Areas.

1. *Mechanical Equipment.* All rooftop and ground mounted mechanical equipment shall be designed and located so to be as unobtrusive as possible. If this is not possible, ground equipment shall be screened from view of adjacent properties and public rights-of-way by landscape plantings, fencing or other screening treatment compatible with the principal building.
2. *Solid Waste Collection Areas.* All solid waste collection areas for commercial, industrial, institutional or multi-family buildings with more than four units shall be screened from view of adjacent properties and public rights-of-way on at least three sides with a six-foot solid masonry wall, opaque wood fence or other compatible building material.

(Ord. 5207, 10-08-02)

CHAPTER 14-03.1 – SIGNS

14-03.1-01 Purpose.////////// The purpose of this chapter is to:

1. Provide fair standards and procedures to ensure that individuals, businesses, and organizations have a reasonable ability to communicate messages to the general public.
2. Protect public safety by preventing or mitigating traffic hazards through obstruction of view, distraction of roadway users, and all other negative effects on public travel.
3. Promote wayfinding to facilitate the efficient identification of destinations, which requires making a distinction between on-premise signs and off-premise signs.
4. Reduce visual clutter along public rights-of-way to improve the legibility of existing signs, including traffic control devices, and enhance the overall aesthetics of the community.
5. Protect property values of residential and commercial property owners who may be negatively impacted by signs within view of the property.

6. Encourage creative expression and artistic contributions to the community, which requires a distinction between signs of a commercial and non-commercial nature.

7. Preserve the health, safety, and general welfare of the public.  
(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)

#### 14-03.1-02 Definitions and Measurements.

1. Definitions of Terms. In addition to the overall definitions for zoning contained in Section 14-02-03 (Definitions) of the City Code of Ordinances, the following definitions represent the meanings of terms as they are used in this chapter:

**Air-blown Sign:** A sign that is designed to be moved or filled with air or gas, such as balloons and products marketed as “air puppet” or “tube man.” This includes such devices that do not contain a message but are intended to attract attention.

**Awning:** Any structure or shelter attached to and projecting outward from the face of a building, typical extending over a sidewalk or other thoroughfare.

**Changeable Copy Sign:** A sign or portion thereof with characters, letters or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged manually without altering the face of the sign. Reader boards and marquee signs are considered changeable copy signs.

**Commercial Zoning District:** The CA – Commercial, CG – Commercial, HM – Health Medical, or RT – Residential zoning districts. Street frontages in a P – Public zoning district that are not adjacent to or across from a residential zoning district, the A – Agricultural zoning district, or another P – Public zoning district are considered to be within a commercial zoning district for the purpose of this section.

**Community-Wide Event:** Any special event or other local, cultural, educational, or sporting activities of specific benefit to the City. Any content with the primary purpose of endorsing or promoting commercial interests; campaign messages that endorse or oppose a candidate for election to public office; or business logos and sponsorships by commercial entities shall not be considered advertisement of a community event.

**Digital Off-Premise Advertising Sign:** An off-premise advertising sign with a digital display of information that is capable of displaying multiple static images sequentially and is controlled by electronic communications. A sign with one digital face and one static face shall be considered a digital off-premise advertising sign.

**Downtown Zoning District:** The DC – Downtown Core and DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts.

**Electronic Component:** A small-scale electronic component of a permanent sign that meets all conditions of Section 14-03.1-05(10).

**Electronic Message Center Sign (EMC):** An on-premise advertising sign with a digital display of information that is capable of displaying characters, letters or illustrations and can be electronically changed by remote or automatic means. Small scale electronic components to signs that comply with all requirements of this ordinance are not included within this definition.

**Feather Flag Sign:** A freestanding sign typically constructed of a single plastic or metal shaft driven in the ground or fixed to a weighted base and with an attached pennant that is vertically elongated and attached to the shaft.

**Frame Hold Time:** The duration or interval of time during which each individual digital advertisement or message is displayed on any sign which is capable of sequentially displaying more than one advertisement or message on its display surface.

**Freestanding Sign:** A permanent sign that is not attached to any building or structure, with the exception of a structure, such as a pole or foundation, with the sole purpose of supporting signs. Freestanding signs are further divided into pole signs or monument signs.

**Industrial Zoning District:** The MA – Industrial or MB – Industrial zoning districts.

**Monument Sign:** A freestanding sign supported by a solid base, extending to the ground, of at least fifty (50) percent of the sign width with the highest point of the sign face located eight (8) feet or less from the ground. Signs that are affixed to boulders or other inorganic natural features may be considered monument signs.

**Off-Premise Advertising Sign:** A ground sign, as defined in the most recent adoption of the International Building Code (IBC), that may advertise goods or services that are not associated with the use of the premises. Off-premise advertising signs may also advertise on-premise goods or services. An off-premise advertising sign may be static, digital, illuminated, non-illuminated or any combination thereof where permitted.

**On-Premise Advertising Sign:** A sign advertising the business, person, service or major product of the building or land upon which it is located, or identifying the premises or goods manufactured, produced, or services rendered thereon. On-premise does not necessarily imply that the sign and its referent share a single lot or parcel, but a set of contiguous lots or parcels that function as a whole use may be considered a premise for the purposes of this definition.

**Permanent Sign:** Any sign that is intended to be and is constructed to remain unchanged in character and position and affixed to features such as the ground or building for one (1) year or more. A temporary sign left in place for one (1) year or more does not become a permanent sign.

**Pole Sign:** A freestanding sign resting on or supported by one or more poles or other vertical structures. Any permanent freestanding sign that does not meet the definition of monument sign shall be considered a pole sign. Signs commonly referred to as pylon signs are considered poles signs.

**Portable Sign:** A sign that is constructed to be movable, either by skids, wheels, truck or other conveyance and which does not have a permanent foundation or is otherwise permanently fastened to the ground and is not actively used as a vehicle for movement of goods. When on a trailer, the removal of the wheels or undercarriage does not place the sign in another category, neither does the anchoring of the sign by means of concrete blocks, sandbags, or other types of temporary anchors. However, sidewalk signs are not considered portable signs.

**Projecting Sign:** A sign that is wholly or partly dependent upon a building or structure for support and which projects outward from the surface of the building in a direction not parallel to the surface.

**Residential Zoning District:** The R5 – Residential, R10 – Residential, RM – Residential, RMH – Residential, RR – Residential, or RR5 – Residential zoning districts. Lots or parcels within a P – Public zoning district that is adjacent to or across from a residential zoning district, the A – Agricultural zoning district, or another P – Public zoning district, are considered to be within a residential zoning district for the purpose of this section.

**Sidewalk Sign:** A sign that is portable, typically designed with an A-frame structure, and is placed on the sidewalk or boulevard area of a public right-of-way, associated with an abutting commercial establishment.

**Sign:** Any visual display visible from a public right-of-way designed to identify, announce, direct, or inform.

**Sign Face:** The entire surface area of the sign that is used to identify, advertise or communicate information for visual representation and is visible from any one direction, exclusive of any supporting structure for the sign. Multiple parts of a sign attached to a wall are considered a single sign face if the parts are intended to be viewed as a coherent whole. Multiple sign faces may be considered parts of one sign, provided the sign faces are no greater than eighteen (18) inches from each other in distance and are either parallel to or at an interior angle of less than thirty (30) degrees with each other.

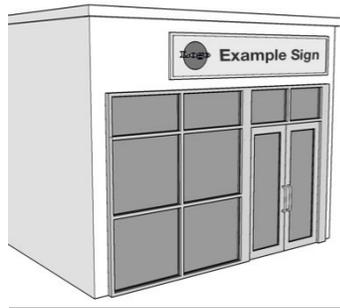
**Site Sign:** An on-premise sign of temporary nature installed on a parcel of land with certain activity specified in this ordinance underway and constructed of

temporary materials such as plywood, durable plastic, composite, or metal, with or without a frame. Yard signs as herein defined shall not be considered site signs.

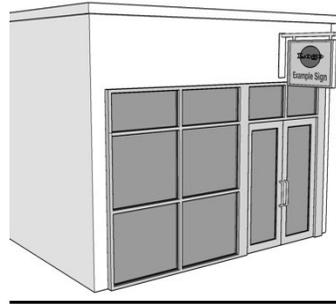
**Temporary Banner:** A display sign banner, or other advertising device constructed of, cloth, canvas, fabric or other light temporary material, with or without a structural frame intended for a limited period of display, including but not limited to decorative displays for holidays, public demonstrations, business sales, promotions, and relocations. Portable signs as herein defined shall not be considered temporary banners.

**Wall Sign:** A sign fastened to the wall of a building or structure in such a manner that the wall becomes the supporting structure for, or forms a background surface of, the sign.

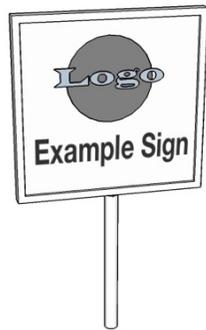
**Yard Sign:** A small sign of a temporary nature inserted into the ground by wire or post, including but not limited to real estate signs, garage sales, political signs, and construction signs, constructed of a light temporary material, such as corrugated plastic, aluminum, or composite, with or without a frame. Portable signs and site signs as herein defined shall not be considered yard signs.



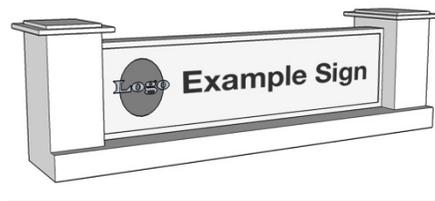
Wall Sign



Projecting Sign



Pole Sign



Monument Sign

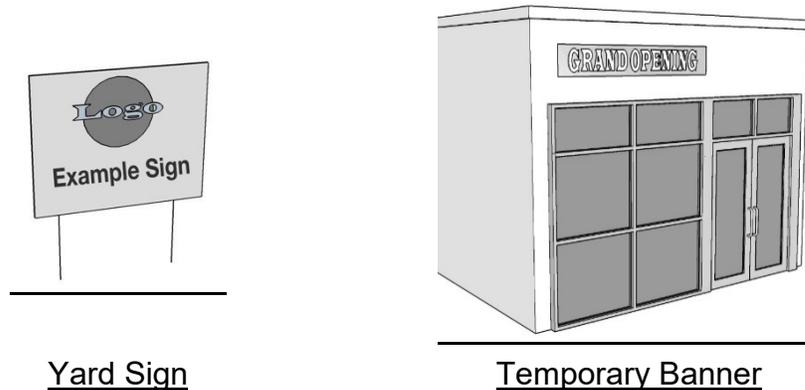


Figure 1: Illustrations of Selected Sign Types

2. Method of Measurement. All dimensional measurements in this chapter shall be calculated based on the following methods:

a. Determining Allowable Area. Wherever a total allowable sign area is applied in this chapter, the following methods shall be used to determine area measurements:

i. The total allowable sign area for all signs on a parcel is based on the length of linear street frontage of the parcel on a public right-of-way, other than alleyways, towards which the sign or signs are oriented in all parcels outside of Downtown Zoning Districts. In Downtown Zoning Districts, total allowable sign area for all signs on a parcel is based on the length of street frontage that is occupied by a building at any point along a perpendicular line extending from the street frontage, other than alleyways, towards which the sign or signs are oriented.

ii. The primary street frontage shall be considered the side from which the principal structure on the parcel has its primary entrance, which is the means by which the majority of the ground-floor space of the building is accessed or the most commonly used entrance for the building. In such cases where said entrance is on a corner, the Zoning Administrator shall assign one street frontage as primary.

iii. Secondary street frontages shall be considered all sides of a property that are not considered the primary street frontage.

iv. The total allowable sign area of any street frontage, whether primary or secondary, may be applied to any sign that is visible from that frontage, including the combined total from multiple street frontages. The total allowable sign area of any

street frontage may not be applied to any sign that is not visible from that frontage.

v. Only permitted signs are included in total allowable sign area calculations. Permit-exempt signs shall not be included.

b. Area of Sign Face. The area in square feet of a sign face, not including any supporting structures, is measured as follows:

i. Signs within a cabinet or base with a regular polygon or circular shape shall be measured as the total area of the shape, including any frame.

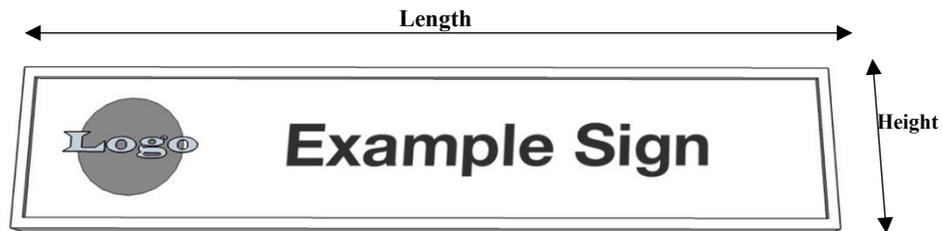


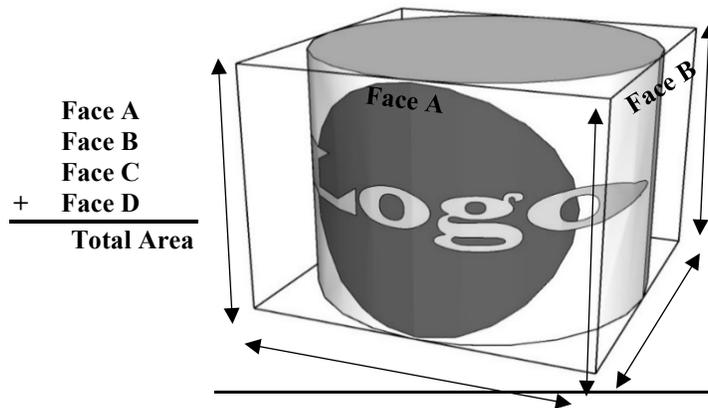
Figure 2: Example of regular shape area measurement (Length Height)

ii. Signs with irregularly-shaped sign faces or multiple parts, such as independent letters or logos, shall be measured as the area of the smallest single polygon with all interior angles less than 180 degrees that encompasses the entire sign face.



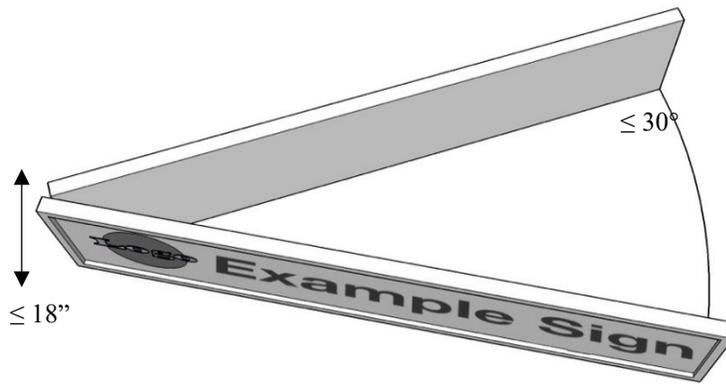
Figure 3: Example of irregular shape area measurement (Area within dashed line)

iii. Signs on a non-planar shape, such as spheres, cylinders, cones, or other multidimensional shapes, shall be measured as the area of the sum of the four vertical sides of the smallest cube that completely encompasses the sign.



*Figure 4: Example of measurement of non-planar shape*

iv. Signs with two faces are measured as the area of only the larger of the two faces, as long as the faces are no greater than eighteen (18) inches from each other in distance and are either parallel to or at an interior angle of less than thirty (30) degrees with each other. Signs with multiple faces that do not meet this condition shall be considered separate signs for each face.

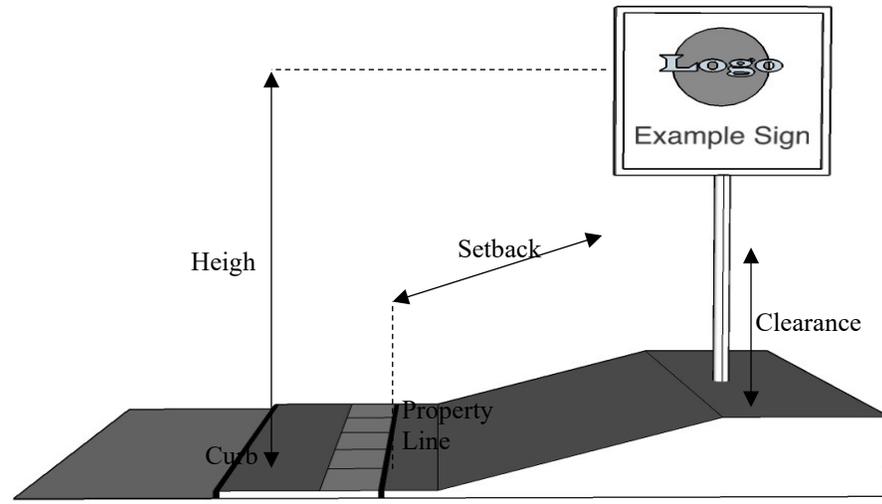


*Figure 5: Example of one sign with two faces*

c. Height of Sign. The vertical distance in feet between the top of the curb of the roadway nearest to the pole, monument, or building wall supporting the sign and the highest point of the area of the sign face.

d. Setback of Sign. The horizontal distance between any part of a sign or supporting structure and the front property line of the parcel the sign is located within.

e. Clearance of Sign. The vertical distance between any part of a sign, including supporting structure, and the highest finished grade directly beneath the sign.



*Figure 6: Example of height, setback, and clearance measurements*

f. Spacing of Signs. The shortest distance between two signs, as measured horizontal to the ground plane from the any point on both signs.

g. Illumination of Signs. The illumination of signs is measured in foot-candles by an illuminance meter. Two measurements must be taken, one for ambient light and another for operational light, with as short a duration between tests as practicable. Required illumination levels are determined by subtracting ambient light from operational light.

i. Location of Tests. Measurements shall be taken from a distance no closer than the nearest curb of a public right-of-way or the nearest property line to the subject sign at a height of three (3) feet above the ground.

ii. Time of Tests. Measurements may be taken at any time. However, conducting tests at least 30 minutes past sunset is recommended.

iii. Testing Method. Ambient light is recorded with the subject sign turned off, or alternatively the sign may be blocked by a dark and opaque object. Operational light is recorded with the sign turned on and displaying a full white image, or alternatively measured as the highest level recorded during normal sign operation. The light meter shall be pointed directly at the sign for both tests.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6497, 02-15-22)*

#### 14-03.1-03 Scope of Sign Provisions.

1. Applicability and Jurisdiction. This chapter shall apply to the construction, installation, function, maintenance, and/or alteration of all signs,

whether permanent or temporary, in the entirety of the City of Bismarck and its extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction.

2. Permit Exempt Signs. The following signs are exempt from requirements to obtain permits in Section 14-03.1-04, but are still subject to the general standards of Section 14-03.1-05 and any specific standards as noted herein:

a. Address Number. A physical street address marking, as required by Section 10-01-07 (Numbering Buildings and Lots) of the City Code of Ordinances, except where the address information is also included within the name of the business or organization owning or occupying the premises.

b. Air-Blown Sign. A temporary sign, as defined in this chapter, subject to the following provisions:

i. Air-blown signs may be displayed on a property or lease space for a continuous display period of no greater than seven (7) days. Up to two (2) display periods are permissible per calendar year per business or organization. The display periods cannot be consecutive and must be separated by at least thirty (30) days.

ii. Air-blown signs are prohibited in the downtown zoning districts.

c. Architectural Feature. A sign, symbol, logo, or lettering that is integral to a building's structure and design that is constructed with permanent materials that are used generally throughout the building and are not specific to the sign.

d. Beacon Transmission. The use of location-based wireless transmission to or collection of information from personal electronic devices within proximity of the transmitter, through means such as Bluetooth or similar technologies, provided that transmitters are on private property and use is in compliance with all applicable state and federal law.

e. Bulletin Board. An informational display, such as a menu board, an event listing, promotional flyer, or other display intended to be read from a close distance and providing specific information typically sought by the viewer. Bulletin Boards may be illuminated only externally with light directed toward the bulletin board.

f. Carried Sign. A sign carried or worn by a person or persons, provided that all traffic safety laws are met.

g. Construction Fence Sign. A sign affixed to a fence erected temporarily around a construction site, subject to the following provisions:

i. Construction fence signs must be installed flush to the fence and may not extend beyond the area of the fence, but are otherwise not limited size.

ii. Construction fence signs must be removed no later than thirty (30) days after a certificate of occupancy has been granted on the building on site or ceasing of the activity for which the fence is used.

h. Electronic Message Center Sign Demonstration. The temporary display of an electronic message center for demonstration purposes over a period of twenty-four (24) hours or less, provided the sign is used as an on-premise advertising sign without any off-premise advertising content.

i. Feather Flag Sign. A sign, as defined in this chapter, subject to the following provisions:

a. Feather flag signs may be displayed on a property or lease space for a continuous display period of no greater than sixty (60) days. Up to two (2) display periods are permissible per calendar year per business or organization. The display periods cannot be consecutive and must be separated by at least thirty (30) days.

b. Feather flag signs are prohibited in the downtown zoning districts.

j. Flag or Pennant. A flag, emblem or insignia of any nation, political subdivision, corporation, or any other entity.

k. Grave Marker. A name or other marker of the deceased located in a cemetery.

l. Identification Plaque. A small, permanent wall sign or plaque that identifies a household name, business and/or organization occupying a building, subject to the following provisions:

i. No more than one (1) identification plaque is permitted on any parcel.

ii. Identification plaques may not exceed one and a half (1 ½) square feet in area in residential zoning districts.

iii. Identification plaques may not exceed three (3) square feet in area in commercial zoning districts, industrial zoning districts,

downtown zoning districts, or agricultural zoning districts. An identification plaque may be freestanding in agricultural zoning districts.

iv. Identification plaques may not be illuminated, either internally or externally.

m. Inwardly-Oriented Sign. A sign that meets any of the following conditions:

i. Located indoors;

ii. Located inside a stadium, concert venue, or athletic fields and oriented toward patrons of that venue;

iii. Located within a parking area or site, such as signs used to provide directions or practical information, and oriented toward the interior of the site;

iv. Any sign not intended to be visible from the public right-of-way or any adjoining property.

n. Public Art. Any installation of a mural or visual artwork visible from a public right-of-way that not does not contain any brand name, product name, letters of the alphabet spelling or abbreviating the name of any product, company, profession, business, logo, trademark, or other commercial message. The following provisions must be met only in the DC – Downtown Core and DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts:

i. All Downtown Design Review procedures shall be followed for any installation of public art.

ii. The public art is not installed on any side of a building directly adjacent to a public right-of-way, excluding alleys.

iii. The public art is not installed on a vacant building or within a vacant lot or parcel, unless the property owner has filed a building permit with the intention of occupation or is otherwise actively in the process of improving the building or parcel for the purpose of occupation.

iv. The public art is not installed on any original façade of a building listed as a contributing structure of the downtown historic district, unless the art may be attached to a removable panel without damage to the underlying historic façade and the artwork meets all other downtown design review requirements pertaining to historic structures.

o. Public Utilitarian Sign. Signs of a non-commercial nature and in the public interest displayed by order of a political subdivision or public utility in performance of its official duties for the purpose of traffic control, wayfinding, public safety, providing legal notice, or identifying public facilities or historical landmarks.

p. Sidewalk Sign. A portable sign, as defined in this chapter. Sidewalk signs are subject to the following restrictions:

i. The maximum width of a sidewalk sign shall be two (2) feet, six (6) inches and the maximum height shall be four (4) feet.

ii. Sidewalk signs may only be placed within a public right-of-way in downtown districts, subject to standards of Section 14-03.1-09(11). Sidewalk signs must be placed on private property in all other districts, unless granted an encroachment agreement.

q. Site Sign. A temporary site sign used for on-premise commercial advertising, as defined in this chapter. Site signs are subject to the following restrictions, depending on activity currently underway on the parcel or in the vicinity thereof:

i. For Sale or Rent. Site signs may be placed on parcels containing property that is currently for sale or rent in commercial, industrial, downtown, or agricultural zoning districts, as well as any RM – Residential zoning district. On said parcels, one (1) site sign may be placed per street frontage on a parcel, with one (1) additional site sign allowed on street frontages of greater than two hundred (200) feet in length. Said site sign(s) shall be no greater than sixty-four (64) square feet in area and ten (10) feet in height, and shall be removed no later than thirty (30) days after sale, lease, or occupancy of the property.

ii. Under Development or Construction. Site signs may be placed on parcels in areas that are currently under development or building construction in any zoning district. On said parcels, no more than three (3) site signs may be placed at each entrance into a development or site. All of said site sign(s) shall be no greater than one-hundred and forty-four (144) square feet in area cumulatively and ten (10) feet in height, and may be displayed until thirty (30) days after all lots in a subdivision have been sold by the developer or thirty (30) days after a certificate of occupancy has been granted on an individual commercial property that is not associated with a subdivision under development.

iii. Site signs are prohibited on properties that do not meet either of the provisions of this section.

iv. Site signs are permitted in addition to any other signs, temporary or permanent, allowed on a parcel under this chapter, and all measurements of spacing or number shall be made independently of other sign types.

v. Site signs may not be illuminated, either internally or externally.

r. **Small-Scale Freestanding Sign.** A small permanent on-premise sign, typically used for ancillary messages such as providing directions, subject to the following provisions:

i. The sign is no larger than six (6) square feet with a height of three (3) feet or less.

ii. No more than two (2) small-scale freestanding signs may be installed on each street frontage of each parcel, in addition to any permitted freestanding signs.

s. **Temporary Banner.** A temporary sign, as defined in this chapter, subject to the following provisions:

i. Temporary banners may be displayed on a property or lease space for a continuous display period of no greater than three hundred (300) days per calendar year per business or organization.

ii. Temporary banners may not be used to advertise off-premise commercial content.

iii. Temporary banners must be attached to, and flush with, a building wall, retaining wall, fence, or other permanent structure.

iv. Temporary banners may not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area in downtown zoning districts and residential zoning districts.

v. Temporary banners may not be displayed on residential properties of four (4) units or less.

vi. Temporary banners may not be illuminated, with the exception of temporary banners affixed to a permitted permanent sign structure to allow for transitions between occupants of a building.

t. **Temporary Lighting Display.** Temporary use of low-wattage lighting for holidays or other events, including standard effects such as flashing or fading, provided any associated glare does not create a public nuisance or traffic safety hazard.

u. Vending Machine Sign. A sign integral to a legally-operating vending machine.

v. Window Sign. A sign affixed to the inside or outside of an exterior window or located in the interior of a building, within twelve (12) inches of a window, and oriented outside the window, subject to the following requirements:

i. Window signs may not be used to advertise off-premise commercial content.

ii. In downtown zoning districts, paper, cardboard, or solid surface signs are not permitted on second floor windows or above.

iii. In the downtown zoning districts, all window signs on a building may not occupy more than twenty-five (25) percent of the total transparent window surface of each window or door opening, unless the interior space is unoccupied or window signs are used for an appropriate screening function and are approved by the Downtown Design Review Committee. Notwithstanding, any window sign or part thereof that does not completely impede visibility, but provides transparency between individual letters or designs, shall be counted as fifty (50) percent of a window sign for the purposes of measuring maximum window coverage.

w. Yard Sign. A temporary sign, as defined in this chapter. Yard signs are subject to the following provisions:

i. A yard sign may not be used to advertise off-premise commercial content. Advertisement of on-premise commercial activity, including but not limited to real estate, sales, construction activity, is permitted for the entire duration of said activity and must be removed within thirty (30) days after completion of said activity. Non-commercial yard signs are permitted and not limited in number or duration.

ii. Yard signs are not permitted for home occupations permitted under Section 14-03-06(2) of the City Code of Ordinances.

iii. Each yard sign may not exceed eight (8) square feet in area, exclusive of any post or supporting structure. Notwithstanding, one (1) non-commercial yard sign may exceed this area limitation for a time period no greater than twenty-four (24) hours. Said non-commercial sign may not be used more than one (1) time per calendar year on any parcel unless the content of the sign is changed.

iv. Yard signs may be freestanding or attached to a fence, deck, or garage door, but may not be affixed to a building wall or any vegetative matter.

v. Yard signs may not be illuminated, either internally or externally.

3. Permit Exempt Activity. The following activities are exempt from requirements to obtain a permit in Section 14-03.1-04 only if the activity does not render a sign non-compliant, or further non-compliance in the case of non-conforming signs, with any ordinance requirements:

a. Routine Maintenance. Maintenance necessary to keep a sign in a functional and attractive condition, including painting, cleaning, replacing parts, and small repairs. Temporary removal may be considered maintenance if the same sign is placed back in the same location and orientation. Any enlargement, structural alteration, upgrading technological elements, or relocation is not considered routine maintenance.

b. Change of Message. Changing the message content on the face of any off-premise advertising sign, changeable copy sign, or electronic message center. Replacing or altering the face of any other permitted permanent sign is not exempt from requirements to obtain a permit for the replacement or alteration.

c. Removal of Sign. The removal of any permanent or temporary sign, including the dismantling and complete removal of all supporting structures used exclusively for the sign.

4. Prohibited Signs. Certain signs that detract from the purpose of this chapter are prohibited. Provisions related to the prohibition of signs in specific zoning districts are within sections 14-03.1-06 through 14-03.1-09. The following signs are prohibited in all zoning districts:

a. Sign Resembling Public Facility. A private sign that resembles or conflicts with a public sign or traffic control device.

b. Roof Sign. A sign that is mounted on the roof of a building which is wholly dependent upon a building for support and which projects above the parapet of a building for a flat roof, the eave line of a building with gable roof, or the deck line of a building with a mansard roof. A false roof, canopy, and other non-structural fascia shall not be considered a roof for the purposes of this section.

c. Searchlights. High-intensity lighting devices oriented outward, such as strobe lights, searchlights, laser lights, or beacons, unless said lights are part of a temporary lighting display as exempted in Subsection 14-03.1-02(2).

d. Use of Mechanical Motion. A sign that rotates, revolves, pivots, swings, or uses any mechanical motion, with the exception of rotating barber poles.

e. Use of Vegetation. A sign painted on or affixed to a tree or other organic matter.

f. Use of Live Animal. A sign that uses a live animal.

g. Use of Pyrotechnics. A sign that uses open flames, sparks, explosions, or any form of illumination by means other than electricity. This prohibition does not apply to fireworks displays that comply with all local and state requirements.

h. Use of Sound. A sign that emits any sound through audio speakers or any other device. This includes the use of sound to advertise or draw attention to a business or activity occurring on premise that is clearly audible from a public right-of-way or adjoining property, whether or not the sign includes a visual component.

i. Vehicle Sign. The use of a parked car, truck, bus, boat, or other vehicle or part thereof as a sign, unless the vehicle containing a sign meets all of the following conditions:

i. The vehicle is consistently used in the normal conduct of a business or organization or is utilized as an example of products that are sold on premises.

ii. The vehicle is maintained in operable condition and is properly registered with the State of North Dakota Department of Transportation.

iii. The vehicle is lawfully parked.

5. Permitted Signs. Any sign that is not identified as a permit exempt sign or a prohibited sign by this section shall be considered a permitted sign, and shall require a permit and be subject to all provisions of this chapter, including but not limited to all pole signs, monument signs, wall signs, projecting signs, sidewalk signs, changeable copy signs, and portable signs.

6. New Sign Types. It is recognized that, due to changing technology and the desires of businesses in the community, sign types may be proposed that do not clearly meet any definitions of this chapter. Such signs are not necessarily prohibited by this ordinance. The Zoning Administrator is hereby authorized to interpret a proposed new sign type to be substantially similar, in terms of size, shape, duration, and overall visual impact, to a sign type defined in this chapter, including prohibited sign types.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)*

#### 14-03.1-04 Permitting Procedures.

1. Permit Required. No sign or any structure with the sole purpose of supporting a sign may be constructed, installed, displayed, relocated, converted to electronic or reconstructed until the applicable sign permit is issued by the Zoning Administrator, pursuant to Section 04-01-08 of the City Code of Ordinance, unless identified as a permit exempt sign or permit exempt activity in this chapter.

2. Sign Installation License. A person may not engage in the business of erecting or placing signs or be entitled to a permit to erect or place any sign under the provisions of this chapter unless licensed to do so by the Zoning Administrator on written application as prescribed.

a. Insurance Required. A license may not take effect until the licensee files with the Zoning Administrator a copy of the licensee's liability insurance policy in the minimum amount of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for each person and five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for each occurrence, which names the City of Bismarck as an additional insured, and insures against any damage or claim resulting from or related to the erection or maintenance of any sign within the City's jurisdiction by the licensee.

b. License Duration. Licenses are valid for the calendar year within which the license is issued. All licenses expire on December 31 of each year.

3. Permit Submittal Requirements. The following items shall be submitted by an applicant to the Zoning Administrator prior to the issuance of any sign permit:

a. Application. A written application prescribed by the City must be submitted for all signs. The City may prescribe separate applications for different sign types with specific information relevant to each type contained therein. Multiple signs on a single site to be installed within thirty (30) days of each other may be included on a single application, provided sufficient information is provided for all signs included in the application.

b. Sign Display. An elevation or photographic visualization of the proposed sign and surrounding context, with exact dimensions of the area, height, depth, and placement of the sign, must be submitted for all signs, with the exception of portable signs. If any other signs exist within the parcel, they must be shown and dimensioned or described in terms of area.

c. Site Exhibit. A site exhibit showing the dimensions of the sign, the exact location of the sign and any appurtenant features must be submitted for all pole signs, monuments signs, and off-premise advertising signs. The exhibit must include locations of all property lines, easements, sign setbacks, and structures in proximity to the proposed sign. This

requirement may be waived by the Zoning Administrator if the sign is shown on an approved site plan for the overall development of the site.

d. Street Visualizations. Street visualizations must be submitted for all new electronic message center signs and off-premise advertising signs, unless waived by the City Engineer. Renderings of the proposed sign superimposed on a photograph of the proposed location, with accurate scale and placement, must be submitted. A separate rendering is required from 100 feet, 300 feet, and 500 feet from each direction of all streets from which the sign would be visible.

e. Operational Narrative. An operational narrative is required for all electronic message centers and digital off-premise advertising signs. The narrative must outline brightness levels, times of day the sign will be operational, entrance or exit effects that will be utilized, and any other features of the sign that are relevant to administration of this chapter. The operational narrative shall be agreed to and signed by the owner of the sign.

4. Portable Sign Reporting. A licensed sign installer may place an unlimited number of portable signs without approval of a permit for each sign placement, subject to the following reporting requirements.

a. Keeping Report Required. Any sign installer with portable signs in use that have not been issued individual permits must keep a report on a form prescribed by the City containing the following information:

i. Name and address of the sign installer.

ii. A record of each sign placed for any duration of time, indicating the address, street toward which the sign is oriented, the date the sign was placed, the date the sign was removed, if applicable, and a photograph of the sign in location during each display period.

iii. Evidence of property owner approval for each sign in use at any time.

b. Submittal of Report. Any licensed sign installer shall furnish a report upon request of the Zoning Administrator of all portable signs placed by the installer within the previous one year of the request date, or since the effective date of this ordinance, whichever is most recent.

c. Individual Option. In lieu of keeping reports, portable signs may also be permitted individually according to the procedures of this section. A license and insurance is not required for individually-permitted portable signs.

d. License Revocation. The Zoning Administrator may revoke the license of any sign installer for up to one year upon failure to provide an

accurate report in a timely manner, or failure to meet any other requirements of this ordinance.

5. Permit fees. All sign permits may be subject to a fee, as established in Section 4-02-05 (Building Permit Fees) of the City Code of Ordinances.

6. Issuance of Permit. After a reasonable period of time for review, the Zoning Administrator shall issue a sign permit to any sign that conforms to the provisions of this chapter, as demonstrated in the application submittal as well as any documented communications between the applicant and City staff, which shall be considered part of the application submittal. Non-compliant signs will be issued a denial.

7. Inspection. The Building Inspections Division may inspect any proposed or existing sign at any time to ensure compliance with all requirements of this chapter.

8. Revocation of Permit. The Zoning Administrator may revoke any issued sign permit upon determination that the application contained false or misleading information or an actual sign is substantially different than described in the application and submitted documents.

9. Appeals. Any denial or revocation of a sign permit by the Zoning Administrator, or any enforcement action taken against an existing sign for non-compliance, is subject to an appeal to the Board of City Commissioners following the procedures of Section 14-06-03 (Appeal Procedures) of the City Code of Ordinances.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6497, 02-15-22)*

#### 14-03.1-05 General Standards.

1. Application. The provisions of this section apply to all signs, whether permitted or permit-exempt, in all zoning districts.

2. Building Code. All permanent signs must conform to the structural design standards of the International Building Code most recently adopted through Section 04-02-02 (Adoption of the City of Bismarck Building Code) of the City Code of Ordinances.

3. Maintenance of Signs. All signs, whether permanent or temporary, shall be kept in a state of good repair and operation at all times. The Zoning Administrator may issue a notice and order to any owner of property containing a sign out of compliance with the provisions of this chapter to maintain or remove said sign. A sign shall be considered in disrepair if it exhibits one or more of the following conditions:

a. A business or organization that has vacated the property on which the sign is located, or any freestanding supporting structure without

a sign face. A sign or supporting structure shall be considered abandoned and in violation of this section six (6) months after the occurrence of either event.

b. Structural supports are deemed to be unstable due to deterioration or previous damage.

c. Panels, sections, or lettering of the sign face are missing or significantly damaged or faded.

d. Bulbs are burned out or electronic elements of a sign are malfunctioning such that the intended display of the sign is compromised.

e. Paint, coating, or other cosmetic materials of the sign are peeling or no longer present in their original form.

f. The face of a sign is obstructed from public view by growth of vegetation on private property or any other visual obstruction.

g. The condition of a sign has changed in any way that creates a public safety hazard.

4. Illumination of Signs. The illumination of all signs, including electronic message centers and digital off-premise advertising signs, is subject to the following requirements:

a. Externally-illuminated signs shall direct illumination toward the sign or downward so as to minimize the amount of glare or light trespass across property lines.

b. Internally-illuminated signs shall not exceed a brightness level that creates a safety hazard for drivers on adjacent roadways or a nuisance for any nearby residential uses, as determined by the Zoning administrator.

c. High-intensity lighting devices oriented outward, such as laser lights, strobe lights, searchlights, and beacons, are not permitted.

d. Lighting for any signs, with the exception of electronic message centers or digital off-premise advertising signs, may not alternate between fully illuminated and fully non-illuminated in a flashing manner. However, lighting of internally illuminated signs may gradually transition between colors in a fading, but not flashing manner, as determined by the Zoning Administrator.

e. Illumination of temporary and portable signs is not permitted, as further stated in Sections 14-03.1-03(2) and 14-03.1-08(5) of this chapter.

5. Restrictions on Placement. In all zoning districts, the placement or installation of all signs is further restricted in the following areas:

a. Public Right-of-Way. No sign, or any part thereof, may be located within or above a public right-of-way, either temporarily or permanently, unless an encroachment agreement is approved in accordance with Title 02-01-04 of the City Code of Ordinances or as permitted in Section 14-03.1-09(11) (Sidewalk Signs). The City Engineer is authorized to approve encroachment agreements for signs extending above a public right-of-way.

b. Sight Triangles. Any sign in a sight triangle, as defined in Section 14-02-03 (Definitions) of the City Code of Ordinances, is subject to the following additional standards:

i. No freestanding sign may visually obstruct the vertical space between three (3) feet and ten (10) feet above grade, with the exception of a pole or base with a diameter or longest horizontal cross-section of eight (8) inches or less. No sign face or other supporting structures may be located within said vertical space.

ii. No wall signs or projecting signs shall be permitted, except where exempted in the downtown zoning districts.

c. Property Lines. No part of any sign, or necessary supports of a sign, may project across or over any property line.

d. Easements. With the exception of portable signs, yard signs, site signs, and other signs of a temporary nature, no sign may be placed within or above any utility, access, stormwater and drainage, or any other easement encumbering use of the land, unless this provision is waived in writing by the City Engineer and/or all owners with rights to the easement.

e. Means of Egress. No sign may be placed or installed in such a way that obstructs any means of egress from windows or doors required by building or fire code.

6. Restrictions on Content. All provisions of this chapter apply irrespective to the content or message of any sign, and no greater preference is conferred to commercial over non-commercial signs, except that the following content, without reference to the viewpoint of the speaker, shall not be displayed on any sign:

a. Text or images that may be reasonably confused with traffic control or public safety devices, including any sign that contains the words "stop," "caution," "danger," or similar words hereby reserved for public safety.

b. Text or images that are obscene from the point of view of a typical person applying current standards of the community to the whole content of the sign; describe sexual or excretory functions, as defined by state law; and, taken as a whole, lack serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

c. Text or images that are unlawful by local, state or federal law, including but not limited to slander, defamation, incitement to imminent lawless action, and true threats.

7. Protection of Public Safety. A sign shall not resemble or interfere, to any degree, with the effectiveness of a traffic control device, sign or signal; shall not be placed beside or behind a traffic control device in a location or at a height that makes a motorist's view of a traffic control device indistinguishable from the sign; shall not obstruct or interfere with a motorist's view of approaching, merging or intersecting traffic within the operational area of an intersection; and shall not have distracting flashing or moving lights so designed or lighted as to create a traffic hazard.

8. Standards of Structure Not Applicable. Freestanding signs shall not be considered a structure and subject to dimensional requirements, such as setbacks and heights, applied to structures within Chapter 14-04 (District Regulations) of this Title. All dimensional standards for freestanding signs within this chapter shall take precedence.

9. Off-Premise Content on Signs of Public Interest. Notwithstanding all other provisions of this chapter, permanent on-premise signs or temporary banners used by public or non-profit entities or used for community-wide events may include ancillary off-premise content, such as naming rights or sponsorships.

10. Small-Scale Electronic Components. Any permanent permitted sign may include small-scale electronic components, which shall not be considered an electronic message center sign, subject to the following conditions:

a. Each electronic component is no greater than five (5) square feet in size.

b. No more than three (3) electronic components are included on any sign.

c. Each frame of all electronic components is held for a minimum of three (3) hours before changing content.

d. Each electronic component uses only one (1) color.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6497, 02-15-22)*

14-03.1-06 Agricultural Zoning District Standards.

1. Purpose. The standards for signs in this section are intended to preserve the agricultural nature of this district and discourage any uses with direct commercial sales or services requiring signage.

2. Application. No signs are permitted in the A – Agricultural zoning district, with the exception of:

a. Portable signs, subject to all requirements of Section 14-03.1-08(5) applicable to commercial zoning districts.

b. Any signs exempt under Section 14-03.1-03 of this ordinance.  
(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)

14-03.1-07 Residential Zoning District Standards.

1. Purpose. The standards for signs in this section are intended to preserve the residential character of neighborhoods while allowing uses within this district the reasonable ability to identify themselves and promote activities occurring on premises.

2. Application. In addition to general standards of this chapter, the provisions of this section apply only to permitted signs within residential zoning districts, as defined in this chapter. Certain street frontages in the P – Public zoning district are considered to be within a residential zoning district.

3. Prohibited Signs. In addition to signs prohibited in Section 14-03.1-30 (Scope of Sign Provisions), the following signs are prohibited in residential zoning districts:

a. Off-premise advertising signs

b. Portable signs.

4. Identification of Residential Areas. Signs used for the purpose of identifying residential subdivisions, multifamily complexes, or manufactured home parks are permitted, subject to the following standards:

a. Number. No more than two (2) signs shall be permitted for each entrance to a residential subdivision, or for each multifamily complex or manufactured home park. For the purposes of this section, residential subdivisions shall include all phases of staged developments that share a common name or identity.

b. Monument Sign Permitted. Only monument signs may be used to identify residential areas.

c. Entrances. The sign may only be located at an entrance to a residential subdivision, multifamily residential complex or manufactured home park.

d. Sign Dimensions. The total area of the sign face shall not exceed sixty (60) square feet, and the sign may not exceed eight (8) feet in height.

e. Sign Materials. The base, supports, and face of the sign shall be constructed of durable, weather-resistant materials.

f. Landscaping. All monument signs shall be provided with landscaping around the base of the sign.

g. Dimensional Lettering. The sign must be dimensional in nature, utilizing letters, numerals, and/or imagery that are either raised or engraved relative to the plane of sign face.

h. Maintenance Responsibility. Ongoing responsibility for maintenance and upkeep of the sign shall be assigned to a private entity with sufficient rights and capacity to complete said duties. The Zoning Administrator reserves the right to request any documents of an association and to make a determination regarding its ability to comply.

5. Signs for Non-Residential Uses. On-premise advertising signs are permitted in residential zoning districts on properties with non-residential uses, other than home occupations, such as schools and religious institutions, subject to the following standards:

a. Area of Signs. The total allowable sign area in residential zoning districts shall be as follows:

i. Primary Street Frontage. The total allowable sign area on a primary street frontage is one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) square foot of sign area for every one (1) linear foot of street frontage.

ii. Secondary Street Frontage. The total allowable sign area on a secondary street frontage is one-quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) square foot of sign area for every one (1) linear foot of street frontage.

iii. Small Lot Exception. A wall sign of up to 20 square feet may be permitted on any street frontage, notwithstanding requirements of this section.

b. Freestanding Signs. Freestanding signs shall be subject to the following provisions:

i. Number. One (1) freestanding sign may be permitted per street frontage, up to a maximum of two (2) signs on any parcel.

ii. Height of Sign. The overall height of a freestanding sign shall not exceed twenty (20) feet.

iii. Setback of Sign. All parts of a pole sign shall be setback from the front property line a distance at least the height of the sign. A monument sign shall not be subject to any setback additional to what may be required in Section 14-03.1-05.

iv. Landscaping. All monument signs shall be provided with landscaping around the base of the sign.

v. Clearance. Pole signs that are greater than three (3) feet in height shall have a clearance of at least eight (8) feet, except where required to be greater within a sight triangle.

c. Wall Signs. Wall signs shall be subject to the following provisions:

i. Number. One (1) wall sign may be permitted per street frontage, up to a maximum of four (4) signs on any parcel, subject to the following standards:

ii. Principal Building. Signs may only be affixed to the principal building on the property, and may not be affixed to any accessory buildings.

iii. Placement of Sign. The face of a wall sign shall be parallel to the plane of the wall it is mounted on and shall not project above or beyond the wall it is mounted on.

iv. Dimensional Lettering. Wall signs must be dimensional in nature, utilizing letters, numerals, and/or imagery that are either raised or engraved from the plane of the sign face.

d. Electronic Message Center Signs. The following provisions apply to electronic message center signs within residential zoning districts or within one-hundred and fifty (150) feet of a residential zoning district, as measured from any part of the sign to the nearest property line within any residential zoning district:

i. Special Use Permit. A special use permit shall be required, subject to all procedures of Section 14-03-08 (Special Uses) of the City Code of Ordinances.

ii. Sign Type. Electronic message center signs may only be incorporated into on-premise pole signs, monument signs, or wall signs. Electronic message center signs shall not be located on projecting signs, portable signs, or any other temporary signs, with the exception of demonstrations allowed by Section 14-03.1-

03(3). No off-premise advertising may occur on electronic message center signs.

iii. Number of Signs. Only one (1) electronic message center sign shall be allowed per parcel.

iv. Area of Signs. the electronic message center portion of a sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area.

v. Proportion of Sign. Electronic message centers may only be included on pole signs that also contain static content. The electronic portion of the sign may not exceed fifty (50) percent of the entire sign area, and must be entirely below the static portion of the sign. Electronic Message Center signs used as wall signs are exempt from this requirement.

e. Operational Requirements. Electronic message center signs shall be subject to the following operational requirements:

i. Brightness. The sign shall not exceed a maximum illumination level of 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light levels.

ii. Frame Hold Time. The sign shall have a frame hold time of no less than three (3) seconds between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. The sign shall hold on a constant frame or be turned off between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

iii. Effects. The sign shall be limited to instantaneous or continuous fading transitions from one static frame to another static frame without the use of any frame entrance, exit or hold effects or the use of any animation or background animation.

iv. Video. The use of streaming video or full-motion video on any electronic message center sign is prohibited.

f. Sign Features. Electronic message center signs shall be equipped with the following features:

i. A default mechanism that shall freeze the sign in one position as a static message if a malfunction occurs; and

ii. A mechanism able to automatically adjust the illuminative brightness of the display according to ambient light conditions by means of a light detector/photocell.

6. Portable Signs. In addition to general standards of Section 14-03.1-05, the following provisions apply to all portable signs in residential zoning districts:

a. A special use permit is obtained from the City of Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission, subject to all requirements of Section 14-03-08, to verify that the placement and design of proposed portable

sign(s) does not have a negative impact on the surrounding neighborhood. The term of any special use permit may not exceed two (2) years.

b. All requirements pertaining to portable signs in commercial zoning districts in Section 14-03.1-08(5) are met.

7. Home Occupations. Signs for home occupations, in accordance with Section 14-03-06(2), are permitted as follows:

a. In a minor home occupation, no more than one (1) non illuminated commercial on-premise wall sign is placed on the property of no greater than three (3) square feet, attached to a primary or accessory structure on the lot.

b. In a major home occupation, no more than one (1) non-illuminated commercial sign may be placed on the property of no greater than three (3) square feet, plus one (1) square foot per acre in the lot, of sign area.

c. Permitted home occupations that exceed the requirements for a major home occupation shall follow any sign provisions included as a condition of a special use permit.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24)*

#### 14-03.1-08 Commercial Zoning District Standards.

1. Purpose. The standards for signs in this section are intended to afford the greatest degree of flexibility for signs in areas with commercial or industrial activity while still adhering to the other purpose of this chapter.

2. Application. In addition to general standards of this chapter, the provisions of this section apply only to permitted signs within commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts, as defined in this chapter.

3. On-Premise Advertising Signs. In addition to general standards of Section 14-03.1-05, the following provisions apply to all on-premise advertising signs, excluding portable signs.

a. Freestanding Signs. Freestanding signs, including pole signs and monument signs, are permitted according to the following provisions:

i. Number. Freestanding signs shall be limited to one (1) freestanding sign per street frontage per parcel. Notwithstanding, parcels with a street frontage of greater than three hundred and fifty (350) feet are entitled to one (1) additional freestanding sign for each additional three hundred and fifty feet (350) for frontage. Multiple businesses operating on-premises may be advertised on any single sign.

ii. Area. There is no maximum allowable sign area within commercial zoning districts.

iii. Setback. Freestanding signs are not subject to any setback additional to what may be required in Section 14-03.1-05.

iv. Height. The following height requirements shall apply, based on the zoning district within which the sign is located:

a. In the CA – Commercial, HM – Health and Medical, and RT – Residential zoning districts, freestanding signs shall not exceed thirty (30) feet in height.

b. In the CG – Commercial, MA – Industrial, and MB – Industrial zoning districts, freestanding signs shall not exceed fifty (50) feet in height.

v. Interstate-Oriented Freestanding Sign. Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, a freestanding sign may be installed at a height of no greater than eight (80) feet, subject to the following additional standards:

a. A special use permit is obtained from the City of Bismarck Planning and Zoning Commission, subject to all requirements of Section 14-03-08.

b. The sign is oriented toward and within six hundred and sixty (660) feet of an Interstate.

c. All permitting requirements of Section 14-03.1-04 of this chapter that are applicable to off-premise advertising signs are submitted, including street visualizations and verification of public safety.

d. The sign does not contain an electronic message center displayed above fifty (50) feet in height.

iv. Clearance. Pole signs that are greater than three (3) feet in height shall have a clearance of at least eight (8) feet, except where required to be greater within a sight triangle.

b. Wall Signs. Wall signs are permitted in commercial zoning districts and industrial zoning districts according to the following provisions:

i. Number. There is no limit to the number of wall signs on a parcel in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

ii. Area. There is no maximum allowable wall sign area in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

iii. Setback. There are no setbacks required for wall signs in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

iv. Height. There are no height limits for wall signs in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

v. Principal Building. Wall signs may only be affixed to a principal building on the property, and may not be affixed to any accessory buildings.

vi. Placement of Sign. The face of a wall sign shall be parallel to the plane of the wall it is mounted on and shall not project above or beyond the wall it is mounted on.

c. Projecting Signs. Projecting signs are permitted in commercial zoning districts and industrial zoning districts according to the following provisions. For the purposes of this section, projecting signs include signs that are attached to or displayed on an awning:

i. Number. There is no limit to the number of projecting signs on a parcel in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

ii. Area. There is no maximum allowable projecting sign area in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

iii. Setback. There are no setbacks required for projecting signs in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts. Projecting signs may extend into a required setback and are not considered part of a structure for the purpose of determining setbacks.

iv. Height. There are no height limits for projecting signs in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts.

v. Extension. A sign may not project from the face of any building or structure a distance of more than six (6) feet.

vi. Clearance. Projecting signs shall have a clearance of at least eight (8) feet, except where required to be greater within a sight triangle. A projecting sign may not extend above a driving, loading or parking lane or area.

d. Electronic Message Center Signs. The following provisions apply to electronic message center signs within commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts, with the exception of electronic message center signs located within one hundred and fifty (150) feet of any residential zoning district, as measured from any part of the sign to the nearest property line within any residential zoning district, which are subject to residential requirements for electronic message center signs in Section 14-03.1-07(5)d.

i. **Sign Type.** Electronic message center signs may only be incorporated into on-premise pole signs, monument signs, or wall signs. Electronic message center signs shall not be located on projecting signs, portable signs, or any other temporary signs, with the exception of demonstrations allowed by Section 14-03.1-03(3). No off-premise advertising may occur on electronic message center signs. Digital off-premise advertising signs are defined independently and subject to requirements of Section 14-03.1-08(4).

ii. **Number of Signs.** No more than one (1) electronic message center sign shall be allowed per street frontage per parcel.

iii. **Area of Sign.** The electronic message center sign portion of any sign shall not exceed the area specified in the table below, which is based on the zoning district in which the sign is located and the functional classification of the roadway toward which the sign is oriented.

<b>Functional Class of Road</b>	<b>Zoning District</b>				
	MA or MB Industrial	CG Commercial	CA Commercial	HM Health Medical	RT Residential
Interstate	100 SF	100 SF	72 SF	N/A	48 SF
Principal Arterial	100 SF	100 SF	72 SF	32 SF	32 SF
Minor Arterial	72 SF	72 SF	48 SF	32 SF	32 SF
Collector	48 SF	48 SF	32 SF	32 SF	32 SF
Local	32 SF	32 SF	32 SF	32 SF	32 SF

iv. **Proportion of Sign.** Electronic message center signs may only be included on freestanding signs that also contain static content. Electronic message center signs used as wall signs are exempt from this requirement.

v. **Operational Requirements.** Electronic message center signs shall be subject to the following operational requirements:

a. **Brightness.** The sign shall not exceed a maximum illumination level of 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light levels.

b. **Frame Hold Time.** The sign shall have a frame hold time of no less than one (1) second. The use of animation and background animation is allowed and is not subject to the one (1) second frame hold time requirement.

c. Effects. Special effects may be used to transition from one frame to another, provided said entrance effects result in all of the text within the frame appearing at once or in the order that the text is normally read, including, but not limited to, scrolling from right to left or scrolling from bottom to top entrance effects. Entrance effects where all of the text within the frame does not appear at once or in the order that the text is normally read are prohibited, including, but not limited to, scrolling from left to right, scrolling from top to bottom, and entrance effects referred to as slot machine, slots, splice, mesh, radar, kaleidoscope and spin. There are no limitations on the types of exit effects used. Except for such transitions, each frame shall remain static with no additional frame or hold effects applied to text within the frame, including, but not limited to, the fading or flashing on any part of the message and hold effects referred to as flash, spin, twinkle, wavy and rumble. The use of bijou lights as a frame effect is allowed.

d. Video. The use of full-motion video is prohibited.

vi. Sign Features. Electronic message center signs shall be equipped with the following features:

a. A default mechanism that shall freeze the sign in one position as a static message if a malfunction occurs; and

b. A mechanism able to automatically adjust the illuminative brightness of the display according to ambient light conditions by means of a light detector/photocell.

4. Off-Premise Advertising Signs. In addition to general standards of Section 14-03.1-05, the following provisions shall apply specifically to all off-premise advertising signs:

a. Zoning Districts Permitted. Off-premise advertising signs are only permitted in any CG - Commercial, MA - Industrial, or MB - Industrial zoning district. Off-premise advertising signs are prohibited in the CA – Commercial, RT – Residential, and HM – Health Medical zoning districts.

b. State Approval Required. The sign meets provisions outlined in Chapter 24-17 of the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) and a permit has been issued by the North Dakota Department of Transportation, where required.

c. Front Yard Setback. Off-premise advertising signs shall not be subject to front yard setback requirements for each zoning district, but the entirety of the sign shall be set back at least fifteen (15) feet from any property line fronting a street, except that off-premise advertising signs oriented toward Interstate 94 (not business loop) are exempted from this front yard setback requirement.

d. Roadway Functional Class. Off-premise advertising signs may only be located adjacent to a minor or principal arterial roadway. If the right-of-way of an arterial roadway includes a local or frontage roadway, the sign may be adjacent to said local or frontage roadway.

e. Sign Area. Each sign face may not exceed three hundred (300) square feet in area, sixteen (16) feet in height or thirty (30) feet in width, with the exception of off-premise advertising signs oriented toward Interstate 94 (not business loop) or Bismarck Expressway east of the intersection with Airport Road, which may not exceed six hundred and seventy-two (672) square feet in area, sixteen (16) feet in height or fifty (50) feet in width. In addition, no off-premise advertising sign face may be less than two hundred (200) square feet in area.

f. Extensions to Signs. A non-digital off-premise advertising sign may have up to an additional twenty percent (20%) of the sign face area on the perimeter of the sign face for extension elements. All sign extension space shall be of the same material as the sign face.

g. Number of Faces. The sign shall have no more than two (2) faces.

h. Height of Signs. The sign shall not exceed fifty (50) feet in height, and the sign face shall have a clearance of at least ten (10) feet.

i. Spacing. Any and all parts of the sign, whether static or digital, shall be located at least three hundred (300) feet from any part of an existing or approved off-premise advertising sign, whether static or digital; at least two hundred (200) feet from the center point of any intersection of an arterial and an arterial and/or collector roadway; and at least five hundred (500) feet from the nearest right-of-way of an interstate interchange. In addition, all parts of a digital off-premise advertising sign shall be located at least twelve hundred (1,200) feet from any part of an existing or approved digital off-premise advertising sign. Distance is measured as the linear distance along the centerline of the roadway toward which the sign is oriented. The distance shall be measured between any two signs on the same or opposite sides of this roadway.

j. Residential Setback. The sign shall be located at least three hundred (300) feet from any residential zoning district, as measured from any part of the sign to the nearest property line within any residential zoning district.

k. No Obstruction of View. The sign shall not obstruct any other existing sign, either off-premise or on-premise.

l. Digital Signs. Digital off-premise advertising signs shall meet the following additional standards:

i. The sign shall have a frame hold time of no less than seven (7) seconds and must transition instantaneously from one static image to another static image without any special effects. The use of streaming video, full-motion video, animation or frame effects is prohibited.

ii. The sign shall have a default mechanism that shall freeze the sign in one position as a static message if a malfunction occurs; and

iii. The sign shall have a mechanism able to automatically adjust the illuminative brightness of the display according to ambient light conditions by means of a light detector/photocell.

iv. The sign shall not exceed a maximum illumination level of 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light levels.

m. Conversion of Type. A separate sign permit shall be required for the conversion of any existing non-digital off-premise advertising sign to a digital off-premise advertising sign. An existing non-conforming sign must meet all requirements outlined in this chapter prior to approval of a sign permit.

5. Portable Signs. In addition to general standards of Section 14-03.1-05, the following provisions apply to all portable signs in commercial zoning districts or industrial zoning districts:

a. On-Premise. Portable signs may only be used as on-premise signs, unless a portable sign is used to inform or promote a community-wide event as defined in this chapter.

b. Spacing. Portable signs shall be placed with a minimum spacing of one hundred (100) feet between portable signs on a parcel.

c. Dimensions. Portable sign faces shall not exceed sixty (60) square feet in area, and the sign, including all supporting structures, shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height. Lettering may not extend beyond the face of the sign.

d. Duration. Portable signs may only be displayed at any location for two hundred forty (240) days within any calendar year. Each location must be vacated of all portable signs for the remaining one hundred

twenty-five (125) days of each calendar year. For the purposes of this section, a location shall be defined as a street frontage of a parcel or portion thereof within which a sign may be legally placed and meet all spacing requirements.

e. Electricity. Portable signs may not be wired to received electricity, produce electricity, or contain any batteries.

f. Parking. Portable signs shall not obstruct a parking space required to meet the provisions of Section 14-03-10 (Off-Street Parking and Loading) of the City Code of Ordinances.

g. Identification. The name and telephone number of the owner of any portable sign must be clearly displayed while in use.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6497, 02-15-22)*

#### 14-03.1-09 Downtown Zoning District Standards.

1. Purpose. The standards for signs in this section are intended to encourage signs that are scaled and oriented predominantly toward pedestrians, complementary to the existing context of the downtown streetscape, and aligned with the goals and objectives of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

2. Application. In addition to general standards of this chapter, the provisions of this section apply only to permitted signs within downtown zoning districts, as defined in this chapter.

3. Prohibited Signs. In addition to signs prohibited in Section 14-03.1-30(4), the following signs are prohibited in downtown zoning districts:

- a. Off-premise advertising signs.
- b. Electronic message center signs.
- c. Portable signs, excluding sidewalk signs.
- d. Feather flag signs.
- e. Air-blown signs.

4. Area of Sign. The total allowable sign area for on-premise advertising signs shall be as follows:

a. Downtown Core. In the DC - Downtown Core zoning district, the following measurements apply:

i. Primary Street Frontage. The total allowable sign area on a primary street building frontage is two and a half (2 ½) square feet of sign area for every one (1) linear foot of street frontage.

ii. Secondary Street Frontage. The total allowable sign area on a secondary street building frontage is (1) square foot of sign area for every one (1) linear foot of street frontage.

b. Downtown Fringe. In the DF - Downtown Fringe zoning district, the following measurements apply:

i. Primary Street Frontage. The total allowable sign area on a primary street building frontage is one (1) square foot of sign area for every one (1) linear foot of street frontage.

ii. Secondary Street Frontage. The total allowable sign area on a secondary street building frontage is one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) square foot of sign area for every one (1) linear foot of street frontage.

5. Dimensional Lettering. All signs in downtown zoning districts, except as herein exempted, including wall signs, projecting signs, pole signs, and monument signs are required to be dimensional, utilizing raised letters, numerals, and/or imagery.

a. Relief of Lettering. Lettering greater than six (6) inches in height must protrude at least one (1) inch from the base surface of the sign. Lettering greater than three (3) inches in height must likewise protrude at least one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch, and lettering three (3) inches or less in height or supplemental lettering or imagery with narrow text or lines may be installed flush to the surface of the sign face.

b. Exemptions. The following types of permitted signs are exempt from dimensional lettering requirements:

i. Signs that are internally illuminated.

ii. Signs painted on the wall of a building.

iii. Sidewalk signs.

iv. Signs on an awning of light material that is not suitable for supporting dimensional lettering.

v. All permit exempt signs.

6. Wall Signs. Wall signs are permitted in downtown zoning districts according to the following provisions:

a. The face of a wall sign shall be parallel to the plane of the wall it is mounted on and shall not project above or beyond the wall it is mounted on.

b. All signs placed against exterior walls of buildings and structures may not protrude more than twelve (12) inches from a wall's surface.

c. Signs painted directly on exterior walls or surfaces of a building are allowed, provided such signs are not located on the front façade of the building and the building is not an historic structure, as defined in this Title.

7. Awning Signs. Signs placed on or attached to an awning are permitted in downtown zoning districts according to the following provisions:

a. No awning may extend into the sidewalk further than two (2) feet from the back of the street curb.

b. Any awning shall generally be located within a window and/or door recess.

c. The shape, color, and material of any awning shall complement the overall architectural design of the building and conform to the Downtown Design Guidelines.

d. A sign may be attached beneath an awning, provided sufficient structural support for the weight of the sign existing and the sign does not extend more than one (1) foot below the lowest point of the awning.

e. All signs attached to or hanging below canopies must maintain a clearance at least eight (8) feet must be provided below all parts of the sign.

f. Signs on sloped canopies shall be encouraged to be placed on the vertical band or the valance of the awning and shall be discouraged on the sloped portion.

8. Projecting Signs. Projecting signs are permitted in downtown zoning districts according to the following provisions:

a. A sign may not project from the face of any building or structure a distance of more than four (4) feet.

b. Projecting signs shall have a clearance of at least eight (8) feet, and no part of any projecting sign may be above the sill of any second floor window of the building or the parapet of the roof of the building.

c. A projecting sign may not be permitted in an alley, unless the primary public access to the business or firm is obtained from the alley.

9. Monument Signs. Monument signs are permitted in downtown zoning districts according to the following provisions:

a. A monument sign or any part thereof may not exceed eight (8) feet in height, recognizing that a lower maximum height is required in sight triangles

b. Monument signs shall be constructed of brick, stone, or a similar durable material complementary to the building material.

c. No more than one (1) monument sign may be installed per street frontage on any lot or parcel. Parcels with multiple street frontages are permitted an additional monument sign for each additional frontage.

10. Pole signs. Pole signs are permitted in downtown zoning districts according to the following provisions:

a. A pole sign may not be more than twenty (20) feet in height.

b. Pole signs of greater than three (3) feet in height shall have a clearance of at least eight (8) feet, except where a greater clearance is required in sight triangles.

c. No more than one (1) pole sign may be installed on any parcel.

d. The visible supports of any pole sign shall be enclosed or covered with a decorative sheathing.

11. Sidewalk Signs. Sidewalk signs are permitted in downtown districts within the public right-of-way according to the following provisions:

a. One (1) sidewalk sign is allowed per business or organization occupying an adjoining property.

b. All sidewalk signs must be portable and may not be affixed to the ground or any streetscape elements, such as signs or trees.

c. The maximum width of a sidewalk sign shall be two (2) feet, six (6) inches and the maximum height shall be four (4) feet.

d. A sidewalk sign shall be placed only where a minimum width of four (4) continuous feet for pedestrian movements and all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act can be maintained.

e. Sidewalk signs may be placed on the sidewalk only during hours of operation and must be removed during non-business hours.

f. Sidewalk signs shall not be illuminated.

g. Sidewalk signs may not be placed in a location that creates a safety hazard by limiting visibility for pedestrians or motorists or obstructing any building ingress or egress.

h. Streamers, flags, or banners shall not be attached to any sidewalk sign or use the sign as an anchor.

12. Downtown Design Review. All signs in the downtown districts shall be subject to the City's downtown design review procedures in accordance with the provisions of Sections 14-04-21.1(4) (DC - Downtown Core Zoning District) and 14-04-21.2(4) (DF – Downtown Fringe Zoning District) of the City Code of Ordinances.

a. The Downtown Design Review Committee may delegate design review of any application for a sign permit or permit-exempt sign to the Building Official.

b. The Downtown Design Review Committee may waive any provision of this section, or impose additional requirements, as a condition of any design approval, for reasons including aligning with surrounding context, preserving historic integrity, allowing unique and creative expression, or any other objective of the Downtown Design Guidelines. Any such waiver shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and enforced by the Building Inspections Division.

c. An applicant may appeal a decision of the Downtown Design Review Committee in a similar manner to any appeal of an advisory board.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)*

#### 14-03.1-10 Non-Conforming Signs.

1. Application. Any existing permanent sign that does not currently conform to a provision or provisions of this ordinance, and did conform to all applicable regulations at the time of said sign's installation or most recent alteration, relocation, or reconstruction shall be considered a non-conforming sign. Portable or temporary signs may not be considered non-conforming.

2. Continuation. A non-conforming sign may continue to exist in its vested form, place, and operation and shall not be considered in violation of this ordinance, unless rendered in violation on the basis of this section.

3. Maintenance and Change of Message. Activities that are permit-exempt under Section 14-03.1-03 or any change of message content may be performed on a non-conforming sign only if the activity does not increase the extent to which the sign does not comply with ordinance requirements.

4. Technological Upgrades. Any electronic elements of a non-conforming electronic message center or digital off-premise advertising sign may be replaced or upgraded, provided the overall dimensions, orientation, and location of the screen is not altered and the operation of the sign is in compliance with all provisions of this ordinance.

5. Relocation. A non-conforming sign may not be relocated or reoriented, unless the sign in its new location or orientation complies with all provisions of this ordinance. Temporary removal and replacement of a sign for repair purposes shall not be considered relocation.

6. Alteration. A non-conforming sign may not be enlarged or altered, except as allowed by this section. Electronic components or illumination may not be added to a non-conforming sign where none previously existed.

7. Reconstruction. A damaged non-conforming sign may be rebuilt or reconstructed to resemble its previous condition only if the following conditions are met:

a. The cost of reconstruction does not exceed fifty (50) percent of the replacement cost of the sign at the time of damage.

b. The reconstructed sign is not enlarged or altered such that the sign is non-compliant with the provisions of the ordinance to a greater extent than the sign was prior to damage.

*(Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)*

## CHAPTER 14-04 - DISTRICT REGULATIONS

14-04-01. RR Residential District. In any RR residential district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The RR residential district is established as a district in which the principal use of the land shall be for low density, large lot single-family dwellings, limited agriculture, and limited equine husbandry. For the RR residential district, in promoting the general purposes of this title, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction or placement of and use of land for single-family dwellings on large rural lots and for limited agricultural uses.

b. To protect the quiet enjoyment of residential property and discourage all uses or activities that interfere with or detract from these principal uses of this zoning district.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this title.

d. To discourage any use which would generate traffic on the streets of the district other than normal traffic to serve the single-family residences of the area.

e. To provide additional development standards for rural residential properties abutting the Missouri River platted after December 16, 2003.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted.

a. Single-family dwellings.

b. Education group.

c. Public recreational group.

d. Private riding stables in areas outside of the corporate limits, provided that animals shall be used for private use only; that no animal, animal stable, barn or shelter shall be located within one hundred (100) feet of any neighboring residence or structure; that two (2) horses shall be permitted on any premises which contains at least two (2) acres and additional horses shall be allowed at the rate of one horse for every additional three (3) acres of property owned. For the purposes of this ordinance the definition of a horse will be only those horses that are one calendar year of age or older and a miniature horse shall be defined as a horse less than 50 inches high measured at the withers. For the purpose of calculating the number of horses allowed under this section, a miniature horse shall be deemed to be the equivalent of .66 of a horse.

e. Chicken Hens and Coops in areas outside of the corporate limits, provided that the animals are kept for private use only; that no male chickens (roosters) are kept; all hens are kept in a fenced area; all coops and structures meet applicable setbacks and size limitations for allowable accessory structures and are not located less than one hundred and fifty (150) feet of any neighboring residence or structure; and that no more than ten (10) chickens shall be permitted.

f. Animal husbandry activity or project in areas outside of the corporate limits, conducted primarily for educational purposes or school credits, provided such activities are not conducted for commercial purposes and the premises are maintained in a sanitary manner.

g. Family foster home for adults.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

a. Child care centers.

b. Religious institution.

c. Accessory dwelling unit.

3. Lot area. Each principal building erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot containing a minimum area of 65,000 square feet with a minimum lot width of 150 feet and a minimum lot depth of 200 feet. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to September 23, 2003, a single-family dwelling and accessory buildings may be erected, provided said lot contains no less than forty thousand (40,000) square feet.

4. Front yard. Each platted lot shall have a front yard not less than forty (40) feet in depth as measured from the front property line.

5. Side yard. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal and accessory buildings. Each side yard shall be no less than fifteen (15) feet in width. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street less than forty (40) feet in width.

6. Rear yard. Each lot or premises shall have a rear yard depth of not less than fifty (50) feet.

7. Height limits. No single-family dwelling shall exceed forty (40) feet in height nor shall any other principal structure exceed fifty (50) feet in height nor shall any accessory structure exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height. For each foot or fraction thereof, that a building exceeds thirty-five (35) feet in height there shall be added four (4) feet to the minimum depth of each rear yard required by this section.

8. Automobile parking. Adequate automobile parking shall be provided for each dwelling as set forth by Section 14-03-10 hereof.

9. Minimum road standards. Right-of-way and roadway widths shall conform to the standards as set forth by Part K of Subsection 1 of Section 14-09-05 hereof.

Sufficient temporary construction easements shall be given to allow for proper road construction. All streets to be used for on-street parking shall be forty

(40) feet in roadway width if constructed with curb and gutter section or thirty-six (36) feet in roadway width if constructed without curb and gutter section.

10. Accessory Buildings. All allowable accessory buildings for a single-family residence shall be limited to a maximum of four (4) percent of the area of the parcel. The maximum building height shall be limited to twenty-five (25) feet.

Accessory buildings for the above computations shall include the following buildings: barns, stables, coops, storage buildings, garden sheds, and detached garages. Attached garages are not included in the above computations, provided the area occupied by an attached garage does not exceed one and one-half times the area of the footprint of the dwelling portion of the principal structure to which it is attached.

11. Additional Development Standards for Land Abutting the Missouri River. In order to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational qualities of the Missouri River, conserve the scenic and historic values of the Missouri River shoreland, protect shoreland development from river bank erosion, and provide for the wise use of the river and related land resources, the following additional development standards are hereby established for land abutting the Missouri River platted after November 25, 2003:

a. Structure Setbacks. All structures shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

b. Design Criteria. Structures should be placed and designed in a manner as to reduce visibility as viewed from the river and adjacent shoreland by vegetation, topography or the color of the structure, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions.

c. Impervious Surface Coverage. The percentage of lot covered by impervious surfaces (structures, paved surfaces, etc.) shall not exceed 25 percent of the lot area.

d. On-Site Sewage Treatment Facility Setbacks. All sewage treatment facilities, including drainfields, shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

e. Stairways, Lifts and Landings. Stairways and lifts are the preferred alternative to major topographic alterations for achieving access up and down bluffs and steep slopes to shore areas. Stairways and lifts must meet the following design requirements: 1) stairways and lifts shall not exceed four feet in width; 2) landings for stairways and lifts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area; 3) canopies or roofs are not allowed on stairways, lifts or landings; 4) stairways, lifts and landings may be constructed on posts/pilings or placed in the ground, provided they are designed and built in a manner that controls soil erosion, meets building code requirements, and does not affect the integrity of bank stabilization projects.

f. Boat Docks. The placement of boat docks shall be allowed in accordance with the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code and any other applicable regulations.

g. Shore Impact Zone. Structures and accessory facilities, except stairways and landings, shall not be placed within a shore impact zone.

h. Steep Slopes. For structures and/or facilities to be placed on steep slopes, the Building Official may attach conditions on the building permit to prevent erosion and preserve existing vegetation.

i. Vegetation Alterations. Intensive vegetative clearing within the shore impact zone and on steep slopes is prohibited. Limited clearing of vegetation is permitted in order to provide a view of the river from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of permitted stairways, lifts or landings. Removal of vegetation that is dead, diseased or that poses a safety hazard is allowed.

j. Topographic Alterations Above the Ordinary High Water Mark. Grading, filling and excavation necessary for the construction of structures, sewage treatment systems or driveways under validly issued permits shall be allowed. Notwithstanding any other applicable regulations, any other topographic alterations must meet the following standards: 1) alterations shall not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties; and 2) alterations must be designed and conducted in a manner that minimizes soil erosion, including the installation of erosion control measures as needed.

k. Topographic Alterations Below the Ordinary High Water Mark. All topographic alterations below the ordinary high water mark must be approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*(Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4577, 02-01-94; Ord. 4631, 08-30-94; Ord. 4756, 05-14-96; Ord. 4772, 06-25-96; Ord. 4828, 03-25-97; Ord. 4875, 10-14-97; Ord. 5280, 09-23-03; Ord. 5286, 11-13-03; Ord. 5287, 12-16-03; Ord. 5369, 11-23-04; Ord. 5566, 12-12-06; Ord. 5902, 06-26-12; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6109, 03-24-15; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6278, 08-22-17; Ord. 6283, 09-26-17; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24; Ord. 6651, 02-03-26)*

14-04-01.1. RR5 Residential District. In any RR5 residential district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The RR5 residential district is established as a district in which the principal use of the land shall be for low density, large lot single-family dwellings, limited agriculture, and limited equine husbandry. For the RR5 residential district, in promoting the general purposes of this title, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction or placement of and use of land for single-family dwellings on large rural lots that are no less than five acres in size and for limited agricultural uses.

b. To protect the quiet enjoyment of residential property and discourage all uses or activities that interfere with or detract from these principal uses of this zoning district.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this title.

d. To discourage any use which would generate traffic on the streets of the district other than normal traffic to serve the single-family residences of the area.

e. To provide a zoning classification for existing single-family dwellings on large rural lots that are no less than five acres in size.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted.

a. Single-family dwellings.

b. Education group.

c. Public recreational group.

d. Private riding stables in areas outside of the corporate limits, provided that animals shall be used for private use only; that no animal, animal stable, barn or shelter shall be located within one hundred (100) feet of any neighboring residence or structure; that three (3) horses shall be permitted on any premises which contains at least five (5) acres and additional horses shall be allowed at the rate of one (1) horse for every additional three (3) acres of property owned. For the purposes of this ordinance the definition of a horse will be only those horses that are one calendar year of age or older and a miniature horse shall be defined as a horse less than 50 inches high measured at the withers. For the purpose of calculating the number of horses allowed under this section, a miniature horse shall be deemed to be the equivalent of .66 of a horse.

e. Chicken Hens and Coops in areas outside of the corporate limits, provided that the animals are kept for private use only; that no male chickens (roosters) are kept; all hens are kept in a fenced area; all coops and structures meet applicable setbacks and size limitations for allowable accessory structures and are not located less than one hundred and fifty (150) feet of any neighboring residence or structure; and that no more than ten (10) chickens shall be permitted.

f. Animal husbandry activity or project in areas outside of the corporate limits, conducted primarily for educational purposes or school credits, provided such activities are not conducted for commercial purposes and the premises are maintained in a sanitary manner.

g. Family foster home for adults.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

a. Child care centers.

b. Religious institution.

c. Accessory dwelling unit.

3. Lot area. Each principal building erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot containing a minimum area of 5.0 acres with a minimum lot width of 300 feet and a minimum lot depth of 400 feet.

4. Front yard. Each platted lot shall have a front yard of not less than forty (40) feet in depth as measured from the front property line.

5. Side yard. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal and accessory buildings. Each side yard shall be no less than fifteen (15) feet in width. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street less than forty (40) feet in width.

6. Rear yard. Each lot or premises shall have a rear yard depth of not less than fifty (50) feet.

7. Density. Density shall be one dwelling unit per five acres.

8. Height limits. No single-family dwelling shall exceed forty (40) feet in height nor shall any other principal structure exceed fifty (50) feet in height nor shall any accessory structure exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height. For each foot or fraction thereof, that a building exceeds thirty-five (35) feet in height there shall be added four (4) feet to the minimum depth of each rear yard required by this section.

9. Automobile parking. Adequate automobile parking shall be provided for each dwelling as set forth by Section 14-03-10 hereof.

10. Minimum road standards. Right-of-way and roadway widths shall conform to the standards as set forth by Part K of Subsection 1 of Section 14-09-05 hereof.

11. Accessory Buildings. All allowable accessory buildings for a single-family rural residence shall be limited to a maximum of four (4) percent of the area of the parcel. The maximum building height shall be limited to twenty-five (25) feet.

Accessory buildings for the above computations shall include the following buildings: barns, stables, coops, storage buildings, garden sheds, and detached garages. Attached garages are not included in the above computations, provided the area occupied by an attached garage does not exceed one and one-half times the area of the footprint of the dwelling portion of the principal structure to which it is attached.

12. Additional Development Standards for Land Abutting the Missouri River. In order to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational qualities of the Missouri River, conserve the scenic and historic values of the Missouri River shoreland, protect shoreland development from river bank erosion, and provide for the wise use of the river and related land resources, the following additional development standards are hereby established for land abutting the Missouri River platted after November 25, 2003:

a. Structure Setbacks. All structures shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

b. Design Criteria. Structures should be placed and designed in a manner as to reduce visibility as viewed from the river and adjacent shoreland by vegetation, topography or the color of the structure, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions.

c. Impervious Surface Coverage. The percentage of lot covered by impervious surfaces (structures, paved surfaces, etc.) shall not exceed 25 percent of the lot area.

d. On-Site Sewage Treatment Facility Setbacks. All sewage treatment facilities, including drainfields, shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

e. Stairways, Lifts and Landings. Stairways and lifts are the preferred alternative to major topographic alterations for achieving access up and down bluffs and steep slopes to shore areas. Stairways and lifts must meet the following design requirements: 1) stairways and lifts shall not exceed four feet in width; 2) landings for stairways and lifts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area; 3) canopies or roofs are not allowed on stairways, lifts or landings; 4) stairways, lifts and landings may be constructed on posts/pilings or placed in the ground, provided they are designed and built in a manner that controls soil erosion, meets building code requirements, and does not affect the integrity of bank stabilization projects.

f. Boat Docks. The placement of boat docks shall be allowed in accordance with the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code and any other applicable regulations.

g. Shore Impact Zone. Structures and accessory facilities, except stairways and landings, shall not be placed within a shore impact zone.

h. Steep Slopes. For structures and/or facilities to be placed on steep slopes, the Building Official may attach conditions on the building permit to prevent erosion and preserve existing vegetation.

i. Vegetation Alterations. Intensive vegetative clearing within the shore impact zone and on steep slopes is prohibited. Limited clearing of vegetation is permitted in order to provide a view of the river from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of permitted stairways, lifts or landings. Removal of vegetation that is dead, diseased or that poses a safety hazard is allowed.

j. Topographic Alterations Above the Ordinary High Water Mark. Grading, filling and excavation necessary for the construction of structures, sewage treatment systems or driveways under validly issued permits shall be allowed. Notwithstanding any other applicable regulations, any other topographic alterations must meet the following standards: 1) alterations shall not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties; and 2) alterations must be designed and conducted in a manner that minimizes soil erosion, including the installation of erosion control measures as needed.

k. Topographic Alterations Below the Ordinary High Water Mark. All topographic alterations below the ordinary high water mark must be approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*(Ord. 5296, 02-24-04; Ord. 5371, 11-23-04; Ord. 5902, 06-26-12; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6109, 03-24-15; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6278, 08-22-17; Ord. 6283, 09-26-17; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24; Ord. 6651, 02-03-26)*

14-04-02. RRMH Rural Mobile Home Residential District. *Repealed 05-14-96, Ord. No. 4756.*

14-04-03. R5 Residential District. In any R5 residential district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The R5 residential district is established as a district in which the principal use of land is for single-family dwellings. For the R5 residential district, in promoting the general purposes of this title, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction or placement of, and the continued use of the land for single-family dwellings on urban lots.

b. To protect the quiet enjoyment of residential property and discourage all uses or activities that interfere with or detract from these principal uses of this zoning district.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this title.

d. To discourage any use which would generate traffic on minor streets other than normal traffic to serve residents on those streets.

e. To discourage any use which because of its character or size would create requirements and costs for public services, such as police and fire protection, water supply and sewerage, substantially in excess of such requirements and costs if the district were developed solely for single-family dwellings.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted:

- a. Single-family dwelling.
- b. Education group.
- c. Public recreation group.
- d. Family foster home for adults.
- e. Agency foster home for adults.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Child care center.
- b. Religious institution.
- c. Accessory dwelling unit.

3. Density. The maximum allowable density is five (5) families per gross acre.

4. Lot area. Each permitted structure hereafter erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot having an area of not less than seven thousand (7,000) square feet. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1953, a single-family dwelling and accessory buildings may be erected, provided said lot contains no less than five thousand (5,000) square feet.

5. Lot width. Each lot shall have a front property line width of not less than forty (40) feet, and in addition, shall have a width of not less than sixty (60) feet, measured along a line approximately parallel to and forty (40) feet back from the front property line. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat or deed recorded prior to 1953, the minimum lot width measured along the front building line may be reduced to not less than fifty (50) feet.

6. Lot coverage. The ground area occupied by the principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed thirty (30) per cent of the total area of the lot. In computing lot coverage, off-street parking areas complying with Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be added to the actual area of the buildings, if such space is not furnished within a building.

a. Administrative Approval of Increased Lot Coverage. The Director of Community Development and City Engineer, where appropriate, may approve the increase of a lot's total lot coverage, provided a surface study of the vicinity is prepared by the applicant or their consultant and is submitted for review. This provision is intended to provide flexibility to property owners, while still ensuring the intent of the stormwater management plan is met.

1. Eligibility. Only lots within those subdivisions that have a conditionally approved Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan (PCSMP) are eligible.

2. The study must indicate and contain a minimum of, but not limited to, the following:

a. Narrative explaining how the ground area occupied by required off-street parking areas and the principal and accessory buildings does not exceed forty (40) percent.

b. To-scale survey exhibit showing the proposed lot coverage.

c. Exhibit(s) and analysis showing the lot coverage and drainage paths of all other lots within the same stormwater sub-basin, as defined in the conditionally approved PCSMP.

3. Off-site or on-site stormwater and drainage easements may be required prior to any administrative approval of lot increases.

4. The Director of Community Development and City Engineer, where appropriate, may require prior to any administrative approval of lot increases between thirty-five (35) and up to forty (40) percent, an updated and approved PCSMP that details and provides for the runoff based on the proposed lot coverage(s).

7. Front yard. Each lot or parcel shall have a front yard for principal or accessory structures not less than twenty-five (25) feet in depth, provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1979, the following setback standards apply:

a. Reference Lots. A sample of reference lots in the vicinity of the proposed activity are used as the basis for front yard setbacks. Reference lots shall be selected as follows:

1. Reference lots are the three (3) closest adjacent lots or parcels on either side of the proposed activity, for a total of six (6) reference lots.

2. Reference lots are on the same side of the same street.

3. Reference lots contain residential structures, irrespective of the orientation of the structure. Vacant lots or lots with non-residential structures are skipped over for the next closest lot or parcel.

4. Reference lots may be selected across local streets, but may not be selected across collector or arterial streets.

5. Reference lots must be in the same zoning district as the proposed activity.

6. If three (3) lots or parcels that comply with the rules of this section are not available on any side, a corresponding number of lots or parcels are selected on the opposite side of the proposed activity, so that a total number of six (6) reference lots are selected.

7. The zoning administrator may adjust the number of reference lots, if necessary to determine a sample representative of the context.

b. Contextual Setback. The required front yard for principal or accessory structures shall be the median of all existing front yards measured from reference lots, plus or minus three (3) feet, but no less than the shortest front yard setback or more than the longest front yard setback measured from all reference lots.

c. Garage Exception. Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, no front face of a garage or vehicle storage unit shall be closer than twenty (20) feet from a right-of-way line to allow an additional parking spot in front of the garage without encroaching into the right-of-way.

8. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal building. Each side yard shall be no less than six (6) feet in width. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street less than twenty-five (25) feet in width.

9. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than twenty (20) feet in depth.

10. Height limits. No single-family dwelling shall exceed forty (40) feet in height. No principal building for any other permitted use shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height. No accessory building shall exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height; accessory structures containing accessory dwelling units are also allowed a maximum height of twenty-five (25) feet as described in Section 14-03-08.4(y).

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4610, 05-24-94; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 4756, 05-14-96; Ord. 4991, 06-22-99; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6287, 10-24-17; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19, Ord. 6513, 08-03-22; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24; Ord. 6591, 10-28-24)*

14-04-04. RMH Mobile Home Residential District. Repealed.  
*(Ord. 4756, 05-24-96)*

14-04-05. RMH Residential District.

1. Description. The RMH residential district is established as a district in which the principal use of land is for single-family mobile and manufactured home dwellings located within manufactured home parks. For the RMH residential district the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the placement of, and the continued use of land for single-family mobile and manufactured home dwellings located within manufactured home parks.

b. To prohibit commercial and industrial uses of the land.

c. To encourage suitable and proper development of manufactured home parks.

2. Permitted Uses. The following use is permitted:

a. Single-family mobile home dwellings or manufactured homes with or without a permanent foundation when located within manufactured home parks.

3. Development Standards.

a. Density. The maximum allowable density for all manufactured home parks shall be seven (7) families per net acre.

b. Lot Dimensions.

1. For single-wide manufactured home dwelling units, minimum lot dimensions shall be fifty (50) feet and the minimum lot area shall be five thousand (5,000) square feet.

2. For double-wide manufactured home dwelling units, minimum lot dimensions shall be sixty (60) feet and the minimum lot area shall be six thousand (6,000) square feet.

c. Park Area. The minimum total area of a manufactured home park shall be at least one hundred forty thousand (140,000) square feet.

d. Lot Coverage. The ground area occupied by a manufactured home, all utility structures, roofed deck or patio, and required off-street parking spaces shall not exceed forty (40) per cent of the total area of the lot. In computing the ground coverage, sufficient off-street parking space to comply with Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be added to actual area of the principal and accessory buildings. Each lot shall be limited to one attached utility structure of no more than one hundred twenty (120) square feet. Each lot may also have a detached accessory building(s) in accordance with Section 14-03-06(1) of this Title, provided the lot coverage requirement is not exceeded.

e. Height Limits. No accessory building shall exceed fifteen (15) feet in height, nor shall any legal attachment to a principal building except the height of the principal building.

f. Setbacks. Lot development shall observe the following setbacks:

1. Front Yard. No manufactured home or any other legal attachments to said dwelling or any accessory structures shall be located less than twenty (20) feet from the front lot line, measured back from the sidewalk or walkway, provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1979, the following setback standards apply:

a. Reference Lots. A sample of reference lots in the vicinity of the proposed activity are used as the basis for front yard setbacks. Reference lots shall be selected as follows:

1. Reference lots are the three (3) closest adjacent manufactured homes on either side of the proposed activity, for a total of six (6) reference lots.

2. Reference lots are on the same side of the same street.

3. Vacant lots or lots with non-residential structures are skipped over for the next closest lot or parcel.

4. Reference lots may be selected across local streets, but may not be selected across collector or arterial streets.

5. Reference lots must be in the same zoning district as the proposed activity.

6. If three (3) lots or parcels that comply with the rules of this section are not available on any side, a corresponding number of lots or parcels are selected on the opposite side of the proposed activity, so that a total number of six (6) reference lots are selected.

7. The zoning administrator may adjust the number of reference lots, if necessary to determine a sample representative of the context.

b. Contextual Setback. The required front yard for principal or accessory structures shall be the median of all existing front yards measured from reference lots, plus or minus three (3) feet, but no less than the shortest front yard setback or more than the longest front yard setback measured from all reference lots.

c. Garage Exception. Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, no front face of a garage or vehicle storage unit shall be closer than twenty (20) feet from a right-of-way line to allow an additional parking spot in front of the garage without encroaching into the right-of-way.

2. Side Yard and Spacing. No manufactured home or any other legal attachments to said dwelling or accessory structure shall be located less than six (6) feet from the side lot line measured back from the walkway or sidewalk. Manufactured homes on corner lots shall follow front yard setbacks from all streets. Side yard measurements are to be taken at right angles to the building at the closest points to a property line. Detached accessory buildings shall be located not less than five (5) feet from the side or rear lot lines. The ends of the manufactured homes shall be at least twelve (12) feet apart.

3. Landscaped setback area. All manufactured home parks must provide a completely and permanently landscaped setback area of at least thirty (30) feet in width around those portions of the park perimeter which border public rights-of-way. The primary landscaping materials used in the setback areas shall be trees, shrubbery, ground cover, hedges, lawn and other live planting materials. The land owners shall be responsible for providing, protecting and maintaining all landscaping materials in healthy growing condition. Fences shall not be permitted within landscaped setback areas, nor shall any structures or accessory uses be installed within such areas by park residents.

g. Parking. Off-street parking shall be provided in accordance with Section 14-03-10 hereof.

h. Streets. The minimum street or accessway on which each manufactured home fronts shall be at least thirty-six (36) feet from curb to curb in width. Dead-end streets shall terminate in a cul-de-sac with a turning diameter of at least forty (40) feet. All streets shall be hard-surfaced, either concrete or bituminized.

i. Walkways. Manufactured home parks shall be provided with walkways at least four (4) feet wide adjacent to streets or accessways.

j. Lighting. All entrances, exits, lanes and driveways between rows of manufactured homes shall be lighted to provide an intensity of at least five (5) footcandles, measured at ground level.

k. Services. All provisions for water supply, sewage and fire protection to be provided in any manufactured home park shall have been approved by the appropriate city department and shall meet urban service standards.

l. Recreation Area. There shall be provided within each manufactured home park an adequate site or sites for recreation for the exclusive use of the park occupants. Such recreation site or sites shall have a minimum area in the aggregate of four thousand (4,000) square feet plus one hundred (100) square feet for each manufactured home space in said park. The recreation sites shall be approved by the planning commission and provided with adequate equipment.

m. Enlargement or Alteration. Any enlargement or alteration of a manufactured home park that exceeds ten (10) per cent of the total number of lots or spaces shall comply with the provisions of Subsection 3 of this Section. The remaining portion of a manufactured home park not being enlarged or altered will not be required to comply with the provisions of Subsection 3.

n. Business Uses. No business shall be conducted in any manufactured home park except manufactured home sales.

o. Public Right-of-Way. If public right-of-way bisects a manufactured home park, all lots located adjacent to such public right-of-way shall conform to the standards and setbacks as specified in the R5-Residential District.

4. Community Storage Buildings. Private garages or storage buildings located within manufactured home parks but not located on individual lots may be allowed, provided:

a. Height Limits. No community storage building sidewall shall exceed fourteen (14) feet in height. The maximum roof pitch of such buildings shall not exceed 3:12.

b. Activities. No activities other than storage of vehicles and household goods by residents of the manufactured home park shall be allowed.

c. Dimensions. No single building dimension shall exceed one hundred-twenty (120) feet and no individual building shall exceed a total of three thousand (3,000) square feet in size. All such buildings must be separated by a minimum of twelve (12) feet. No more than four (4) storage buildings may be grouped together in one location within a manufactured home park. All such groups of buildings must be separated by a minimum of five hundred (500) feet.

d. Accessways. Accessways to community storage buildings shall be hard-surfaced, either concrete or bituminized.

e. Floors. All floors in community storage buildings shall be hard surfaced.

f. Site Plan. No community storage building or buildings shall be constructed until a site plan has been approved by the Zoning Administrator.

5. Additional Manufactured Home Requirements. All mobile and manufactured homes shall be installed in conformance with the requirements of Chapter 4-12 of the Code of Ordinances.  
(Ord. 4756, 05-14-96; Ord. 4936, 09-08-98; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6235, 10-25-16; Ord. 6287, 10-24-17)

14-04-06. R10 Residential District. In any R10 residential district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The R10 residential district is established as a district in which the principal use of land is for single-family and two-family dwellings. For the R10 residential district, in promoting the general purposes of this article, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction or placement of and the continued use of the land for single-family and two-family dwellings on urban lots.

b. To protect the quiet enjoyment of residential property and discourage all uses or activities that interfere with or detract from these principal uses of this zoning district.

c. To encourage the discontinuation of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this ordinance.

d. To discourage any use which would generate traffic on minor streets other than normal traffic to serve residences of those streets.

e. To discourage any use which because of its character or size would create requirements and costs for public services such as police and fire protection, water supply and sewerage, substantially in excess of such requirements and costs if the district were developed solely for single-family and two-family dwellings.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted:

a. Single-family dwelling.

b. Two-family dwelling.

c. Education group.

d. Public recreation group.

e. Row house. Attached single-family dwelling in groups of two (2).

1) Density. The maximum allowable density shall be ten (10) families per gross acre.

2) Lot area.

a) Lot and yard requirement regulations for row house, townhouse or zero lot line attached units. Each attached single-family dwelling hereafter erected shall conform to the following minimums:

Lot area in square feet--not less than 3,500 feet per unit;

Lot width of front building line-not less than 30 feet, provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat or deed recorded prior to 1953, the minimum lot width measured along the front building line may be reduced to not less than twenty-five (25) feet;

Width of each side yard in feet--not less than 6 feet, except 25 feet shall be maintained at corner lots.

Depth of rear yard in feet—not less than 20 feet.

3) Height regulations. The maximum height of any principal building shall be forty (40) feet.

4) Safety provisions. Row house, townhouse or zero lot line attached units shall have wall separations between each dwelling unit of at least a two-hour, fire-resistant wall which shall extend from the footing to and through the roof at least thirty (30) inches except as may be allowed by the city building code pertaining to area separation walls.

5) Off-street parking. Off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit in compliance with Section 14-03-10 hereof.

6) Regulations Imposed on Overall Structure. The lot coverage requirements and the minimum front, side and rear yard setbacks shall be imposed on the overall structure rather than on each individual unit.

f. Family foster home for adults.

g. Agency foster home for adults.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

a. Child care center.

b. Religious institution.

c. Accessory dwelling unit.

3. Density. The maximum allowable density is ten (10) families per gross acre.

4. Lot area. Each permitted structure hereafter erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot having an area of not less than

seven thousand (7,000) square feet. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1953, a single-family or two-family dwelling and accessory buildings may be erected, provided said lot contains not less than five thousand (5,000) square feet.

5. Lot width. Each lot shall have a front property line width of not less than forty (40) feet, and in addition, shall have a width of not less than sixty (60) feet, measured along a line approximately parallel to and forty (40) feet back from the front property line. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat or deed recorded prior to 1953, the minimum lot width measured along the front building line may be reduced to not less than fifty (50) feet.

6. Lot coverage. The ground area occupied by the principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed forty (40) per cent of the total area of the lot. In computing lot coverage, off-street parking areas complying with Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be added to the actual area of the buildings, if such parking space is not furnished within a building.

7. Front yard. Each lot or parcel shall have a front yard for principal or accessory structures of not less than twenty-five (25) feet in depth, provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1979, the following setback standards apply:

a. Reference Lots. A sample of reference lots in the vicinity of the proposed activity are used as the basis for front yard setbacks. Reference lots shall be selected as follows:

1. Reference lots are the three (3) closest adjacent lots or parcels on either side of the proposed activity, for a total of six (6) reference lots.

2. Reference lots are on the same side of the same street.

3. Reference lots contain residential structures, irrespective of the orientation of the structure. Vacant lots or lots with non-residential structures are skipped over for the next closest lot or parcel.

4. Reference lots may be selected across local streets, but may not be selected across collector or arterial streets.

5. Reference lots must be in the same zoning district as the proposed activity.

6. If three (3) lots or parcels that comply with the rules of this section are not available on any side, a corresponding number of lots or parcels are selected on the opposite side of the proposed activity, so that a total number of six (6) reference lots are selected.

7. The zoning administrator may adjust the number of reference lots, if necessary to determine a sample representative of the context.

b. Contextual Setback. The required front yard for principal or accessory structures shall be the median of all existing front yards measured from reference lots, plus or minus three (3) feet, but no less than the shortest front yard setback or more than the longest front yard setback measured from all reference lots.

c. Garage Exception. Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, no front face of a garage or vehicle storage unit shall be closer than twenty (20) feet from a right-of-way line to allow an additional parking spot in front of the garage without encroaching into the right-of-way.

8. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal building. Each side yard shall be no less than six (6) feet in width. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street less than twenty-five (25) feet in width.

9. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than twenty (20) feet in depth.

10. Height limits. No single-family dwelling and no two-family dwelling shall exceed forty (40) feet in height. No principal building for any other permitted use shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height. No accessory buildings shall exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height; accessory structures containing accessory dwelling units are also allowed a maximum height of twenty-five (25) feet as described in Section 14-03-08.4(y).

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4610, 05-24-94; Ord. 4649, 12-06-94; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 4756, 05-14-96; Ord. 4828, 03-25-97; Ord. 4991, 06-22-99; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5666, 05-27-08; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6176, 11-24-15; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6287, 10-24-17; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19, Ord. 6513, 08-03-22; Ord. 6570, 02-05-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24)*

14-04-07. RM Residential District. In any RM residential district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The RM residential district is established as a district in which the principal use of land is for multifamily dwellings and similar high density residential development. For the RM residential district, in promoting the general purposes of this title, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction of and the continued use of the land for residential purposes on urban lots.

b. To protect the quiet enjoyment of residential property and discourage all uses or activities that interfere with or detract from these principal uses of this zoning district.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses in the district.

d. To discourage any use which because of its character or size would generate traffic or require municipal services substantially in excess of traffic and services that would exist if the district were developed solely for multifamily dwellings.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted.

a. Multifamily dwelling.

b. Group dwelling.

c. Education group.

d. Public recreation group.

e. Row houses. Attached single-family dwelling in groups of not more than eight (8) or less than three (3) dwelling units in one building, or in groups of not more than eight (8) or less than two (2) dwelling units when constructed as part of an overall row house development with at least three (3) buildings.

1) Density. The maximum allowable density per acre shall be as stipulated in the underlying zoning district.

2) Lot and Yard Requirements.

Each attached single-family dwelling hereafter erected shall conform to the following minimum lot area and yard requirements:

	Interior	Street	
	Interior	End	Corners
Lot area in square feet	2,300	3,220	3,795
Lot width of front building line in feet	20	28	33
Depth of lot in front	115	115	115
Width of side yard in feet		10	25

Depth of rear yard in feet            20            20            20

3) Height regulations. The maximum height of any principal building shall be forty (40) feet.

4) Safety provision. Row houses shall have wall separations between each dwelling unit of at least a two-hour fire-rated wall which shall extend from the footing to and through the roof at least thirty (30) inches except as may be allowed by the city building code pertaining to area separation walls.

5) Off-street parking. Off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit in compliance with Section 14-03-10 hereof.

6) Regulations Imposed on Overall Structure. The lot coverage requirements and the minimum front, side and rear yard setbacks shall be imposed on the overall structure rather than on each individual unit.

f. Health medical group. Only within area bounded by Fourth and Tenth Streets and Avenue A and Boulevard Avenue.

g. Single-family and two-family dwelling only within the following described area:

1) Area bounded by Washington Street, Boulevard Avenue, Sixteenth Street and Broadway Avenue;

2) Area bounded by Ninth Street, Sweet Avenue, Airport Road and Indiana Avenue;

3) Area bounded by Third Street, Divide Avenue, Fourth Street and Boulevard Avenue.

h. Townhouses. Attached single-family dwelling in groups of not more than ten (10) or less than four (4).

1) Density. The maximum allowable density per acre shall be as stipulated in the underlying zoning district.

2) Lot and Yard Requirements. Each attached single-family dwelling hereafter erected as part of a townhouse shall conform to the following minimum lot area and yard requirements:

	<u>Interior</u>	<u>End</u>
Lot area in square feet	1,200	1,400

Lot width of front building line in feet	20	25
Depth of lot in front	40	40
Depth of front yard in feet	5	5
Width of side yard in feet	N/A	5
Depth of rear yard in feet	N/A	N/A

3) Height regulations. The maximum height of any principal building shall be forty (40) feet.

4) Safety provision. Townhouses shall have wall separations between each dwelling unit of at least a two-hour fire-rated wall which shall extend from the footing to and through the roof at least thirty (30) inches except as may be allowed by the city building code pertaining to area separation walls.

5) Off-street parking. Off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit in compliance with Section 14-03-10 hereof.

6) Regulations Imposed on Overall Development. The lot coverage requirements and the minimum front, side and rear yard setbacks for the underlying district shall be imposed on the overall development rather than on each individual unit or structure. If the townhouse project is arranged with each structure on a separate common parcel rather than on a common parcel for the overall development, the lot coverage requirements and the minimum front, side and rear yard setbacks for the underlying district shall be imposed on each structure rather than the overall development.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Child care center.
- b. Religious institution.
- c. Accessory dwelling unit to a single-family home.

3. Density. The maximum allowable density per net acre shall be stipulated in each district. The density shall vary between three (3) and thirty (30) units per net acre.

4. Lot area. Each permitted structure hereafter erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot having an area of not less than seven thousand (7,000) square feet. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1953, a multiple-family dwelling and accessory buildings may be erected subject to zone density restrictions and provided said lot contains at least five thousand (5,000) square feet.

5. Lot width. Each lot shall have a width of not less than sixty (60) feet, measured along the front building line. Provided, however, that for a record lot corresponding to a plat or deed recorded prior to 1953, the minimum lot width measured along the front building line may be reduced to not less than fifty (50) feet.

6. Lot coverage. The ground area occupied by the principal building and all accessory buildings shall not exceed fifty (50) per cent of the total lot area. In computing the ground coverage, off-street parking area complying with Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be added to the actual area of the buildings, if such spaces are not furnished within a building.

7. Front yard. Each lot or parcel shall have a front yard for principal or accessory structures not less than twenty-five (25) feet in depth, provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1979, the following setback standards apply:

a. Reference Lots. A sample of reference lots in the vicinity of the proposed activity are used as the basis for front yard setbacks. Reference lots shall be selected as follows:

1. Reference lots are the three (3) closest adjacent lots or parcels on either side of the proposed activity, for a total of six (6) reference lots.

2. Reference lots are on the same side of the same street.

3. Reference lots contain residential structures, irrespective of the orientation of the structure. Vacant lots or lots with non-residential structures are skipped over for the next closest lot or parcel.

4. Reference lots may be selected across local streets, but may not be selected across collector or arterial streets.

5. Reference lots must be in the same zoning district as the proposed activity.

6. If three (3) lots or parcels that comply with the rules of this section are not available on any side, a corresponding number of lots or parcels are selected on the opposite side of the proposed activity, so that a total number of six (6) reference lots are selected.

7. The zoning administrator may adjust the number of reference lots, if necessary to determine a sample representative of the context.

b. Contextual Setback. The required front yard for principal or accessory structures shall be the median of all existing front yards

measured from reference lots, plus or minus three (3) feet, but no less than the shortest front yard setback or more than the longest front yard setback measured from all reference lots.

c. Garage Exception. Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, no front face of a garage or vehicle storage unit shall be closer than twenty (20) feet from a right-of-way line to allow an additional parking spot in front of the garage without encroaching into the right-of-way.

8. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal building. Each side yard shall be no less than ten (10) feet in width. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street less than twenty-five (25) feet in width. Such sideyard setbacks on corner lots shall apply to all structures permitted on or after August 12, 1997. Any structure originally permitted prior to August 12, 1997 that is damaged to the extent that the foundation is no longer usable must comply with this section if it is rebuilt. For buildings in excess of two stories in height permitted on or after October 1, 2007, the required side yard setback shall be increased by 10 feet for each additional story in height over two.

9. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than twenty (20) feet in width. Such rear yard setbacks shall apply to all structures permitted on or after August 12, 1997. Any structure originally permitted prior to August 12, 1997 that is damaged to the extent that the foundation is no longer usable must comply with this section if it is rebuilt. For buildings in excess of two stories in height permitted on or after October 1, 2007, the required rear yard setback shall be increased by 10 feet for each additional story in height over two.

10. Height limits. No principal building shall exceed sixty (60) feet in height. No accessory building shall exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height. For buildings in excess of two stories in height permitted on or after October 1, 2007, the required side and rear yard setbacks shall be increased by 10 feet for each additional story in height over two.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 4864, 08-12-97; Ord. 4947, 10-27-98; Ord. 4970, 04-27-99; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5563, 11-28-06; Ord. 5641, 10-09-07; Ord. 5678, 07-22-08; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6044, 04-22-14; Ord. 6076, 08-12-14; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6287, 10-24-17; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24)*

14-04-08. RT Residential District. In any RT residential district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The RT residential district is established as a district in which the use of land is high density residential uses and limited business development. For the RT residential district, in promoting the general purposes of this title, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction of and continued use of the land for residential purposes and limited business uses on urban lots.

b. To prohibit those commercial and service uses and industrial uses characterized by a high volume of direct daily customer contact and heavy volumes of vehicular traffic.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this title.

d. To discourage the expansion of commercial uses and encroachment of such districts into surrounding residential districts.

e. To discourage any use, which because of its character or size would create requirements and cost for public services, such as police and fire protection, water supply and sewerage substantially in excess of such requirements if the district were developed solely for multifamily dwellings and limited business development.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted.

a. A single- or two-family living unit when used in conjunction with a commercial use.

b. Multifamily dwelling.

c. Group dwelling.

d. Education group.

e. Health and medical group.

f. Public recreation group.

g. Office-bank group.

h. Row houses. Attached single-family dwelling in groups of not more than eight (8) nor less than three (3) dwelling units in one building, or in groups of not more than eight (8) or less than two (2) dwelling units when constructed as part of an overall row house development with at least three (3) buildings.

1) Density. The maximum allowable density is sixteen (16) families per net acre.

2) Lot area.

a) Lot and yard requirement regulations for row house use. Each attached single-family dwelling hereafter erected shall conform to the following minimums:

	Interior	End	Interior Corners	Street
Lot area in square feet	2,300	3,220	3,795	
Lot width of front building line in feet	20	28	33	
Depth of lot in feet	115	115	115	
Depth of front yard in feet	25	25	25	
Width of side yard in feet	-	10	25	
Depth of rear yard in feet	20	20	20	

3) Height regulations. The maximum height of any principal building shall be forty (40) feet.

4) Safety provision. Row houses shall have wall separations between each dwelling unit of at least a two-hour fire-rated wall which shall extend from the footing to and through the roof at least thirty (30) inches except as may be allowed by Chapter 5 of the city building code pertaining to area separation walls.

5) Access to rear yards. The required rear yard to each row dwelling shall have an unobstructed access to a public walkway at least four (4) feet wide extending to an alley or street.

6) Off-street parking. Off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit as provided under Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance.

- i. Beauty shop, barber shop.
- j. Ancillary retail sales of material products directly related to the primary business such as hair care products being sold at a beauty shop or barber shop. Such product display areas shall not occupy more than 25% (twenty-five percent) of the gross floor area of the primary business.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Religious institution.
- b. Child care center.
- c. Mortuary/funeral homes.

- d. Drive-in/drive-through facilities for a bank, only if located adjacent to an arterial roadway.
- 3. Density. The maximum allowable density is thirty (30) families per net acre.
- 4. Lot area. Each building containing dwelling units hereafter erected shall be located on a lot having not less than the following:
  - a. Each multifamily dwelling hereafter erected together with its accessory buildings shall comply with all regulations governing such uses in an RM residential district as provided under Section 14-04-07 except no lot shall be less than seven thousand (7,000) square feet in size.
  - b. A permitted commercial use shall be located on a lot containing at least seven thousand (7,000) square feet.
- 5. Lot width. Each lot shall have a width of not less than sixty (60) feet measured along the front building line.
- 6. Lot coverage. Residential and commercial uses.
  - a. Residential use. The ground area occupied by the principal building and all accessory buildings shall not exceed fifty (50) per cent of the total lot area. In computing the floor area ratio and ground coverage, appropriate square footage shall be added to the actual area of the principal building and all accessory buildings to provide off-street parking spaces as required by Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, if such spaces are not furnished within a building.
  - b. Commercial use or commercial and residential uses. The ground area occupied by the principal building and accessory buildings shall not exceed seventy-five (75) per cent of the area of the lot. In computing the ground coverage of a building, off-street parking area complying with Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be added to the actual area of the building, if such spaces are not furnished within the building.
- 7. Front yard. Each lot shall have a front yard not less than fifteen (15) feet in depth.
- 8. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal building. Each side yard shall be no less than ten (10) feet in width. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2).

9. Rear yards. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than ten (10) feet in depth. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required rear yard setback shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2).

10. Height limit. No principal building shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height; no accessory building shall exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side and rear yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) as required by this section.

*(Ord. 4323, 4-24-90; Ord. 4351, 1-02-91; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; 5451, 08-23-05; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5763, 12-22-09; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6076, 08-12-14; Ord. 6279, 08-22-17; Ord. 6361, 01-22-19)*

14-04-09. HM Medical Facility District.

1. General description. The HM medical facility district is established as a district in which the principal use of the land is for health and medical uses. For HM medical facility districts, in promoting the general purposes of this title, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage construction and continuing operation of the land uses which directly affect the health of community residents on urban lots.

b. To provide an identifiable area within the community for cooperation and continuing medical research and treatment of human beings.

c. To provide for such other uses as are in harmony with the medical uses existing in the district.

d. To prohibit uses which are or may be disruptive of the main purpose of the district.

e. To encourage discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provision of this title.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted in HM medical facility districts:

a. Single-family dwelling.

b. Two-family dwelling.

c. Multiple family housing.

d. Row houses/townhouses (subject to all requirements for same in RM residential zone.)

e. Group dwelling.

f. Professional offices other than health care offices provided they occupy no more than fifty (50) per cent of the gross leasable area of any structure.

g. Education group.

h. Hotel.

i. Motel.

j. Health-medical group.

k. Public recreation group.

l. Restaurant, provided that all food is consumed within and enclosed building and provided further that this use is an accessory use to another allowable use in this district.

m. Service group A uses as follows: Travel agency, barbershop, beauty shop, dressmaker, tailor, dry cleaning pickup agency, laundry pickup agency and self-service laundry.

n. Retail group A uses as follows: Book, magazine or newspaper store, candy store, delicatessen, drugstore, flower shop, ice cream parlor and hobby shop.

o. Commercial parking lot.

p. Banks.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

a. Child care center.

b. Religious institution.

3. Density. Maximum allowable densities are the same as allowed for the corresponding type of construction and occupancy in RM residential zone.

4. Lot area. Each building containing dwelling units hereafter erected shall be located on a lot having not less than the following:

a. Each multifamily dwelling, townhouse or row house hereafter erected together with its accessory building shall comply with all regulations governing such uses in RM residential district as provided under Section 14-04-07 except no lot shall be less than seven thousand (7,000) square feet in size. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat recorded prior to 1953, a single-family or two-family dwelling and accessory buildings may be erected on a lot containing not less than five thousand (5,000) square feet.

b. Any other permitted uses shall be located on a lot containing at least seven thousand (7,000) square feet.

5. Lot width. Each lot shall have a width of not less than sixty (60) feet measured along the front building line; provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat or deed recorded prior to 1953, the minimum lot width measured along the front building line may be reduced to not less than fifty (50) feet.

6. Lot coverage. Residential and commercial use.

a. Residential use. The ground area of the principal building and all accessory buildings shall not exceed fifty (50) per cent of the total lot area. In computing the ground coverage, sufficient area shall be added to the actual area of the buildings to provide off-street parking spaces as required by Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, if such spaces are not furnished within a building.

b. Commercial use or commercial and residential uses. The ground area occupied by the principal building and accessory building shall not exceed seventy-five (75) per cent of the area of the lot. In computing the ground coverage of a building, sufficient area shall be added to the coverage of said building for off-street parking space as required by Section 14-03-10 if such spaces are not furnished within the building.

Exception. Upon presentation of a site plan indicating building locations, sizes, design and other land uses, the board of adjustment may adjust lot coverage up to one hundred (100) per cent of the lot.

7. Front yard. There is no minimum front yard setback, unless the property is immediately adjacent to a residentially-zoned property, in which case the minimum front yard setback shall be fifteen (15) feet.

8. Side yards. A lot on which is erected a residential structure shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal building. The sum width of the two (2) side yards shall not be less than twenty (20) per cent of the average width of the lot. In no case shall the side yard be less than six (6) feet. On any lot on which the principal building is designed and used for nonresidential use, no side yards shall be required except where such lot is located adjacent to a residential district in which case that side adjoining such residential district shall comply with

the side yard requirement of such residential district. Commercial buildings of wood and unprotected metal shall have side yards, complying with the requirements of the city building code, Chapter 4-02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck. All side yards are subject to variance under provisions of subsection (6)(b) of this district regulation.

9. Rear yards. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than ten (10) feet in depth, except as may be allowed under provisions of subsection 6(b) of this district regulation. Provided, however, that where the rear of a lot adjoins an alley, no rear yard shall be required for a principal non-residential building.

10. Height limit. No nonmedical principal building shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height; no accessory building shall exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height. Buildings housing more than fifty (50) per cent occupants whose uses fall within health-medical group uses in excess of fifty (50) feet in height may not be located within one hundred (100) feet of a single- or two-family dwelling in a residential zoning district.

*(Ord. 4351, 1-02-91; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5768, 04-27-10; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14)*

14-04-10. CA Commercial District. In any CA commercial district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The CA commercial district is established as a district in which the predominant use of the land is for commercial and service uses to serve residential districts in the general area. The CA commercial district should be served by arterial or collector streets. For the CA commercial district, in promoting the general purposes of this article, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the continued use of the land for neighborhood commercial and services uses.

b. To prohibit heavy commercial and services uses and industrial uses of the land, and to prohibit any other use which would substantially depreciate the value of residential districts surrounding the CA commercial district.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of mixed uses and uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this article.

d. To discourage the expansion of CA commercial districts and the encroachment of such districts into surrounding residential districts.

e. To discourage any use, which because of its character or size, would create requirements and costs for public services, such as police and fire protection, water supply and sewerage substantially in excess of those

necessary if the district were developed solely for neighborhood commercial and service uses.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted:

- a. A single- or two-family dwelling when used in conjunction with a commercial use.
- b. Multifamily dwelling.
- c. Group dwelling.
- d. Row houses/townhouses (subject to RM residential zone regulations).
- e. Retail group A.
- f. Service group A.
- g. Office-bank group.
- h. Health-medical group.
- i. Public recreation group.
- j. Education group.
- k. Religious institution.
- l. Commercial recreation group, limited to 10,000 square feet in area.
- m. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 1.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Temporary Christmas tree sales.
- b. Temporary farm and garden produce sales.
- c. Filling station.
- d. Seasonal nursery and bedding stock sales.
- e. Child care center.
- f. Drive-in bank.



b. Commercial use. On any lot on which the principal building is designed or used for a commercial use, the side yards shall be at least ten (10) feet in width. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) for any side yard located adjacent to an R5, R10 or RM zoning district.

8. Rear yard.

a. Residential use. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than ten (10) feet in depth. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required rear yard setback shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2).

b. Commercial use. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than ten (10) feet in depth unless adjacent to a public alley. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required rear yard setback shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) for any rear yard located adjacent to an R5, R10 or RM zoning district.

9. Height limits.

a. Commercial buildings. No building shall exceed forty (40) feet in height. No accessory building shall exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height, permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side and rear yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) for any side or rear yard located adjacent to an R5, R10 or RM zoning district.

b. Residential buildings. Height limits shall follow those in effect in RM residential zones. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height, permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side and rear yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2).

10. Off-street parking space. Off-street parking space requirements of Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be complied with.  
(Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4702, 06-13-95; Ord. 4808, 11-12-96; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; Ord. 5763, 12-22-09; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6010, 09-24-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21; Ord. 6532, 01-24-23; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25)

14-04-11. CB Commercial District. Section 14-04-11 is hereby repealed.  
(Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 4808, 11-12-96; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5564, 11-28-06)

14-04-12. CG Commercial District. In any CG commercial district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The CG commercial district is a heavy commercial area located outside the central business district to provide commerce and service to the City of Bismarck and surrounding regional market. The CG commercial district is established to promote the general purpose of this article, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the continued expansion of the commercial facilities within the city without creating increased vehicular congestion in the existing central business district.

b. To provide an orderly and comprehensive expansion of commercial services within the city.

c. To prevent commercial encroachment on existing residential districts.

d. To encourage the development of a conveniently arranged district offering a broad range of commercial and professional services in a relaxed atmosphere and in an area where adequate off-street parking will be provided.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted:

a. A single- or two -family dwelling when used in conjunction with a commercial use.

b. Multifamily dwelling.

c. Group dwelling.

d. Multifamily high rise.

e. Hotel-motel.

f. Retail group A.

g. Service group A.

h. Office-bank group.

i. Retail group B.

j. Service group B.

k. Commercial recreation group.

- l. Wholesale group.
- m. Health-medical group.
- n. Education group.
- o. Public recreation group.
- p. Railroad or bus passenger station.
- q. Commercial greenhouse.
- r. Commercial parking lot.
- s. Religious institution.
- t. Microbrew pub.
- u. Domestic distillery.
- v. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 1.

The following uses are allowed as special uses pursuant to Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Temporary Christmas tree sales.
- b. Temporary religious meetings.
- c. Temporary farm and garden produce sales.
- d. Seasonal nursery and bedding stock sales.
- e. Filling station.
- f. Drive-in retail or service establishment.
- g. Child care center.
- h. Veterinary services – small animals.
- i. Golf driving range.
- j. Auto laundry - car wash.
- k. Retail liquor sales.
- l. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 2 (administrative).

3. Lot area. Any permitted principal building or structure, together with its accessory buildings shall be located on a lot having an area of not less than seven thousand (7,000) square feet. Provided, however, that such building and accessory buildings may be located on a lot containing not less than five thousand (5,000) square feet if such lot is on a plat recorded prior to 1953.

4. Lot width. Each lot shall have a width of not less than sixty (60) feet, measured along the front building line. Provided, however, that on a record lot corresponding to a plat or deed recorded prior to 1953, the minimum lot width measured along the front building line may be reduced to not less than fifty (50) feet.

5. Lot coverage. The lot coverage of any nonresidential building and its accessory building shall not exceed eighty (80) per cent. In computing the lot coverage, sufficient area shall be added for each off-street parking space as required in Section 14-03-08 of this article. For the purposes of this section any structure with living units below the second floor shall be considered a residential use. All residential uses shall comply with RM residential zone regulations.

6. Front yard. A fifteen (15) foot front yard shall be required of any building in a CG commercial district except that all structures located on specified major roadways shall have a fifty (50) foot front yard. Buildings located on the following major roadway segments shall be subject to from the fifty (50) foot front yard requirement: US Highway 83/State Street north of East Century Avenue; East Main Avenue/County Highway 10 east 26<sup>th</sup> Street; ND Highway 1804 west of US Highway 83/State Street; Bismarck Expressway between the Missouri River and I-94; Centennial Road between I-94 and 71<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE; and 71<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE between Centennial Road and US Highway 83/State Street; and ND Highway 1804/University Drive south of East Burleigh Avenue.

7. Side yards. No side yard shall be required of any principal nonresidential building in a CG district. For non-residential buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) for any side yard located adjacent to an R5, R10 or RM zoning district. Residential structures shall comply with requirements in effect for RM residential zones.

8. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than ten (10) feet in depth. Provided, however, that where the rear of a lot adjoins an alley, no rear yard shall be required for a principal nonresidential building. For non-residential buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required rear yard setback shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) for any rear yard located adjacent to an R5, R10 or RM zoning district. Residential structures shall comply with requirements in effect for RM residential zones.

9. Height limit. No building shall exceed one hundred thirty (130) feet in height. For buildings in excess of two (2) stories in height permitted on or after December 22, 2009, the required side and rear yard setbacks shall be increased by ten (10) feet for each additional story in height over two (2) as required by this section.

10. Dwelling regulations. Each multifamily or group dwelling hereafter erected shall comply with all regulations governing such uses in an RM residential district.

11. Dwelling regulations – high-rise. Each multifamily high-rise dwelling hereafter erected shall comply with the following regulations:

a. Height limits. No multifamily high-rise apartment house shall exceed one hundred thirty (130) feet in height. For each story in excess of two (2) there shall be added one foot to the minimum width and depth of each required yard.

b. Maximum density. The maximum allowable density is forty-two (42) families per acre.

c. Lot coverage. The ground area occupied by the principal building and all accessory buildings shall not exceed seventy-five (75) per cent of the total lot area. In computing the floor area ratio and ground coverage, sufficient parking area shall be added to the actual area of the principal building and all accessory buildings to provide off-street parking spaces as required by Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, if such spaces are not furnished within a building.

d. Front yard. Each lot shall have a front yard not less than fifteen feet in depth.

e. Side yards. Each lot shall have two side yards, one on each side of the principal building. The minimum width of each side yard shall be fifteen feet. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street of less than fifteen feet; provided, further, that no high-rise dwelling shall be located within one hundred fifty feet of any residential zoning district.

f. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard of not less than fifteen feet in depth.

12. Off-street parking and loading space. Off-street parking and loading space requirements of section 14-03-10 hereof shall be complied with.

*(Ord. 4208, 5-10-88; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4703, 06-13-95; Ord. 4734, 11-14-95; Ord. 4735, 11-14-95; Ord. 4808, 11-12-96; Ord. 4811, 12-17-96; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5527, 06-27-06; 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5763, 12-22-09; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6190, 03-08-16; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21, Ord. 6514, 08-03-22; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25)*

14-04-13. CR Commercial District. Repealed.  
(Ord. 6234, 10-25-16)

14-04-14. MA Industrial District. In any MA industrial district the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The MA industrial district is established as a district in which the principal use of land is for heavy commercial establishments and non-nuisance industries. For MA industrial districts, in promoting the general purposes of this article, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction of and the continued use of the land for commercial and industrial buildings.

b. To prohibit use of the land for heavy nuisance industry or any other use which would substantially interfere with the development or continuation of commercial and industrial establishments in the district.

c. To encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this article.

d. To discourage the use of the land for residences for the purpose both of preserving the area for its appropriate use and for preventing the location of residences in an area inappropriate for residential use.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted:

a. Hotel-motel.

b. Retail group A.

c. Retail group B.

d. Service group A.

e. Service group B.

f. Wholesale group.

g. Truck terminal.

h. Railroad or bus passenger station.

i. Railroad freight station.

j. Industrial group A.

- k. Radio or television transmitting station.
- l. Commercial recreation group.
- m. Office-bank group.
- n. Religious institution.
- o. Microbrew pub.
- p. Domestic distillery.
- q. Brewer Taproom.
- r. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 1.

The following uses are allowed as special uses pursuant to Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Temporary Christmas tree sales.
- b. Temporary religious meetings.
- c. Temporary circus/fair/carnival.
- d. Temporary farm and garden produce sales.
- e. Temporary fireworks sales.
- f. Seasonal nursery and bedding stock sales.
- g. Solid waste disposal facility.
- h. Airport.
- i. Recreational vehicle park.
- j. Filling station.
- k. Drive-in retail or service establishment.
- l. Motor vehicle parts salvage yard.
- m. Veterinary services – small animals.
- n. Veterinary services – large animals.
- o. Golf driving range.

- p. Junkyard.
- q. Retail liquor sales.
- r. Racetracks.
- s. Child care center.
- t. Asphalt production facilities, both permanent and temporary.
- u. Data center.
- v. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 2 or 3 (administrative).

3. Lot area. Each principal building hereafter erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot having an area of not less than ten thousand (10,000) square feet.

4. Lot width. Each lot shall have width of not less than sixty (60) feet measured along the front building line.

5. Lot coverage. The ground area occupied by the principal building or buildings and accessory buildings shall not exceed eighty (80) percent of the total area of the lot. In computing the lot coverage of a principal building and its accessory buildings, sufficient area shall be added to its ground coverage for each off-street parking space as required by Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance.

6. Front yard. A fifteen (15) foot front yard shall be required of any building in an MA industrial district except that all structures located on specified major roadways shall have a fifty (50) foot front yard. Buildings located on the following major roadway segments shall be subject to the fifty (50) foot front yard requirement: US Highway 83/State Street north of East Century Avenue; East Main Avenue/County Highway 10 east 26<sup>th</sup> Street; ND Highway 1804 west of US Highway 83/State Street; Bismarck Expressway between the Missouri River and I-94; Centennial Road between I-94 and 71<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE; and 71<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE between Centennial Road and US Highway 83/State Street; and ND 1804/University Drive south of East Burleigh Avenue.

7. Side yards. No side yards shall be required except where a lot adjoins a lot in a residential district. The side yards shall be as required for the residential district.

8. Rear yard. A rear yard of at least ten (10) feet is required except when located adjacent to a public alley.

9. Height limits. No principal building shall exceed seventy-five (75) feet in height. All accessory buildings shall not exceed fifty (50) feet in height.

10. Off-street parking and loading space. Off-street parking and loading requirements of Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be complied with.  
(Ord. 4242, 2-28-89; Ord. 4461, 08-18-92; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4735, 11-14-95; Ord. 4808, 11-12-96; Ord. 4811, 12-17-96; Ord. 4912, 07-14-98; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6179, 12-22-15; Ord. 6190, 03-08-16; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21; Ord. 6505, 06-01-22, Ord. 6514, 08-03-22; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25)

14-04-15. MB Industrial District. In any MB industrial district the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The MB industrial district is established as a district in which the principal use of land is for heavy commercial and industrial establishments, which may create some nuisance, and which are not properly associated with nor compatible with residential, institutional and neighborhood commercial and service establishments. For the MB industrial district, in promoting the general purposes of this article, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the construction of and the continued use of the land for heavy commercial and industrial purposes.

b. To prohibit residential and neighborhood commercial use of the land and to prohibit any other use which would substantially interfere with the development, continuation or expansion of commercial and industrial uses in the district.

2. Use permitted. The following uses are permitted.

a. Retail group B.

b. Service group B.

c. Wholesale group.

d. Truck terminal.

e. Railroad freight classification yards and stations.

f. Farming group.

g. Industrial group A.

h. Industrial group B.

i. Oil or gas well.

j. Radio or television transmitting station.

- k. Sand or gravel extraction and processing.
- l. Sewage treatment plant.

The following uses are allowed as special uses pursuant to Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Temporary Christmas tree sales.
- b. Temporary circus/fair/carnival.
- c. Temporary religious meeting.
- d. Seasonal nursery and bedding stock sales.
- e. Temporary fireworks sales.
- f. Temporary farm and garden produce sales.
- g. Airport.
- h. Solid waste disposal facility.
- i. Motor vehicle parts salvage yard.
- j. Veterinary services – small animals.
- k. Veterinary services – large animals.
- l. Junkyard.
- m. Adult entertainment center.
- n. Auto laundry - car wash.
- o. Vehicular racetrack.
- p. Hazardous material bulk storage plant.
- q. Data Center (administrative)
- r. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 2 or 3 (administrative).

3. Lot area. Each principal building hereafter erected, together with its accessory buildings, shall be located on a lot having not less than ten thousand (10,000) square feet. Provided, however, that in a MB industrial district, and in no other residential, commercial or industrial district, it is permissible to erect more than

one principal building on a zoning lot, provided that all other requirements of this section and this article are complied with.

4. Lot width. Each lot shall have a width of not less than seventy-five (75) feet measured along the front building line.

5. Lot coverage. The lot coverage of the principal building and all accessory buildings shall not exceed eighty (80) percent of lot. In computing the lot coverage of a principal building and its accessory buildings, sufficient area shall be added to its ground coverage for each off-street parking space as required by Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance.

6. Front yard. Each lot shall have a front yard not less than fifty (50) feet in depth.

7. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of any principal building. The sum of the widths of the two (2) side yards shall be not less than twenty (20) per cent of the average width of the lot. On any lot having an average width of seventy-five (75) feet or less, each side yard shall be not less than ten (10) per cent of the width of the lot, and in no case shall a side yard be less than five (5) feet in width. On a lot having an average width greater than seventy-five (75) feet, neither side yard shall be less than seven and one-half (7.5) feet in width and no side yard need be greater than fifty (50) feet in width. On a lot containing two (2) principal buildings located side by side, there are no minimum requirements for side yards between the two (2) buildings.

8. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than twenty-five (25) feet in depth.

9. Height limits. No principal building shall exceed seventy-five (75) feet in height. No accessory building shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height.

10. Off-street parking and loading space. Off-street parking and loading requirements of Section 14-03-10 hereof shall be complied with.  
(Ord. No. 4242, 02-28-89; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 6190, 03-08-16; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20; Ord. 6505, 06-01-22; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25)

14-04-16. "P" Public Use District. In any P public use district the following regulations shall apply.

1. General description. The P public use district is established as a district in which the predominant use of land is for public uses. For the P public use district, in promoting the general purposes of this article, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the continued use of the land for public recreation, education and other government services.

b. To prohibit residential, commercial and industrial uses of the land, and to prohibit any use of the land which would diminish its value in serving the needs of the public.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted.

a. Education group.

b. Public recreation group.

c. Water treatment plant.

d. Buildings and necessary on-site facilities required for conduct of government.

e. Commercial recreation group occupying public owned lands.

f. Sewerage treatment plant.

g. Municipal landfill.

h. Parking lots.

i. Gift shop occupying public owned lands.

j. Food service establishment exclusive of drive-in restaurant, occupying public owned lands.

The following special uses are permitted as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

a. Airport.

b. Cemetery.

3. Lot coverage. The lot coverage of the principal building and all accessory buildings shall not exceed thirty (30) per cent of the lot.

4. Front yard. Each lot shall have a front yard of not less than twenty-five (25) feet in depth.

5. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) yards, one on each side of the principal building. Each side yard shall not be less than five (5) feet.

6. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than twenty (20) feet in depth.

7. Height limits. No principal building shall exceed seventy-five (75) feet in height, unless said principal building is within three hundred (300) feet of a

residential zoning district, in which case no principal building shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height. Any accessory building that exceeds twenty-five (25) feet in height shall be considered a principal building for the purpose of figuring yards and distance from lot boundary lines.

8. Additional Development Standards for Land Abutting the Missouri River. In order to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational qualities of the Missouri River, conserve the scenic and historic values of the Missouri River shoreland, protect shoreland development from river bank erosion, and provide for the wise use of the river and related land resources, the following additional development standards are hereby established for land abutting the Missouri River which is outside of the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck and within the Extraterritorial Area (ETA):

a. Structure Setbacks. All structures shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

b. Design Criteria. Structures should be placed and designed in a manner as to reduce visibility as viewed from the river and adjacent shoreland by vegetation, topography or the color of the structure, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions.

c. Impervious Surface Coverage. The percentage of lot covered by impervious surfaces (structures, paved surfaces, etc.) shall not exceed 25 percent of the lot area.

d. On-Site Sewage Treatment Facility Setbacks. All sewage treatment facilities, including drainfields, shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

e. Stairways, Lifts and Landings. Stairways and lifts are the preferred alternative to major topographic alterations for achieving access up and down bluffs and steep slopes to shore areas. Stairways and lifts must meet the following design requirements: 1) stairways and lifts shall not exceed four feet in width; 2) landings for stairways and lifts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area; 3) canopies or roofs are not allowed on stairways, lifts or landings; 4) stairways, lifts and landings may be constructed on posts/pilings or placed in the ground, provided they are designed and built in a manner that controls soil erosion, meets building code requirements, and does not affect the integrity of bank stabilization projects.

f. Boat Docks. The placement of boat docks shall be allowed in accordance with the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code and any other applicable regulations.

g. Shore Impact Zone. Structures and accessory facilities, except stairways and landings, shall not be placed within a shore impact zone.

h. Steep Slopes. For structures and/or facilities to be placed on steep slopes, the Building Official may attach conditions on the building permit to prevent erosion and preserve existing vegetation.

i. Vegetation Alterations. Intensive vegetative clearing within the shore impact zone and on steep slopes is prohibited. Limited clearing of vegetation is permitted in order to provide a view of the river from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of permitted stairways, lifts or landings. Removal of vegetation that is dead, diseased or that poses a safety hazard is allowed.

j. Topographic Alterations Above the Ordinary High Water Mark. Grading, filling and excavation necessary for the construction of structures, sewage treatment systems or driveways under validly issued permits shall be allowed. Notwithstanding any other applicable regulations, any other topographic alterations must meet the following standards: 1) alterations shall not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties; and 2) alterations must be designed and conducted in a manner that minimizes soil erosion, including the installation of erosion control measures as needed.

k. Topographic Alterations Below the Ordinary High Water Mark. All topographic alterations below the ordinary high water mark must be approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

*(Ord. 4384, 07-30-91; Ord. 5486, 02-28-06; Ord. 6130, 06-23-15; Ord. 6634, 07-28-25)*

14-04-17. "A" Agricultural District. In an A agricultural district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The agricultural district is established as a district in which the predominant use of land is for general agricultural uses. For an A agricultural district, in promoting the general purposes of this ordinance, the specific intent of this section is:

a. To encourage the continued use of land for agricultural uses.

b. To discourage scattered commercial and industrial use of land, and to prohibit any other use which would interfere with an integrated and efficient development of the land for more intensive urban uses as the city expands.

c. To discourage any use, which because of its character or size, would create unusual requirements and costs for public services, such as police and fire protection, water supply and sewerage before such services could be expanded efficiently in the normal development of the city.

d. To provide additional development standards for non-farm rural properties abutting the Missouri River developed after November 25, 2003.

2. Uses permitted. The following uses are permitted.

- a. Public recreation group.
- b. Farming group.
- c. Golf course.
- d. Livestock sales pavilion.
- e. Loam stripping.
- f. Oil or gas well.
- g. Radio or television transmitting station.
- h. Sand or gravel extraction and processing.
- i. Sewage treatment plant.

j. One single-family dwelling shall be allowed for each parcel of land not less than forty (40) acres in size or the aliquot part of a corrective section intended to comprise a quarter-quarter-section, provided such aliquot part is not less than thirty-five (35) acres in size. For purposes of this section, a parcel refers to a contiguous tract of land which is taxed as a single tax parcel, located within a single section of land, and not bisected by a public roadway.

k. Agriculture Recreation, Minor, shall be allowed on a parcel entirely located outside the Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB), and shall not exceed an occupancy of seventy-five (75) people at any one time.

The following special uses are allowed as per Section 14-03-08 hereof:

- a. Temporary circus/fair/carnival.
- b. Temporary Christmas tree sales.
- c. Temporary religious meetings.
- d. Seasonal nursery and bedding stock sales.
- e. Temporary fireworks sales.
- f. Temporary farm and garden produce sales.
- g. Solid waste disposal facility.

- h. Recreational vehicle park.
- i. Veterinary services – small animals.
- j. Veterinary services – large animals.
- k. Airport.
- l. Cemetery.
- m. Junkyard.
- n. Child care center.
- o. Religious institution.
- p. Golf driving range.
- q. Vehicular racetrack.
- r. Hazardous material bulk storage plant.
- s. Concrete and asphalt production facilities, both permanent and temporary.
- t. Accessory dwelling unit.
- u. Private riding arena.
- v. Agriculture Recreation, Major.
- w. Animal services, non-veterinary – class 2 or 3 (administrative).

3. Lot width. Each lot shall have a width of not less than six hundred sixty (660) feet, measured along the front property line.

4. Front yard. Each lot shall have a front yard as follows, as measured from the property line:

<u>Arterial Road</u> <u>(feet)</u>	<u>Collector Road</u> <u>(feet)</u>	<u>Local Road</u> <u>(feet)</u>
175	125	40

All section line roads shall be classified as arterial highways unless specifically designated as a collector highway or local road.

5. Side yards. Each lot shall have two (2) side yards, one on each side of the principal building. The sum of the width of the two (2) side yards shall be not less than twenty (20) per cent of the average width of the lot, but in no case less than fifteen (15) feet per yard. Provided further, that no building housing livestock or poultry shall be less than fifty (50) feet distant from any residential building on an adjacent lot, nor shall such a building be less than fifty (50) feet from the boundary of any lot in a residential or commercial district. No building on a corner lot shall have a side yard on the side street less than the front yard requirements specified in this section.

6. Rear yard. Each lot shall have a rear yard not less than twenty (20) feet in depth. If such rear yard abuts an arterial or collector road right-of-way, building locations shall also conform to the front yard requirements specified in this section.

7. Height limits. No principal building for any permitted use shall exceed fifty (50) feet in height. For each one foot or fraction thereof that a building exceeds thirty-five (35) feet in height, there shall be added four (4) feet to the minimum width of each side yard, two (2) feet to the minimum depth of front yard, and two (2) feet to the minimum depth of rear yard required by this section. Any accessory building that exceeds twenty-five (25) feet in height shall be considered a principal building for the purpose of figuring yards and distances from lot boundary lines.

8. Parking requirements. All requirements for off-street parking and loading as shown in Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance shall apply only to nonagricultural uses which involve building(s).

9. Definition of "farm." For the purpose of the administration of this ordinance - A "farm" shall mean a single tract, or contiguous tract, of agricultural land containing a minimum of ten (10) acres and which normally provides a farmer, who is actually farming the land or engaged in the raising of livestock or other similar operations normally associated with farming and ranching, with not less than fifty (50) per cent of his annual net income; and the term "farmer" means an individual who normally devotes the major portion of his/her time to the activities of producing products of the soil, poultry, livestock, or dairy farming in such products' unmanufactured state and who normally receives not less than fifty (50) per cent of his/her annual net income from any one or more of the foregoing activities; and the term also includes an individual who is retired because of illness or age and who at the time of retirement owned and occupied, as a farmer, the premises.

10. Additional Development Standards for Land Abutting the Missouri River. In order to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational qualities of the Missouri River, conserve the scenic and historic values of the Missouri River shoreland, protect shoreland development from river bank erosion, and provide for the wise use of the river and related land resources, the following additional development standards are hereby established for land abutting the Missouri River:

a. Structure Setbacks. All structures shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

b. Design Criteria. Structures should be placed and designed in a manner as to reduce visibility as viewed from the river and adjacent shoreland by vegetation, topography or the color of the structure, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions.

c. On-Site Sewage Treatment Facility Setbacks. All sewage treatment facilities, including drainfields, shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River.

d. Stairways, Lifts and Landings. Stairways and lifts are the preferred alternative to major topographic alterations for achieving access up and down bluffs and steep slopes to shore areas. Stairways and lifts must meet the following design requirements: 1) stairways and lifts shall not exceed four feet in width; 2) landings for stairways and lifts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area; 3) canopies or roofs are not allowed on stairways, lifts or landings; 4) stairways, lifts and landings may be constructed on posts/pilings or placed in the ground, provided they are designed and built in a manner than controls soil erosion, meets building code requirements, and does not affect the integrity of bank stabilization projects.

e. Boat Docks. The placement of boat docks shall be allowed in accordance with the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code and any other applicable regulations.

f. Shore Impact Zone. Structures and accessory facilities, except stairways and landings, shall not be placed within a shore impact zone.

g. Steep Slopes. For structures and/or facilities to be placed on steep slopes, the Building Official may attach conditions on the building permit to prevent erosion and preserve existing vegetation.

h. Vegetation Alterations. Intensive vegetative clearing within the shore impact zone and on steep slopes is prohibited. Limited clearing of vegetation is permitted in order to provide a view of the river from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of permitted stairways, lifts or landings. Removal of vegetation that is dead, diseased or that poses a safety hazard is allowed.

i. Topographic Alterations Above the Ordinary High Water Mark. Grading, filling and excavation necessary for the construction of structures, sewage treatment systems or driveways under validly issued permits shall be allowed. Notwithstanding any other applicable regulations, any other topographic alterations must meet the following standards: 1) alterations shall not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties; and 2)

alterations must be designed and conducted in a manner that minimizes soil erosion, including the installation of erosion control measures as needed.

j. Topographic Alterations Below the Ordinary High Water Mark. All topographic alterations below the ordinary high water mark must be approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

11. Accessory Buildings. All allowable accessory buildings for a non-farm single-family rural residence shall be limited to a maximum of four (4) percent of the total parcel. The maximum wall height shall be limited to sixteen and one-half (16.5) feet and the maximum building height shall be limited to twenty-five (25) feet.

A private riding arena up to 22,000 square feet, in addition to the accessory buildings allowed in this section for a single-family rural residence, may be located on a lot in the A – Agriculture zoning district with at least thirty-five (35) acres area, and located entirely outside the Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB), as a special use in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-08.

Accessory buildings for the above computations shall include the following buildings: barns, stables, coops, storage buildings, garden sheds, and detached garages. Attached garages are not included in the above computations, provided the area occupied by an attached garage does not exceed one and one-half times the area of the footprint of the dwelling portion of the principal structure to which it is attached.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4564, 11-23-93; Ord. 4803, 11-12-96; Ord. 5026, 02-08-00; Ord. 5027, 02-08-00; Ord. 5286, 11-13-03; Ord. 5287, 12-16-03; Ord. 5368, 11-23-04; Ord. 5478, 12-13-05; Ord. 5665, 05-27-08; Ord. 5902, 06-26-12; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6109, 03-24-15; Ord. 6179, 12-22-15; Ord. 6218, 07-26-16; Ord. 6283, 09-26-17; Ord. 6579, 06-29-24; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25; Ord. 6651, 02-03-26)*

14-04-18. Planned Unit Developments. It is the intent of this section to encourage flexibility in development of land in order to promote its most appropriate use; to improve the design, character and quality of new development; to facilitate the adequate and economical provision of streets and utilities; and to preserve the natural and scenic features of open space.

1. Site plan, written statement and architectural drawings. The application must be accompanied by a site plan, a written statement and architectural drawings:

a. Site plan. A complete site plan of the proposed planned unit prepared at a scale of not less than one (1) inch equals one hundred (100) feet shall be submitted in sufficient detail to evaluate the land planning, building design, and other features of the planned unit. The site plan must contain, insofar as applicable, the following minimum information.

1) The existing topographic character of the land;

- 2) Existing and proposed land uses;
- 3) The location of all existing and proposed buildings, structures and improvements;
- 4) The maximum height of all buildings;
- 5) The density and type of dwelling;
- 6) The internal traffic and circulation systems, off-street parking areas, and major points of access to public right-of-way;
- 7) Areas which are to be conveyed, dedicated or reserved as common park areas, including public parks and recreational areas;
- 8) Proposed interior buffer areas between uses;
- 9) Acreage of PUD;
- 10) Utility service plan showing existing utilities in place and all existing and proposed easements;
- 11) Landscape plan; and
- 12) Surrounding land uses, zoning and ownership.

b. Written statement. The written statement to be submitted with the planned unit application must contain the following information:

- 1) A statement of the present ownership and a legal description of all the land included in the planned unit;
- 2) An explanation of the objectives to be achieved by the planned unit, including building descriptions, sketches or elevations as may be required to described the objectives; and
- 3) A copy of all proposed condominium agreements for common areas.

c. Architectural drawings - the following architectural drawings shall be submitted in sufficient detail to allow evaluation of building height, form, massing, texture, materials of construction, and type, size, and location of door and window openings:

- 1) Elevations of the front and one side of a typical structure.

2) A perspective of a typical structure, unless waived by the planning department.

2. Review and approval.

a. All planned units shall be considered by the planning commission in the same manner as a zoning change. The planning commission may grant the proposed planned unit in whole or in part, with or without modifications and conditions, or deny it.

b. All approved site plans for planned units, including modifications or conditions shall be endorsed by the planning commission and filed with the Director of Community Development. The zoning district map shall indicate that a planned unit has been approved for the area included in the site plan.

3. Standards. The planning commission must be satisfied that the site plan for the planned unit has met each of the following criteria:

a. Proposal conforms to the comprehensive plan.

b. Buffer areas between noncompatible land uses may be required by the planning commission.

c. Preservation of natural features including trees and drainage areas should be accomplished.

d. The internal street circulation system must be designed for the type of traffic generated. Private internal streets may be permitted if they conform to this ordinance and are constructed in a manner agreeable to the city engineer.

e. The character and nature of the proposal contains a planned and coordinated land use or mix of land uses which are compatible and harmonious with adjacent land areas.

4. Changes.

a. Minor changes in the location, setting, or character of buildings and structures may be authorized by the Director of Community Development.

b. All other changes in the planned unit shall be initiated in the following manner:

1) Application for Planned Development Amendment.

a) The application shall be completed and filed by all owners of the property proposed to be changed, or his/their designated agent.

b) The application shall be submitted by the specified application deadline and on the proper form and shall not be accepted by the Director of Community Development unless and, until all of the application requirements of this section have been fulfilled.

2) Consideration by Planning Commission. The planning commission secretary, upon the satisfactory fulfillment of the amendment application and requirements contained herein, shall schedule the requested amendment for a regular or special meeting of the planning commission, but in no event later than sixty (60) calendar days following the filing and acceptance of the application. The planning commission may approve and call for a public hearing on the request, deny the request or table the request for additional study.

3) Public Hearing by Planning Commission. Following preliminary approval of an amendment application, the Director of Community Development shall set a time and place for a public hearing thereon. Notice of the time and place of holding such public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the hearing. Not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the scheduled public hearing, the City shall attempt to notify all known adjacent property owners within three hundred (300) feet of the planned unit development amendment. "Notify" shall mean the mailing of a written notice to the address on record with the City Assessor or Burleigh County Auditor. The failure of adjacent property owners to actually receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings. The Planning Commission may approve, approve subject to certain stated conditions being met, deny or table the application for further consideration and study, or, because of the nature of the proposed change, make a recommendation and send to the Board of City Commissioners for final action.

*(Ord. 4364, 05-07-91; Ord. 4876, 11-25-97; Ord. 4946, 10-27-98; Ord. 5218, 11-26-02; Ord. 5343, 06-22-04; Ord. 5351, 08-24-04; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09)*

14-04-19. FP Floodplain District. In any FP floodplain district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. The Legislature of the State of North Dakota has in North Dakota Century Code, Chapters 40-47, 11-33 and 58-03, delegated responsibility to local governmental units to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry.

2. Statement of purpose. It is the purpose of this section to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed:

- a. To protect human life and health;
- b. To minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- c. To minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding, generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- d. To minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- e. To minimize damage to public facilities and utilities located in special flood hazard areas such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, and sewer lines, streets, and bridges;
- f. To help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the use and development of special flood hazard areas so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- g. To ensure that potential buyers are notified that property is located in a special flood hazard area;
- h. To ensure that those who occupy the special flood hazard areas assume responsibility for their actions; and
- i. To provide an increased level of protection in anticipation of future increases in the base flood elevation (BFE).

3. Methods of reducing flood losses. In order to accomplish its purposes, this section includes methods and provisions for:

- a. Restricting or prohibiting uses which are dangerous to health, safety, and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion, flood water elevations or flow velocities;
- b. Requiring that uses vulnerable to flooding, including attendant utilities and facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- c. Controlling the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers, which help accommodate or convey flood waters;

d. Controlling filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase flood damage; and

e. Preventing or regulating the construction of flood barriers or obstructions which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards in other areas.

4. Definitions. Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this section shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this section its most reasonable application.

"Accessory Structure" for floodplain management purposes means structures that are on the same parcel of property as a principal structure, the use of which is incidental to the use of the principal structure. Accessory structures are a single-story structure that may only be used for parking or storage, represent a minimal investment by owners, and have low damage potential. Structures that include the following uses are not considered accessory structures for floodplain management purposes: habitable spaces, bathrooms, toilet rooms, laundry facilities, and entertainment and recreational spaces including but not limited to workshops and game rooms.

"Agricultural Structure" for floodplain management purposes means structures that are used exclusively for agricultural purposes or uses in connection with the production, harvesting, storage, raising, or drying of agricultural commodities and livestock.

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Floodplain Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this section or a request for a variance.

"Attendant utilities and equipment" means utilities, electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment, as well as facilities and services associated with new construction.

"Base flood or 100-year flood" means the flood having a one percent (1%) chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

"Base flood elevation (BFE)" means the height of the base flood or 100-year flood, usually in feet above mean sea level, as designated on a FEMA published digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM) or as determined by the storm water management plan prepared for the area in which the property is located.

"Basement" means any area of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

"Best available data (BAD)" means water elevation information from any source used to estimate or determine the base flood elevation (i.e., high water mark).

"Conveyance or hydraulic conveyance" means a geometric characteristic of a river or watercourse at a given location that determines the flow-carrying capacity at that location.

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations located within the special flood hazard area.

"Enclosure" means enclosed walled in areas below the lowest floor of an elevated building that are constructed of flood-resistant materials and designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing the entry and exit of floodwaters.

"Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactures homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"Expansion to an Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means the preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).

"Fill" means materials such as soil, gravel, or crushed stone that is placed in an area and increases the ground elevation, whether or not that was the intention.

"Flood or flooding" means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland or tidal waters, and/or the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

"Flood insurance rate map (FIRM) or digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM)" means the official map issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) where special flood hazard areas are designated as Zone A, AE, AO, AH, A1-A30 or A-99.

"Flood insurance study (FIS)" means the official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that includes flood profiles, the flood insurance rate map (FIRM), and the water surface elevation of the base flood.

"Floodplain or flood-prone area" means any land area susceptible to partial or complete inundation by water from any source.

"Floodplain Administrator" means the person designated by the Director of Community Development to administer and enforce the City's floodplain regulations.

"Floodproofing (dry)" means protection provided a structure, together with attendant utilities and sanitary facilities, which is watertight to two (2) feet above the base flood elevation with walls that are substantially impermeable to the passage of water.

"Floodproofing (wet)" means the use of flood damage resistant materials and construction techniques to minimize flood damage to structures by intentionally allowing floodwater to enter and exit automatically (without human intervention) to minimize unequal pressure of water on walls (hydrostatic load or pressure). Wet floodproofing also requires structures to be anchored to resist flooding, have mechanical and utility equipment elevated or protected, and have flood openings installed in walls.

"Floodway or regulatory floodway" means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one (1) foot.

"Letter of map amendment (LOMA)" means an official amendment to the currently effective flood insurance rate map (FIRM) which establishes that a property is not located in a special flood hazard area. A letter of map amendment (LOMA) is issued by FEMA.

"Letter of map revision (LOMR)" means an official amendment to the currently effective flood insurance rate map (FIRM) which is issued by FEMA and changes flood zones, delineations and elevations. A letter of map revision based on fill (LOMR(f)) is a LOMR issued by FEMA based on the placement of fill.

"Lowest floor" means the lowest floor of a structure including the basement and/or crawl space.

"Manufactured home" means a structure transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. The term "manufactured home" does not include a recreational vehicle, but does include a mobile home.

"Manufactured home park or subdivision" means a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

"New construction" means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of this section.

"New Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on

which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"Non-conversion agreement" means an agreement signed by applicants and property owners, affirming that the owners agree not to convert or modify in any manner that is inconsistent with approved permit (and variance conditions, when applicable).

"Non-residential" means any building or structure or portion thereof that is not classified as residential.

"Pre-FIRM Building" means a building for which construction or substantial improvement occurred on or before September 18, 1985, the effective date of the initial Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

"Principal structure" for floodplain management purposes means a structure that is not an accessory structure. All principal structures must be constructed in accordance with the requirements applicable to residential construction or nonresidential construction as determined by the use of the structure.

"Post-FIRM Building" means a building for which construction or substantial improvement occurred after September 18, 1985, the effective date of the initial Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), whichever is later.

"Reasonably safe from flooding" means base flood waters will not inundate the land or damage structures to be removed from the special flood hazard area, and that any subsurface waters related to the base flood will not damage existing or proposed buildings.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is built on a single chassis; four hundred (400) square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; designated to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational camping, travel, or seasonal uses. Recreational vehicles include, but are not limited to, travel trailers, trailers on wheels, park-model trailers and other similar vehicles.

"Residential" means:

- a. Buildings and structures and portions thereof where people live or that are used for sleeping purposes on a transient or non-transient basis;
- b. Residential structures, including but not limited to one and two-family dwellings, multifamily dwellings, group dwellings, bed and breakfast facilities, hotels and motels; and

c. Institutional facilities where people are cared for or live on a 24-hour basis in a supervised environment, including but not limited to board and care facilities, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, group homes, congregate care facilities, hospitals, medical centers, jails and detention centers.

"Special flood hazard area (SFHA)" means an area of land that would be inundated by a flood having a one percent (1%) chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (100-year flood).

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

"Storage tank" means any closed vessel used to store gases or liquids.

"Storm water management plan" means a document prepared in accordance with the provisions of Title 14.1 of the City Code of Ordinances to evaluate surface water runoff and flood risks within a development, plat or watershed; to document special flood hazard areas; and to determine the systems required to convey or control flood flows within and through the area.

"Structure" means a walled and roofed building, including manufactured homes and gas or liquid above-ground storage tanks.

"Substantial damage" means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the building to its pre-damaged condition would equal or exceed fifty percent (50%) of the market value as assessed of the structure before the damage occurred.

"Substantial improvement" means any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure that occurs within a consecutive two (2) year period. The cost of which equals or exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the market value as assessed 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. For the purposes of this definition, "substantial improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure. The term does not, however, include either: any project for improvement of a structure to comply with existing state or local health, sanitary, or safety code

specifications which are solely necessary to assure safe living conditions; or any alteration of a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a State Inventory of Historic Places.

"Variance" means a grant of relief from the requirements of this section which permits construction in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this section.

"Violation" means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required by the floodplain management ordinance is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

## 5. General provisions.

a. Jurisdiction. This section shall apply to all special flood hazard areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Bismarck, including all lands within the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck and the extraterritorial jurisdiction as provided for in Section 40-47-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, including areas specifically included in the jurisdiction of the City of Bismarck through agreement as approved by the Board of City Commissioners.

b. Basis for establishing the special flood hazard areas. The special flood hazard areas identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in a scientific and engineering report titled "The Flood Insurance Study for Burleigh County, North Dakota and Incorporated Areas", dated June 6, 2024, with an accompanying flood insurance rate map (FIRM), and as subsequently updated by any Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA), Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) and/or Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMR(f)) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this section. The Flood Insurance Study (FIS) is on file in the office of the Floodplain Administrator. Special flood hazard areas may also be designated in a storm water management plan prepared for a development, plat or watershed.

c. Compliance. No structure or land shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered without full compliance with the terms of this section and other applicable regulations, unless a valid building permit was in place prior to July 27, 2010, except as provided for in subsection 7(b)(iii) (additions to existing structures).

d. Greater restrictions. This section is not intended to repeal, remedy, or impair any existing easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where this section and another section of the City Code of Ordinances, an easement, covenant or deed restriction conflict or overlap, whichever imposes the more stringent restrictions shall prevail.

e. Interpretation. In the interpretation and application of this section, all provisions shall be:

i. Considered as minimum requirements;

ii. Liberally construed in favor of the City of Bismarck; and

iii. Deemed neither to limit nor repeal any other powers granted to the City under the North Dakota Century Code or the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck.

f. Warning and disclaimer of liability. The degree of flood protection required by this section is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This section does not imply that land outside the special flood hazard areas or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This section shall not create liability on the part of the City of Bismarck, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for any flood damages that result from reliance on this section or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

g. Severability. If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of law, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in full force.

h. Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) and Letter of Map Revision based on Fill (LOMR-F). Development on any parcel for which a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or Letter of Map Revision based on Fill (LOMR-F) has been issued shall comply with all of the requirements and recommendations as contained therein. Development on any parcel for which a LOMR or Letter of Map Revision based on Fill (LOMR-F) has been issued shall be constructed in accordance with the provisions of FEMA Technical Bulletin 10-01.

i. Non-conforming Status. Any structure constructed with the lowest floor elevated as required by the regulations in effect at the time of construction shall be considered a non-conforming structure for the purposes of this section, provided the lowest floor of said structure is elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least one (1) foot above the base flood elevation.

## 6. Administration.

a. Establishment of a development permit. A development permit shall be obtained before construction or development begins within any special flood hazard area established in subsection 5(b) (basis for

establishing the special flood hazard areas). Application for a development permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Floodplain Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities; and the location of the foregoing. Specifically, the following information is required:

i. Elevation in relation to mean sea level (NAVD88), of the lowest floor (including basements and/or crawl spaces) of all structures;

ii. Elevation in relation to mean sea level (NAVD88) to which any structure has been floodproofed;

iii. Certification by a registered professional engineer or architect that the floodproofing methods for any non-residential structure meet the floodproofing criteria in subsection 7(b)(ii) (nonresidential construction); and

iv. Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development.

b. Establishment of a non-structural development permit. A non-structural development permit shall be obtained before any land disturbing activity begins within any special flood hazard area established in subsection 5(b)(basis for establishing the special flood hazard areas). Application for a non-structural development permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Floodplain Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; proposed elevations upon completion of the land disturbing activity; the type of fill being used, if fill is proposed; and a description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed land disturbing activity.

c. Administration by the Floodplain Administrator. The Floodplain Administrator, as defined herein, shall administer and implement this section by granting or denying development permit and non-structural development permit applications in accordance with its provisions.

d. Duties and Responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator. Duties and responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator shall include, but not be limited to:

i. Permit application review.

a. Review all development permit applications and non-structural development permit applications to determine that the permit requirements of this section have been satisfied.

b. Review all development permit applications and non-structural development permit applications to determine that all necessary permits have been obtained from those federal, state or local governmental agencies from which prior approval is required.

c. Review all development permit applications and non-structural development permit applications to determine if the proposed development or land disturbing activity is located in the floodway. If located in the floodway, assure that the encroachment provisions of this section are met.

ii. Use of other base flood data. When base flood elevation data has not been provided in accordance with subsection 5(b) (basis for establishing the special flood hazard areas), the Floodplain Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation data available (known as best available data (BAD)) from a federal, state or other source, as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in the floodplain are administered in accordance with subsection 7(b) (specific standards).

iii. Information to be obtained and maintained.

a. Obtain and record the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level in NAVD88) of the lowest floor (including basement and/or crawl space) of all new or substantially improved structures, and whether or not the structure contains a basement and/or crawl space.

b. For all new or substantially improved floodproofed structures:

i. Obtain and record the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level in NAVD88) to which the structure has been floodproofed; and

ii. Maintain the floodproofing certifications required in subsection 6(a)(iii).

c. Maintain for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this section.

iv. Alteration of watercourses. The Floodplain Administrator shall:

a. Notify nearby communities, water resource districts, and the North Dakota State Engineer, as necessary, prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

b. Require that maintenance is provided within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood-carrying capacity is not diminished; and

c. Notify the appropriate water resource district prior to removal or placement of fill within two hundred (200) feet of the ordinary high water mark of a body of water during normal flow or stage.

v. Interpretation of flood insurance rate map (FIRM) or digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM) boundaries. Make interpretations where needed, as to the exact location of the boundaries of the special flood hazard areas (for example, where there appears to be a conflict between a mapped boundary and actual field conditions). The person contesting the location of the boundary shall be given a reasonable opportunity to appeal the interpretation as provided in subsection 8 (variance procedure). The Floodplain Administrator may require information be submitted by a registered land surveyor.

7. Provisions for flood hazard reduction.

a. General standards. In all special flood hazard areas, the following standards are required:

i. Anchoring.

a. All new construction and substantial improvements, including additions, shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement of the structure.

b. All manufactured homes must be elevated and anchored to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors. This requirement is in addition to applicable state and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

ii. Construction materials and methods.

a. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage;

b. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage; and

c. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing and air conditioning equipment, and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding. Such facilities shall be located in areas that have been elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation for residential construction. Such facilities shall be located in areas that have been elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation or in areas that have been floodproofed to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation for nonresidential construction.

iii. Utilities.

a. All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;

b. All new and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system and discharge from the system into flood waters; and

c. All new and replacement on-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

iv. Subdivision proposals.

a. All subdivision proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;

b. All subdivision proposals shall have utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems located and constructed to minimize flood damage;

c. All subdivision proposals shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood damage; and

d. Base flood elevation data shall be provided for all subdivision proposals and other proposed developments. Elevation data must be provided in NAVD88 for areas with a flood insurance rate map (FIRM) or other base flood elevation data in that datum.

b. Specific standards. In all special flood hazard areas where base flood elevation data have been provided as set forth in subsection 4(b) (basis for establishing the special flood hazard areas) or subsection 5(d)(2) (use of other base flood data), the following provisions are required:

i. Residential construction. New construction and substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor, including basement and/or crawl space, elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation.

ii. Nonresidential construction. Construction and substantial improvement of any nonresidential structure shall either have the lowest floor, including basement and/or crawl space, elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation or, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall:

a. Be floodproofed to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation, so that below this elevation the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water;

b. Have structural components capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy; and

c. Be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect that the standards of this subsection are satisfied. Such certifications shall be provided to the Floodplain Administrator as set forth in subsection 6(d)(ii) (information to be obtained and maintained).

iii. Manufactured homes.

a. Manufactured homes shall be anchored in accordance with subsection 7(a)(i) (anchoring).

b. All manufactured homes or those to be substantially improved shall be on a permanent foundation, as referenced in FEMA P-85/2009, have the bottom of the frame of the manufactured home elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation, and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system. However, within a Pre-FIRM manufactured home park, a newly placed manufactured home or those to be substantially improved shall be on a permanent foundation, have the bottom of the frame of the manufactured home elevated on fill and/or a permanent foundation to at least one (1) foot above the base flood elevation, and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system.

iv. Recreational Vehicles.

a. All recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days; and be fully licensed and highway ready.

u. Enclosures. New construction and substantial improvements may have enclosures with areas below the base flood elevation, that are less than 300 square feet and usable solely for building access and utility service connections serving the building, if constructed in accordance with the following requirements:

a. Must have structural and non-structural components constructed of flood damage resistant material. Flood damage resistant materials must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin 2;

b. Must be provided with flood openings designed to equalize the hydrostatic pressure of flood forces on exterior walls by allowing the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Flood opening designs must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin 1;

c. Must have mechanical, electrical, and utility equipment elevated at least two feet above the base flood elevation or specifically designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during flooding in accordance with the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin P-348; and,

d. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the property owner must submit a signed non-conversion agreement to the

City of Bismarck. The non-conversion agreement must be recorded with the Burleigh County Recorder.

vi. Attached garages, decks and landings providing primary access, and accessory buildings.

a. Garages attached to any residential structure, non-residential structure or manufactured home shall be subject to the same construction requirements as the residential structure, non-residential structure or manufactured home to which it is attached.

b. Decks and landings providing access to the primary entrance of a residential structure, non-residential structure or manufactured home shall be subject to the same construction requirements as the residential structure, non-residential structure or manufactured home to which it provides access.

vii. Accessory structures.

a. Accessory structures defined within this section that are not greater than 600 square feet in area may be constructed with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation in accordance with the following wet floodproofing requirements:

i. Must be anchored to resist floatation, collapse and lateral movement.

ii. Must have structural and non-structural components constructed of flood damage resistant material to an elevation of at least two feet above the base flood elevation. Flood damage materials must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin 2;

iii. Must be provided with flood openings designed to equalize the hydrostatic pressure of flood forces on exterior walls by allowing the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Flood opening designs must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin 1;

iv. Must have mechanical, electrical and utility equipment elevated at least two-feet above the base flood elevation or specifically designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components

during flooding in accordance with the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin P-348; and,

v. Prior to the issuance of a building permit for the structure, the property owner must submit a signed non-conversion agreement to the City of Bismarck. The non-conversion agreement must be recorded with the Burleigh County Recorder.

b. Accessory structures defined within this section that are greater than 600 square feet in area may be constructed with the lowest floor one foot above the base flood elevation in accordance with the following requirements.

i. Must have mechanical, electrical and utility equipment elevated at least two-feet above the base flood elevation or specifically designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during flooding in accordance with the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin P-348; and,

ii. Prior to the issuance of a building permit for the structure, the property owner must submit a signed non-conversion agreement to the City of Bismarck. The non-conversion agreement must be recorded with the Burleigh County Recorder.

c. Accessory structures that are not enclosed and do not have more than one ridged wall may be constructed at grade in accordance with the following requirements.

i. Must have structural and non-structural components constructed of flood damage resistant material to an elevation of at least two feet above the base flood elevation. Flood damage materials must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin 2;

ii. Must have mechanical, electrical and utility equipment elevated at least two-feet above the base flood elevation or specifically designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during flooding in accordance with the most recent version of FEMA Technical Bulletin P-348; and,

iii. Prior to the issuance of a building permit for the structure, the property owner must submit a signed non-conversion agreement to the City of Bismarck. The non-

conversion agreement must be recorded with the Burleigh County Recorder.

viii. Additions to existing structures.

a. Any addition to any existing residential structure, non-residential structure, manufactured home, garage, deck, landing or accessory structure that is not deemed a substantial improvement may be constructed with the lowest floor at the same elevation as the existing structure.

c. Floodways. Floodways are designated areas located within the special flood hazard areas established in subsection 4(b) (basis for establishing the special flood hazard areas). Since the floodway is an extremely hazardous area due to the velocity of flood waters which carry debris, potential projectiles, and erosion potential, the following provisions apply:

i. Prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development unless certification by a registered professional engineer is provided demonstrating that encroachments shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

ii. If the preceding subsection is satisfied, all new construction and substantial improvements shall comply with all applicable flood hazard reduction provisions of subsection 6 (provisions for flood hazard reduction).

8. Variance procedure.

a. Board of Adjustment. The Board of Adjustment, as established in Chapter 14-06 of the City Code of Ordinances (Board of Adjustment), shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this section.

b. Appeals. An appeal may be filed by any person, firm, or corporation aggrieved, or by any governmental officer, department or board affected by any decision or determination made by the Floodplain Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this section, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 14-06-02 (Powers and Duties) and 14-06-03 (Appeal Procedures).

c. Variances. An application for a variance may be made by any person, firm, or corporation with a legal interest in the property for which the variance is being sought, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 14-06-02 (Powers and Duties) and 14-06-03 (Appeal Procedures).

d. In considering appeals and variance applications, and in addition to the requirements outlined in Section 14-06-02 (Powers and Duties), the Board of Adjustment shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, and the standards specified in this section, including:

i. The danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;

ii. The danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;

iii. The susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;

iv. The importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;

v. The necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;

vi. The availability of alternative locations for the proposed use, which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;

vii. The compatibility of the proposed use with the existing and anticipated development;

viii. The relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program for that area;

ix. The safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;

x. The expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise, and sediment transport of the floodwaters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and

xi. The costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including maintenance and repair of utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems, and streets and bridges.

e. Upon consideration of the factors in subsection (8)(d) and the purposes of this section, the Board of Adjustment may attach such conditions to the granting of a variance as it deems necessary to further the purpose of this section.

f. Conditions for variances.

i. Variances may be issued for the reconstruction, rehabilitation, or restoration of structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the State Inventory of Historic Places, without regard to the procedures set forth in the remainder of this subsection.

ii. Variances shall not be issued within the identified floodplain if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.

iii. Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.

iv. Variances shall only be issued upon:

a. A showing of good and sufficient cause;

b. A determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant; and

c. A determination that the granting of the variance will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, cause fraud on or victimization of the public or conflict with existing local laws or ordinances.

g. Any applicant to whom a variance is granted shall be given written notice that the structure will be permitted to be built with the lowest floor elevation lower than two (2) feet above the base flood elevation and that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from the reduced lowest floor elevation.

h. The Floodplain Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions and report any variances granted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) upon request.

9. Encroachment Analysis. When a regulatory floodway has not been designated, the Floodplain Administrator must require that no new construction, substantial improvements, or other development (including fill) shall be permitted within Zones A1-30 and AE on the community's FIRM, unless it is demonstrated that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one (1) foot at any point within the community.

10. Penalties for Violations. Penalties for violation of this section shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 14-05 (Enforcement) of the City Code

of Ordinances. Nothing herein shall prevent the City of Bismarck from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.  
(Ord. 4137, 5-26-87; Ord. 4737, 11-14-95; Ord. 4948, 10-13-98; Ord. 5037, 03-14-00; Ord. 5259, 05-27-2003; Ord. 5423, 05-24-05; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5779, 07-27-10 and 08-10-10; Ord. 5811, 03-22-11; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6068; 06-24-14; Ord. 6173, 10-27-15; Ord. 6477, 08-02-21; Ord. 6577, 06-11-24)

14-04-20. AN Airport Noise Overlay District. In any AN Airport Noise overlay district, the following regulations shall apply:

1. General description. The AN Airport Noise overlay district for the area around the Bismarck Municipal Airport is hereby established based on the analysis and recommendations of the F.A.R. Part 150 Noise Compatibility Plan prepared for the Bismarck Municipal Airport. The AN zone is an overlay zone, the requirements and standards of which shall supplement the requirements and standards of the underlying zone. For the AN Airport Noise district, in promoting the general purposes of this ordinance, the specific interest of this section is:

a. To establish specific standards within noise-impacted areas to help mitigate the problems caused by airport noise.

b. To encourage the establishment of, and continuing operation of land uses within the overlay district which are compatible with the recommendations of the F.A.R. Part 150 Noise Compatibility Plan for the airport.

c. To permit the establishment of, and continuing operation of land uses within the overlay district which are non-compatible with the recommendations of the F.A.R. Part 150 Noise Compatibility Plan for the airport, provided such uses are located on lots of record which exist as of the date of enactment of this ordinance.

d. To prohibit the development of new noise-sensitive land uses within the overlay district, except as provided under the provisions of this ordinance.

2. AN district boundaries. The boundaries of the AN airport noise district are shown on the official zoning map of the city and generally correspond to the area impacted by noise exceeding 65 Ldn based on a combination of noise contours for the 1989 Official Noise Exposure Map, the 1990 Noise Compatibility Plan, and the 1995 Noise Compatibility Plan as presented in the F.A.R. Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study prepared for the Bismarck Municipal Airport and dated February 12, 1991.

3. Definitions.

a. Day-Night Sound Level(Ldn): A cumulative noise metric which describes the noise occurring during a 24-hour period as averaged over one

year. The Ldn metric assesses a 10 dB penalty to all noise events occurring between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., reflecting the greater annoyance associated with nighttime noise.

b. Ldn Contour: A line linking together a series of points of equal cumulative noise exposure based on the Ldn metric. Aircraft noise contours are developed based on aircraft flight patterns, number of daily aircraft operations by type of aircraft and time of day, noise characteristics of each aircraft, and typical runway usage patterns.

c. Lot of Record: A record lot as defined in Section 14-02-03 of the Zoning Ordinance.

d. Navigable Airspace: The airspace above the minimum altitudes of flight prescribed by regulations issued under the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, Section 101(24) 49 United States Code 1301, including the airspace needed to ensure safety in the take-off and landing of aircraft.

e. Noise Compatibility Plan: A plan developed in conformance with Part 150 of the Federal Aviation Regulations proposing noise abatement and land use management measures to reduce the adverse impact of aircraft noise on surrounding residents and noise-sensitive land uses.

f. Non-compatible Land Use: A land use shown in the Table of Land Use Compatibility Standards as not permitted within the AN Airport Noise Overlay Zone.

g. Official Noise Exposure Map: A map showing either existing or forecast aircraft noise exposure prepared in conformance with Part 150 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.

4. Uses permitted. Land uses permitted in the AN district shall be as specified in the Table of Land Use Compatibility Standards.

5. Use prohibited. Land uses prohibited in the AN district shall be as specified in the Table of Land Use Compatibility Standards.

5. Land Use Compatibility Standards:

**TABLE OF LAND USE COMPATIBILITY STANDARDS**

<u>SLUC</u> <u>M</u> <u>NO.</u>	<u>Land Use Name</u>	<u>Overlay Zoning</u> <u>District</u> <u>AN</u> <u>(65+Ldn)</u>
10	<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	

11	Household units	
11.11	Single Unit - detached	N <sup>1</sup>
11.12	Single Unit - semi-detached	N <sup>1</sup>
11.13	Single Unit - attached row	N <sup>1</sup>
11.21	Two units - side by side	N <sup>1</sup>
11.22	Two units - over-under	N <sup>1</sup>
11.31	Apartments - walk-up	N <sup>1</sup>
11.32	Apartments - elevator	N <sup>1</sup>
12	Group quarters	N <sup>1</sup>
13	Residential hotels	N <sup>1</sup>
14.1	Mobile home parks	N
14.2	Mobile homes in existing parks	N <sup>1</sup>
15	Transient lodgings, hotels, motels	Y <sup>2</sup>
16	Other residential	N <sup>1</sup>
20	<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	
21	Food & kindred products	Y
22	Textile mill products	Y
23	Apparel & other finished products made from fabrics, leather & similar materials	Y
24	Lumber & wood products (except furniture)	Y
25	Furniture & fixtures	Y
26	Paper & allied products	Y
27	Printing, publishing & allied industries	Y
28	Chemicals & allied products	Y
29	Petroleum refining and related industries	Y
30	<b>MANUFACTURING (Continued)</b>	
31	Rubber & miscellaneous plastic products	Y
32	Stone, clay & glass products	Y
33	Primary metal industries	Y
34	Fabricated metal products	Y
35	Professional, scientific & controlling instruments; photographic & optical goods; watches & clocks	Y
39	Miscellaneous manufacturing	Y
40	<b>TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS &amp; UTILITIES</b>	
41	Rail transportation	Y
42	Motor Vehicle transportation	Y
43	Aircraft transportation	Y
44	Marine craft transportation	Y
45	Highway & street right-of-way	Y
46	Automobile parking	Y
47	Communication	Y
48	Utilities	Y
49	Other transportation, communication & utilities	Y

50	<b>TRADE</b>	
51	Wholesale trade	Y
52	Retail trade - building materials, hardware & farm equipment	Y
53	Retail trade - general merchandise	Y
54	Retail trade - food	Y
	Retail trade - automotive, marine craft & aircraft	
55		Y
56	Retail trade - apparel & accessories	Y
57	Retail trade - furniture & home furnishings	Y
58	Retail trade - eating & drinking	Y
59	Other retail trade	Y
60	<b>SERVICES</b>	
61	Finance, insurance & real estate services	Y
62	Personal services	Y
62.4	Cemeteries	Y
63	Business services	Y
64	Repair services	Y
65	Professional services	Y
65.1	Hospitals, nursing homes	N <sup>1</sup>
65.19	Other medical facilities	Y
66	Contract construction services	Y
67	Governmental services	Y
68	Educational services	N <sup>1</sup>
69	Miscellaneous services	Y
70	<b>CULTURAL, ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATIONAL</b>	
71	Cultural activities (including churches)	Y <sup>2</sup>
71.2	Nature exhibits	Y
72	Public Assembly	Y <sup>2</sup>
72.11	Outdoor music shells, amphitheaters	N
72.2	Outdoor sports arenas, spectator sports	Y
72.3	Auditoriums, concert halls	Y <sup>2</sup>
73	Amusements	Y
74	Recreational activities (including golf courses, riding stables, water recreation)	Y
75	Resorts & group camps	Y
76	Parks	Y
79	Other cultural, entertainment & recreation	Y

### KEY TO TABLE OF LAND USE COMPATIBILITY STANDARDS

SLUCM      Standard Land Use Coding Manual, U.S. Urban Renewal  
Administration and Bureau of Public Roads, 1965

- Y (Yes) Land use and related structures are permitted.
- N (No) Land use and related structures are not compatible and shall be prohibited.
- 1 These uses may be permitted on existing lots of record. Although not required, builders and developers should be encouraged to incorporate measures to achieve a noise level reduction of 25 dBA (outdoor to indoor).
- 2 Although not required, builders and developers should be encouraged to incorporate measures to achieve a noise level reduction of 25 dBA (outdoor to indoor) in the construction of those portions of these buildings where the public is received, office areas, and other noise-sensitive areas.

(Ord. 4424, 03-31-92)

14-04-21. Downtown Districts.

1. Districts Established. The following downtown zoning districts are hereby established: DC Downtown Core District and DF Downtown Fringe District.

2. Use Table. The table contained herein lists the uses allowed within the downtown zoning districts.

a. Use Categories. All of the categories listed in the use table are explained in detail in Section 14-04-21.3. The second column of the use table contains an abbreviated explanation of the respective use category. If there is a conflict between the abbreviated explanation and the full explanation in Section 14-04-21.3, the provisions of Section 14-04-21.3 shall prevail.

b. Use Standards. An "X" in the third column of the use table indicates that the use is subject to use-specific standards. These standards are listed alphabetically in Section 14-04-21.4.

c. Uses Permitted By Right. A "P" indicates that a use category is allowed by right in the respective zoning district. These permitted uses are subject to all other applicable provisions of this chapter.

d. Special Uses. An "SUP" indicates that the use is allowed only if reviewed and approved as a Special Use, in accordance with the Special Use provisions in Section 14-03-08, and is subject to all other applicable regulations in this chapter.

e. Uses Not Allowed. An "---" indicates that the use is not allowed in the respective zoning district.

**Use Table.**

Use Category	Definition	Use Standards	District	
			DC	DF
<b>Residential Uses</b>				
Group Living	Residential occupancy of a structure by a group of people who do not meet the definition of household.		P	P
Household Living	Residential occupancy of a dwelling unit by a household (related or up to four unrelated).			
Single-family, detached			---	P
Duplex/single-family attached (2)			---	P
Single-family, attached (3-8)			---	P
Multi-family structure			P	P
Multi-family – senior citizens		X	P	P
New Residences on 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor & above			P	P
<b>Commercial Uses</b>				
Demolition of Buildings and Structures	Removal or demolition of buildings and structures	X	SUP	SUP
Domestic Distillery	A facility that manufactures less than 25,000 gallons of spirits per year.	X	SUP	SUP
Drive-in Drive-through Facilities	Drive-in Drive-through facilities in conjunction with a permitted principal use.	X	SUP	SUP
Entertainment Event, Major	Activities and structures that draw large numbers of people to specific events or shows. This category does not include outdoor recreation and entertainment uses, such as golf driving ranges and racetracks.		P	---
Microbrew Pub	Small-scale brewery that manufactures up to 10,000 barrels of fermented malt beverages per year.	X	SUP	SUP
Office	Activities conducted in an office setting and generally		P	P

	focusing on business, government, professional, medical or financial services.			
Parking, Accessory	Parking that is accessory to a specific use, but not located on the same parcel as the use – use standards for accessory parking that is adjacent to a residential use.	X	SUP	SUP
Parking, Commercial	Parking that is not accessory to a specific use – fees may or may not be charged.	X	SUP	SUP
Retail Sales and Services Sales-Oriented Personal Service-Oriented Entertainment-Oriented Repair-Oriented	Establishments involved in the sale, lease or rental of any new or used products to the general public – they may also provide personal services or entertainment or provide product repair or services for consumer and business goods – use standards for convenience store/gas stations, mortuaries/funeral homes and vehicle sales lots. This category does not include self-service storage uses, adult entertainment centers, veterinary animal services – large animals, or animal boarding, off-premise advertising signs or microbreweries. Convenience store/gas stations are not allowed within the Downtown Core.	X	P	P
Use Category	Definition	Use Standards	District	
			DC	DF
Commercial Uses				
Vehicle Repair	Service to passenger vehicles, light trucks and other consumer motor vehicles – generally, the customer does not wait at the site while the service or repair is being performed.	X	SUP	P
Vehicle Service, Limited	Direct services to motor vehicles where the driver	X	SUP	P

	generally waits in the car or nearby while the service is performed.			
<b>Institutional Uses</b>				
Colleges	Colleges and institutions of higher learning.		P	P
Community Services	Public, non-profit or charitable uses, generally providing a local service to the community.	X	P	P
Child care	Care, protection and supervision for children and adults on a regular basis away from their primary residence for less than 24 hours/day.			
Family child care		X	---	P
Child care center		X	---	SUP
Health Care Facilities	Medical or surgical care to patients, with overnight care.		P	P
Parks and Open Areas	Natural areas consisting mostly of vegetative landscaping or outdoor recreation, community gardens, etc.		P	P
Religious Institutions	Meeting area for religious activities	X	P	P
Safety Services	Public safety and emergency response services.		P	P
Schools	Schools at the primary, elementary, middle, junior high or high school level.	X	---	P
<b>Other Uses</b>				
Detention Facilities	Government-operated facilities for the detention or incarceration of people.	X	P	---
Moving of buildings/structures	Moving in of a building or structure that has been previously occupied in another location.	X	---	SUP
Passenger Terminals	Passenger terminals for regional bus and rail service.	X	P	P
Telecommunications Facilities	Devices and supporting elements necessary to provide telecommunication services.		SUP	SUP
Utilities and Essential Services	Infrastructure services that need to be located in or near the area where the service is provided.		P	P

(Ord. 5422, 05-24-05; Ord. 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6020, 11-26-13; Ord. 6034, 02-25-14; Ord. 6118, 05-12-15; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21; Ord. 6618, 04-28-25)

14-04-21.1 DC Downtown Core District.

1. Purpose. The purpose of the Downtown Core District is to preserve and enhance the mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented nature of the City’s downtown area. The district allows a wide range of mutually supportive uses in order to enhance downtown Bismarck’s role as a commercial, cultural, governmental, health/ medical, entertainment and residential center. The district standards also facilitate the creation of a strong and distinctive sense of place through the inclusion of open space and public plazas. The use of design standards will maintain the historical integrity, enhance the quality of design, and preserve the human-scale development of downtown.

2. Uses. Uses are allowed in the Downtown Core District in accordance with the Use Table of Section 14-04-21.

3. Dimensional Standards. Development within the Downtown Core District is subject to the following dimensional standards:

a. Lot Area. The minimum lot area is 7,000 square feet. For lots platted prior to 1953, the minimum lot area is 5,000 square feet.

b. Lot Width. The minimum lot width is 25 feet.

c. Lot Depth. There is no lot depth requirement.

d. Front Yard Setback. There is no minimum front yard setback. New buildings shall be built to the front property line. If the development site is between two existing buildings which are both setback from the front property line, the new building shall be built to match the setback of the adjacent building with the least setback distance from the property line. In no case shall a setback greater than 15 feet be allowed. Consideration will be given to privately-owned spaces that are designed to provide space for public seating, public events, public displays, public gatherings and public performances. The area shall be landscaped and/or incorporate streetscape elements on a case-by-case basis.

e. Side Yard Setback. There is no minimum side yard setback, unless the side property line abuts residentially-zoned property, in which case the minimum side yard setback shall be 6 feet.

f. Rear Yard Setback. There is no minimum rear yard setback, unless the rear property line abuts residentially-zoned property, in which case the minimum rear yard setback shall be 10 feet.

g. Height. The maximum height is 130 feet, unless a special use permit to exceed this height is granted in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-08-03. The minimum height is two stories or 20 feet.

h. Lot Coverage. The maximum lot coverage is 100%.

4. Design Standards. All development within the Downtown Core District is subject to the following design standards:

a. Intent. The intent of the design standards is to create and maintain a high visual quality and appearance for the Downtown Core District. The regulations are also intended to ensure that new buildings, building additions, façade alterations, building rehabilitations, and signage are compatible with or improve the character of the Downtown Core District and fit into their surroundings. It is also the intent of these regulations to stimulate and protect public and private investment through the establishment of high standards with respect to spatial enclosure, architectural design, building materials, and appearance, and to support the preservation of historically significant buildings.

b. Review and Approval. All new buildings, building additions, facade alterations (both structural and non-structural), demolition of existing buildings, signage, streetscape installation or modification, fences, lighting and improvements within the public right-of-way within the Downtown Core District shall be subject to the City's downtown design review procedures and guidelines established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document and must be approved prior to issuance of any permits. The City's Renaissance Zone Authority is authorized to act as the Downtown Design Review Committee and shall review project applications for conformance with the Downtown Design Guidelines. After review, the Renaissance Zone Authority may approve an application, deny the application or ask for project modification before approval. The City's Downtown Design Review Committee may delegate design review related tasks to Community Development staff. The building official is authorized by the Downtown Design Review Committee to review sign project applications for design compliance and grant permits to sign applications that meet design standards in the ordinance. Any sign application that is denied because it does not meet design standards in the ordinance may be appealed to the Renaissance Zone Authority acting as the Downtown Design Review Committee upon the request of the applicant. A decision by the Renaissance Zone Authority, acting as the Downtown Design Review Committee regarding the application of the design guidelines, may be appealed to the Board of City Commissioners pursuant to the process outlined in Section 14-06-03(3) of the City Code of Ordinances (Appeal to the Board of City Commissioners).

c. Restoration or Rehabilitation of Historically Significant Buildings. Any building listed on the National Register of Historic Places,

identified as being individually eligible for listing on the National Register or identified as contributing to the downtown Bismarck historic district in the Historic Architectural Inventory and Evaluation (2000) or any subsequent inventory and evaluation, is considered to be a historically significant building. For any building not identified above that is more than 50 years old, a determination shall be made on a case-by-case basis as to whether or not the building is historically significant. Projects involving the restoration or rehabilitation of existing historically significant buildings should reflect the original architectural character of the building and its characteristics. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize the building shall be avoided. The introduction of any new design elements should be consistent with the traditional features of the building. The rehabilitation of existing historically significant buildings is encouraged to be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. All projects involving the restoration or rehabilitation of historically significant buildings are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee.

d. **New Construction.** Projects involving new construction shall consider the context of the site and be compatible with the general character of the downtown area. While new buildings are required to fit into their surroundings, the City will not require uniformity of design or dictate specific architectural styles. The overall context of the downtown area includes a variety of architectural styles and these regulations are intended to allow both flexibility and creativity in achieving compatible design solutions. All new construction projects are subject to the design criteria established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document. All new construction projects are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee to ensure the design meets the intent of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

e. **Renovation or Rehabilitation of Existing Structures.** Projects involving the renovation of existing structures that are not historically significant shall consider the context of the site and be compatible with the general character of the downtown area. Renovations of existing structures are subject to the design criteria established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document. All renovation projects are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee to ensure the design meets the intent of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

f. **Building Additions.** Projects involving an addition to an existing building that is not historically significant shall consider the context of the site and be compatible with the general character of the downtown area. Building additions to existing structures are subject to the design criteria established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document. All building addition projects are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee to ensure the design meets the intent of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

g. Building Materials. Building materials shall be high-quality materials and compatible with those used for adjacent buildings. The following building materials are specifically prohibited from use as the primary exterior finish: unfinished, precast concrete block, vinyl or steel siding, rough sawn wood, or other materials typically found on residential dwellings.

All subsequent renovations, additions and related structures undertaken after the construction of an original building shall be finished with materials comparable to those used in the original construction and shall be designed in a manner conforming to the original architectural design and general appearance.

For existing historically significant buildings, the sheathing or installation of another material over the facade or any wall visible from the street shall be prohibited unless deemed necessary to preserve the structural integrity of the building.

h. Building Design Aspects. Design aspects including mass, form, scale, colors, height, alignment, width and horizontal rhythm shall be in accordance with the Downtown Design Guidelines and be approved by the Downtown Design Review Committee. All other building design aspects not listed herein shall be in accordance with the Downtown Design Guidelines.

i. Entrances. Main entrances to buildings shall face and be clearly visible from the street, and be recessed to maintain a coherent pattern along the sidewalk and to define the entry point. Recessed entrances shall allow operation of the door(s) without the doors extending beyond the property line into the public right-of-way.

j. Windows. Ground floor windows shall be transparent. The original size, shape and proportion of all windows on existing historically significant buildings shall be preserved. For new non-residential buildings, a minimum of seventy percent (70%) of first floor facades fronting the street shall be windows, doors and other transparent elements. In order to preserve the character of existing historically significant buildings, it is not the intent of this provision to require windows to be installed where none existed in the original design. However, if the exterior of an existing historically significant building is being remodeled, renovated or rehabilitated, the size, shape and proportion of the original window openings shall generally be restored or maintained. Replacement windows shall generally conform with the style of the original windows used in the building.

k. Rooftop Equipment. Rooftop equipment shall be screened from ground level views with parapet walls or enclosures similar in form, material and detail to the primary structure.

l. Demolition and Vacant Lots. Any demolition shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 4-05-03 of the City Code of Ordinances. Any lots left vacant after demolition shall be treated to control fugitive dust. If the lot is to remain vacant for more than sixty (60) days, said lot shall be landscaped, mulched and seeded or sodded to establish a perennial vegetative grass cover. The lot shall be maintained and kept free of debris and litter. If common walls are exposed due to demolition of adjoining buildings, the walls shall be treated to ensure that the walls do not become a visual detriment. The treatment may be temporary or permanent depending on the potential for redevelopment of adjoining parcels. Permanent alternative treatments include architectural treatment that is similar to the front façade of the building or stucco. The wall treatment shall be in place within ninety (90) days of the date of demolition, unless a longer period is authorized at the time of approval of the demolition plans, and shall be the financial responsibility of the owner of the property upon which the demolished building was located.

m. Work in Public Right-of-Way. Any work within the public right-of-way that relates to an identified streetscape element, as identified in the Streetscape Guidelines for Downtown Bismarck (May 1995) or subsequent updates, shall be in accordance with the design elements identified by those guidelines and shall comply with the standards established by the City Engineer.

5. Off-street Parking and Loading. Off-street parking and loading shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-10. Off-street parking shall not be required for properties within the Downtown Parking District.

6. Landscaping and Screening. Development within the Downtown Core District, including the development of parking areas, shall be subject to the requirements of Section 14-03-11 of the City Code of Ordinances (Landscaping and Screening). If decorative fencing or any other streetscape elements are used, they shall be consistent with or complementary to the designated downtown streetscape elements as described in the Downtown Streetscape Standards document.

7. Signage. All signage in the Downtown Core District shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 14-03.1 of the City Code of Ordinances (Signs). Canopies used for signage shall be consistent with the architectural style of the building.

*(Ord. 5422, 05-24-05; Ord. 5813, 03-22-11; Ord. 5852, 11-22-11; Ord. 6118, 05-12-15; Ord. 6332, 06-12-18; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)*

#### 14-04-21.2 DF Downtown Fringe District.

1. Purpose. The purpose of the Downtown Fringe District is to strengthen and complement the City's downtown area by allowing uses not normally allowed in the Downtown Core District. The Downtown Fringe District also

serves to provide a transitional area between the Downtown Core District and adjacent commercial and residential zoning districts. The uses allowed in this district usually require larger parcels and a greater emphasis on automobile access and parking.

2. Uses. Uses are allowed in the Downtown Fringe District in accordance with the Use Table of Section 14-04-21.

3. Dimensional Standards. Development within the Downtown Fringe District is subject to the following dimensional standards:

a. Lot Area. The minimum lot area is 7,000 square feet. For lots platted prior to 1953, the minimum lot area is 5,000 square feet.

b. Lot Width. The minimum lot width is 60 feet. For lots platted prior to 1953, the minimum lot width is 50 feet.

c. Lot Depth. There is no lot depth requirement.

d. Front Yard Setback. There is no minimum front yard setback, unless the property is immediately adjacent to a residentially-zoned property, in which case the minimum front yard setback shall be 15 feet. In no case shall a setback greater than 25 feet be allowed, and this area must be landscaped and/or incorporate streetscape elements. Except for driveways associated with single and two-family dwellings, off-street parking and loading areas shall not occupy any portion of the front yard setback area.

e. Side Yard Setback. There is no minimum side yard setback, unless the property is immediately adjacent to a residentially-zoned property, in which case the minimum side yard setback shall be 6 feet.

f. Rear Yard Setback. There is no minimum rear yard setback, unless the property is immediately adjacent to a residentially-zoned property, in which case the minimum rear yard setback shall be 10 feet.

g. Height. The maximum height is 75 feet, unless the property is immediately adjacent to a residentially-zoned property, in which case the maximum height is 50 feet.

h. Lot Coverage. The maximum lot coverage is 100%, unless the property is immediately adjacent to a residentially zoned parcel, in which case the maximum lot coverage shall be 70%.

4. Design Standards. All development within the Downtown Fringe District is subject to the following design standards:

a. Intent. The intent of the design standards is to create and maintain a high visual quality and appearance for the Downtown Fringe District. The regulations are also intended to ensure that new buildings, building additions, façade alterations, building rehabilitations, and signage are compatible with the character of the Downtown Fringe District and fit into their surroundings. It is also the intent of these regulations to stimulate and protect public and private investment through the establishment of high standards with respect to architectural design, building materials, and appearance, and to support the preservation of historically significant buildings.

b. Review and Approval. All new buildings, building additions, facade alterations (both structural and non-structural) demolition of existing buildings, signage, streetscape installation or modification, fences, lighting and improvement within the public right-of-way within the Downtown Fringe District shall be subject to the City's downtown design review procedures guidelines established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document and must be approved prior to issuance of any permits. The City's Renaissance Zone Authority is authorized to act as the Downtown Design Review Committee and shall review project applications for conformance with the Downtown Design Guidelines. After review, the Renaissance Zone Authority may approve an application, deny the application or ask for project modification before approval. The City's Downtown Design Review Committee may delegate design review related tasks to Community Development staff. The building official is authorized by the Downtown Design Review Committee to review sign project applications for design compliance and grant permits to sign applications that meet design standards in the ordinance. Any sign application that is denied because it does not meet design standards in the ordinance may be appealed to the Renaissance Zone Authority acting as the Downtown Design Review Committee upon the request of the applicant. A decision by the Renaissance Zone Authority acting as the Downtown Design Review Committee regarding the application of the design guidelines may be appealed to the Board of City Commissioners pursuant to the process outlined in Section 14-06-03 of the City Code of Ordinances (Appeal to the Board of City Commissioners).

c. Restoration or Rehabilitation of Historically Significant Buildings. Any building listed on the National Register of Historic Places, identified as being individually eligible for listing on the National Register or identified as contributing to the downtown Bismarck historic district in the Historic Architectural Inventory and Evaluation (2000) or any subsequent inventory and evaluation, is considered to be a historically significant building. For any building not identified above that is more than 50 years old, a determination shall be made on a case-by-case basis as to whether or not the building is historically significant. Projects involving the restoration or rehabilitation of existing historically significant buildings should reflect the original architectural character of the building and retain

its defining characteristics. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize the building shall be avoided. The introduction of any new design elements should be consistent with the traditional features of the building. The rehabilitation of existing historically significant buildings is encouraged to be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. All projects involving the restoration or rehabilitation of historically significant buildings are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee.

d. New Construction. Projects involving new construction shall consider the context of the site and be compatible with the general character of the downtown area. While new buildings are required to fit into their surroundings, the City will not require uniformity of design or dictate specific architectural styles. The overall context of the downtown area includes a variety of architectural styles and these regulations are intended to allow both flexibility and creativity in achieving compatible design solutions. All new construction projects are subject to the design criteria established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document. All new construction projects are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee to ensure the design meets the intent of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

e. Renovation or Rehabilitation of Existing Structures. Projects involving the renovation of existing structures that are not historically significant shall consider the context of the site and be compatible with the general character of the downtown area. Renovations of existing structures are subject to the design criteria established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document. All renovation projects are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee to ensure the design meets the intent of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

f. Building Additions. Projects involving an addition to an existing building that is not historically significant shall consider the context of the site and be compatible with the general character of the downtown area. Building additions to existing structures are subject to the design criteria established in the Downtown Design Guidelines document. All renovation projects are subject to review by the Downtown Design Review Committee to ensure the design meets the intent of the Downtown Design Guidelines.

g. Building Materials. Building materials shall be high-quality materials and compatible with those used for adjacent buildings. The following building materials are specifically prohibited from use as the primary exterior finish: unfinished precast concrete block, vinyl or steel siding, rough sawn wood, or other materials typically found on residential dwellings.

All subsequent renovations, additions and related structures undertaken after the construction of an original building shall be finished

with materials comparable to those used in the original construction and shall be designed in a manner conforming to the original architectural design and general appearance.

For existing historically significant buildings, the sheathing or installation of another material over the façade or any wall visible from the street shall be prohibited unless deemed necessary to preserve the structural integrity of the building.

h. Building Design Aspects. Design aspects including mass, form, scale, colors, height, alignment, width and horizontal rhythm shall be in accordance with the Downtown Design Guidelines and be approved by the Downtown Design Review Committee. All other building design aspects not listed herein shall be in accordance with the Downtown Design Guidelines.

i. Entrances. Main entrances to buildings shall face and be clearly visible from the street, and be recessed to maintain a coherent pattern along the sidewalk and to define the entry point. Recessed entrances shall allow operation of the door(s) without the doors extending beyond the property line into the public right-of-way.

j. Rooftop Equipment. Rooftop equipment shall be screened from ground level views with parapet walls or enclosures similar in form, material and detail to the primary structure.

k. Demolition and Vacant Lots. Any demolition shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 4-05-03 of the City Code of Ordinances. Any lots left vacant after demolition shall be treated to ensure to control fugitive dust. If the lot is to remain vacant for more than sixty (60) days, said lot shall be landscaped, mulched and seeded or sodded to establish a perennial vegetative grass cover. The lot shall be maintained and kept free of debris and litter. If common walls are exposed due to demolition of adjoining buildings, the walls shall be treated to ensure that the walls do not become a visual detriment. The treatment may be temporary or permanent depending on the potential for redevelopment of adjoining parcels. Permanent alternative treatments include architectural treatment that is similar to the front façade of the building or stucco. The wall treatment shall be in place within ninety (90) days of the date of demolition, unless a longer period is authorized at the time of approval of the demolition plans, and shall be the financial responsibility of the owner of the property upon which the demolished building was located.

l. Work in Public Right-of-Way. Any work within the public right-of-way that relates to an identified streetscape element, as identified in the Streetscape Guidelines for Downtown Bismarck (May 1995) or subsequent updates, shall be in accordance with the design elements identified by those

guidelines and shall comply with the standards established by the City Engineer.

m. Landscaping and Screening. New construction and major remodeling, renovation or rehabilitation projects shall be subject to the requirements of Section 14-03-11 of the City Code of Ordinances (Landscaping and Screening), including the installation of street trees if required.

5. Off-street Parking and Loading. Off-street parking and loading shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-10. Off-street parking shall not be required for properties within the Downtown Parking District.

6. Landscaping and Screening. Development within the Downtown Fringe District, including the development of parking areas, shall be subject to the requirements of Section 14-03-11 of the City Code of Ordinances (Landscaping and Screening). If decorative fencing or any other streetscape elements are used, they shall be consistent with or complementary to the designated downtown streetscape elements as described in the Downtown Streetscape Standards document.

7. Signage. All signage in the Downtown Fringe District shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 14-03.1 of the City Code of Ordinances (Signs). Canopies used for signage shall be consistent with the architectural style of the building.

*(Ord. 5422, 05-24-05; Ord. 5813, 03-22-11; Ord. 6118, 05-12-15; Ord. 6332, 06-12-18; Ord. 6423, 07-25-20)*

#### 14-04-21.3 Use Categories.

##### 1. Residential Use Categories.

a. Group Living. Group living is characterized by the residential occupancy of a structure by a group of people who do not meet the definition of a household on a monthly or longer basis. Uses where tenancy may be for a shorter period of time are considered to be transient lodging, rather than residential (see sales and service). The size of the group may be larger than the average size of a household and cooking facilities are shared by all members of the group. The residents may receive care, training, or treatment, as long as the care giver also resides at the site. Examples include rooming houses, dormitories, fraternities and sororities, monasteries and convents, nursing and convalescent homes, group homes, residential programs for drug and alcohol treatment, and alternative or post incarceration facilities.

b. Household Living. Household living is characterized by the residential occupancy of a dwelling unit by a household/family on a monthly or longer basis. Uses where tenancy may be for a shorter period of time are

considered to be transient lodging, rather than residential (see sales and service). Examples include single-family dwelling - detached, two-family dwelling/duplex/twinhome, single-family dwelling - attached (3 to 8 units); multi-family structures, retirement/senior citizen apartments, manufactured housing, and other structures with self-contained dwelling units.

## 2. Commercial Use Categories.

- a. Domestic Distillery. Domestic Distilleries are facilities that manufacture less than 25,000 gallons of spirits per year produced on-site and available for wholesale, for sale directly to consumers on-site, or sale to other domestic distilleries on-site. A domestic distillery may be co-located within a restaurant or a separate stand-alone facility.
- b. Drive-through Facilities. Drive-through facilities are any portion of a building from which business is transacted, or capable of being transacted, directly with customers located in a motor vehicle. Such a facility is usually accessory to a principal use and may also be referred to as a drive-in or drive-up. Examples include drive-through windows at financial institutions and restaurants.
- c. Entertainment Event, Major. Major entertainment events are characterized by activities and structures that draw large numbers of people to specific events or shows. Activities are generally of a spectator nature. Examples include stadiums, sports arenas, auditoriums, exhibition halls, convention centers and fairgrounds. This category does not include outdoor recreation and entertainment uses, such as golf driving ranges and racetracks.
- d. Microbrew Pub. A facility that manufactures up to 10,000 barrels (31 gallons/barrel = 310,000 gallons) of fermented malt beverages per year for wholesale, sale directly to consumer or for consumption on the premises. A brewpub may be co-located within a restaurant or a separate stand-alone facility.
- e. Office. Office uses are characterized by activities conducted in an office setting and generally focusing on business, government, professional, medical or financial services. Examples include professional services such as lawyers, accountants, engineers or architects; financial businesses such as lenders, brokerage houses, bank headquarters or real estate agents; data processing; sales offices; government offices and public utility offices; TV and radio studios; medical and dental clinics; medical and dental labs; and blood-collection facilities.
- f. Parking, Accessory. Accessory parking facilities provide parking that is accessory to a specific use, but not located on the same parcel as the use. Examples include short and long-term parking facilities, both surface and in structures. A facility that provides both accessory parking for a specific use

and fee parking for people not connected to the use is classified as a commercial parking facility.

- g. **Parking, Commercial.** Commercial parking facilities provide parking that is not accessory to a specific use. A fee may or may not be charged. A facility that provides both accessory parking for a specific use and fee parking for people not connected to the use is also classified as a commercial parking facility. Examples include short and long-term parking facilities, both surface and in structures.
- h. **Retail Sales and Services.** Retail sales and services are firms that are involved in the sale, lease or rent of new or used products to the general public. They may also provide personal services or entertainment, or provide product repair or services for consumer and business goods. Examples of retail sales and services are broken down into four categories: sales-oriented, personal-service-oriented, entertainment-oriented, and repair oriented.

Examples of sales-oriented uses include stores selling, leasing or renting consumer, home and business goods including art, art supplies, bicycles, clothing, dry goods, electronic equipment, fabric, furniture, garden supplies, gifts, groceries, hardware, home improvements, household products, jewelry, pets, pet food, pharmaceuticals, plants, printed material, stationery and videos; food sales; and sales or leasing of consumer vehicles including passenger vehicles, motorcycles, light trucks and other recreational vehicles.

Examples of personal services-oriented uses include branch banks; laundromats; photographic studios; photocopy and blueprint services; hair, tanning and personal care services; business, martial arts and other trade schools; dance or music classes; taxidermists; mortuaries; veterinarians (out-patient only); and animal grooming.

Examples of entertainment-oriented uses include restaurants, cafes, delicatessens, brewpubs, bars and taverns; indoor entertainment activities such as bowling alleys, ice rinks, game arcades, and pool halls; dance halls; indoor firing ranges; theaters; health clubs and gyms; membership clubs and lodges; and hotels, motels and other temporary lodging with an average stay of less than 30 days, including bed and breakfast facilities.

Examples of repair-oriented uses include repair of televisions, bicycles, clocks, watches, shoes, guns, appliances and office equipment; photo or laundry drop-off; tailor; locksmith; and upholsterer.

This category does not include self-service storage uses, adult entertainment centers, animal hospitals or kennels, off-premise advertising signs or microbreweries.

h. Vehicle Repair. Vehicle repair uses service passenger vehicles, light trucks and other consumer motor vehicles such as motorcycles, boats and recreational vehicles. Generally, the customer does not wait on site while the service or repair is being performed. Examples include vehicle repair, transmission or muffler shop, auto body shop, auto upholstery shop, auto detailing, and tire sales and mounting.

i. Vehicle Service, Limited. Limited vehicle service uses provide direct service to motor vehicles where the driver generally waits in the car or nearby while the service is performed. Examples include full-service and self-service gas stations; free-standing carwash facilities; and quick lubrication services. This category does not include convenience store/gas stations.

### 3. Institutional Uses.

a. Colleges. This category includes colleges and other institutions of higher learning that offer courses of general or specialized study leading to a degree. Colleges tend to be in campus-like settings or on multiple blocks. Examples include universities, liberal arts colleges, community colleges, seminaries, and nursing and medical schools not accessory to health care facilities.

b. Community Services. Community services are uses of a public, nonprofit or charitable nature generally providing a local service to people of the community. Generally, they provide the service on-site or have employees at the site on a regular basis. The service is ongoing, not just for special events. The use may also provide special counseling, education or training of a public, nonprofit or charitable nature. Examples include libraries, museums, senior centers, community centers, publicly-owned swimming pools, youth club facilities, hospices, social service facilities, temporary shelters, and vocational training for persons with physical or mental disabilities.

c. Child Care. Child care uses provide care, protection and supervision for children on a regular basis away from their primary residence for less than 24 hours per day. Examples include preschools, child care centers, nursery schools and latch key programs. Child care facilities providing care for no more than twelve (12) children within a single-family residence are classified as family child care; and facilities providing care for more than twelve (12) children are classified as child care centers. The following shall not be considered a child care center: 1) child care provided in any educational facility, whether public or private, in grade one or above; 2) child care, preschool, kindergarten, and pre-kindergarten services provided to children under six (6) years of age in any educational facility through a program approved by the North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction; 3) child care provided in facilities operated in connection with a religious facility, business, or organization where children are cared

for during periods of time not exceeding four (4) continuous hours while the child's parent, guardian or custodian is attending religious services or is engaged in other activities on the premises; 4) schools or classes for religious instruction conducted by religious orders, Sunday schools, weekly catechism or other classes for religious instruction; 5) sporting events, practices for sporting events, or sporting or physical activities conducted under the supervision of an adult; and 6) child care provided in a medical facility by medical personnel to children who are ill.

d. Health Care Facilities. Health care facilities include uses providing medical or surgical care to patients and offering overnight care. Examples include medical centers and hospitals.

e. Parks and Open Areas. Parks and open areas are uses of land focusing on natural areas, large areas consisting mostly of vegetative landscaping or outdoor recreation, community gardens or public squares. Lands occupied by these uses tend to have few structures. Examples include parks, golf courses, cemeteries, public squares, plazas, recreational trails, botanical gardens and nature preserves.

f. Religious Institutions. Religious institutions primarily provide meeting areas for religious activities and related social events. Examples include churches, chapels, temples, synagogues, mosques and any other building or portion of a building used for this purpose.

g. Safety Services. Safety services are uses that provide public safety and emergency response services. They often need to be located in or near the area where the service is provided. Employees are generally present on-site. Examples include fire stations, police stations and emergency medical and ambulance stations.

h. Schools. This category includes public and private schools at the primary, elementary, middle, junior high or high school level that provide state-mandated basic education. Examples include public and private daytime schools, boarding schools and military academies.

#### 4. Other Uses.

a. Detention Facilities. Detention facilities include facilities for the judicially required detention or incarceration of people. Inmates and detainees are under 24 hour supervision by sworn officers, except when on approved leave. Examples include prisons, jails, probation centers and juvenile detention homes.

b. Moving of Buildings/Structures. This category includes the moving of a building or structure previously occupied in another location.

c. Passenger Terminals. This category includes passenger terminals for regional bus service and regional rail service.

d. Telecommunication Facilities. Tele-communication facilities include all devices, equipment, machinery, structures or supporting elements necessary to produce non-ionizing electromagnetic radiation within the range of frequencies from 100 KHz to 300 GHz and operating as a discrete unit to produce a signal or message. Facilities may be self-supporting, guyed, or mounted on poles, light posts, power poles, buildings or other structures. This category shall also include interconnection translators, connections from over-the-air to cable, fiber optic, or other landline transmission system. Examples include broadcast towers, attached telecommunication facilities, telecommunication support towers, point-to-point microwave towers, and amateur radio facilities that are owned and operated by a federally-licensed amateur radio station operator.

e. Utilities, Basic. Basic utilities are infrastructure services that need to be located in or near the area where the service is provided. Basic utility services generally do not regularly have employees on-site. Services may be public or privately provided. Examples include water and sewage pumping stations; electrical substations; water towers and reservoirs; storm water retention and detention facilities; telephone exchanges; recycling collection centers; and park-and-ride facilities for mass transit.

*(Ord. 5422, 05-24-05; Ord. 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13; Ord. 6020, 11-26-13; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21)*

#### 14-04-21.4 Use Standards.

##### 1. Child Care.

a. Child care shall be allowed only as an accessory use to a permitted detached single-family residential use which serves as the primary residence of the operator/provider.

b. Child care centers shall provide not less than thirty-five (35) square feet of interior recreation area per child. Work areas, office areas, and other areas not designed for use of the children may not be counted in this computation.

c. Child care centers shall provide an outdoor recreation area of not less than seventy-five (75) square feet per child. The recreation area shall be fenced, have a minimum width of twenty (20) feet, a minimum depth of twenty (20) feet, be located on the same lot or parcel of land as the facility it is intended to serve, and must be located behind the building setback lines.

d. For child care centers, adequate off street parking shall be provided at the following ratio: One space for each employee and one space for each ten (10) children.

e. Child care centers shall conform to all applicable requirements of the International Building Code and the International Fire Code as adopted by the City of Bismarck (Title 4 of the City Code of Ordinances – Building Regulations), and all requirements of the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

f. Child care centers shall comply with all applicable requirements relating to health and sanitation that have been adopted by the City of Bismarck (Title 8 of the City Code of Ordinances – Health and Sanitation), and all requirements of the North Dakota Department of Health.

## 2. Demolition of Existing Buildings and Structures.

a. A special use permit is required prior to the demolition of any building or structure classified as historically significant or as a contributing structure in the Historical Architectural Inventory and Evaluation of Downtown Bismarck, North Dakota within the DC – Downtown Core or DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts, unless the building has been significantly damaged beyond repair or condemned by the Building Official. A special use permit is also required prior to the demolition of any building or structure for the creation of an off-street parking facility or structure within the DC – Downtown Core or DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts. When requesting a special use permit to demolish a building or structure within the DC – Downtown Core or DF – Downtown Fringe zoning districts, the owner/applicant must provide the following information:

- i. The historical significance or contributing status of the building.
- ii. Current assessed value of the building.
- iii. Current use of the building.
- iv. Current building condition assessment.
- v. Intended re-use of the property.
- vi. Site plan for re-use of the property.

b. Any new off-street surface parking lot must comply with the Landscaping and Screening Ordinance and the Downtown Streetscape Standards.

## 3. Drive-through Facilities.

a. Access to and egress from a drive-through facility shall be arranged for the free flow of vehicles at all times, so as to prevent the blocking or endangering of vehicular or pedestrian traffic through the stopping or standing or backing of vehicles on sidewalks or streets.

b. Adequate off-street parking shall be provided in conformance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance. In addition, vehicle stacking spaces shall be provided on the premises in conformance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, in addition to all common ingress and egress areas provided.

c. Ingress and egress points shall be maintained at not less than sixty (60) feet from an intersecting street corner on arterial or collector streets, and not less than forty (40) feet from an intersecting street corner on local streets.

d. All access and egress driveways shall cross a sidewalk only in such a manner that its width at the inner edge of the sidewalk is no greater than its width at the curb, excluding any curved or tapered section known as the curb return. All curb cuts, widths and other specifications shall comply with the standards established by the City Engineer.

e. Any portion of a parking or loading area abutting a sidewalk at a point other than a permitted driveway shall be provided with wheel stops, bumper guards, or other devices to prevent encroachment of parked, standing or moving vehicles upon any sidewalk area not contained within a permitted driveway.

f. On a corner lot no fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery or automobile shall be parked or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three (3) feet above the curb shall occupy the space in a triangle formed by measuring ten (10) feet back along the side and front property lines.

g. For a drive-through lane adjacent to a public right-of-way, landscaping must be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11 of this ordinance.

#### 4. Detention Facilities.

a. Detention facilities shall be located no less than 500 feet from any residentially-zoned property.

#### 5. Household Living – Senior Citizen Housing.

a. The submitted site plan shall include details on the following: building(s) height and design; unit and room size; open space and recreational areas; and off-street parking layout.

b. All proposals must stipulate to a density not to exceed forty-five (45) units per acre.

c. All proposals must observe a twenty (20) foot buffer between the proposal and each adjacent land use.

d. All proposals must include off-street parking spaces in conformance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance.

6. Microbrew Pub and Domestic Distillery.

a. The site may not be located within three hundred (300) feet of the nearest lot line of any religious institution, public or parochial school, public library, hospital, or college or university building used for academic purposes, unless the entity(s) affected by the above limitation consent to the granting of the special use permit.

b. A facility at the proposed site will not have an adverse impact on the character of the neighborhood. The following criteria may be used to evaluate proposed sites: the effect on traffic movements in the area; the general nature, character, age and condition of the adjacent development; the proximity to residential areas, regardless of zoning; or any other criteria the City may deem pertinent.

c. All brewing, distilling and storage activities are located within a completely enclosed building.

d. The facility complies with all applicable building code, health and sanitation, and zoning regulations.

e. The facility complies with all applicable licensing and operational requirements of the State.

f. Beverages brewed or distilled onsite cannot be sold or otherwise provided for consumption on the premises unless the owner holds the appropriate liquor license from the City.

g. Beverages brewed or distilled onsite cannot be sold or otherwise provided to non-wholesale customers for consumption off the premises unless the owner holds the appropriate liquor license from the City.

h. Adequate parking is provided onsite in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-10.

7. Moving of Buildings and Structures.

a. No principal building or accessory building 1,200 square feet or larger in size, which has been previously occupied in another location, shall be moved on to a property unless a special use permit is approved in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-08.

b. The moved-in building or structure is a permitted use and complies with all requirements of the zoning district in which it is to be located.

c. All provisions of Chapters 4-02 (City Building Code) and 4-06 (Moving of Buildings) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck; and if applicable, the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (24 CFR 3280) have been complied with.

d. The moved-in building or structure shall be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

#### 8. Parking, Accessory.

a. For surface parking lots, landscaping must be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11 of this ordinance.

b. For surface parking lots adjacent to a residential use, a buffer yard must also be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11 of this ordinance.

c. For parking structures in the downtown area, the design standards for buildings shall apply.

#### 9. Parking, Commercial.

a. For surface parking lots, landscaping must be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11 of this ordinance.

b. For surface parking lots adjacent to a residential use, a buffer yard must also be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-11 of this ordinance.

c. The ground floor of multi-level commercial parking structures shall have retail sales and service uses located between the parking structure and any public sidewalk, except where frontage is needed to provide vehicular and pedestrian access to the facility, along the retail corridors identified as signature streets in the 2013 Downtown Bismarck Subarea Plan (Fifth Street between Kirkwood Mall and Avenue A and Main Avenue between Washington Street and Seventh Street) and along other streets that are predominantly retail sales and service uses along the street frontage, in order to promote and maintain walkability.

d. For parking structures in the downtown area, the design standards for buildings shall apply.

10. Religious Institutions.

a. The ground area occupied by the principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed thirty-five (35) percent of the total area of the lot.

b. Space for off-street parking shall be provided as per section 14-03-10 hereof or as the City Planning and Zoning Commission may require.

c. No application for a building permit or certificate of occupancy in any zone shall be approved unless there is included with the plan for such building a plot plan showing the open space designated as being reserved for off-street parking purposes to be provided in connection with such building and no certificate of occupancy shall be issued unless the required facilities have been provided in accordance with those shown on the approved plan.

d. A columbarium is allowed as an accessory use to a religious institution provided it is included within the principal structure.

e. At least thirty-five (35) percent of the parcel shall be maintained as landscaped open space.

11. Retail Sales and Service – Convenience Store/Gas Station.

a. The minimum total area of the premises shall be at least twenty-one thousand (21,000) square feet with minimum lot dimensions of one hundred forty (140) feet in width and length.

b. Pump dispensers shall have a setback of at least fourteen (14) feet from the property line.

c. The building shall have a setback of at least twenty-five (25) feet setback from any property line adjacent to a public street.

d. Access to and egress from a convenience store/gas station shall be arranged for the free flow of vehicles at all times, so as to prevent the blocking or endangering of vehicular or pedestrian traffic through the stopping or standing or backing of vehicles on sidewalks or streets.

e. Adequate off-street parking shall be provided in conformance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance. In addition, for car wash facilities, vehicle stacking spaces shall be provided on the premises in accordance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, in addition to all common ingress and egress areas provided.

f. Ingress and egress points shall be maintained at not less than sixty (60) feet from an intersecting street corner on arterial or collector streets, and not less than forty (40) feet from an intersecting street corner on local streets.

g. All access and egress driveways shall cross a sidewalk only in such a manner that its width at the inner edge of the sidewalk is no greater than its width at the curb, excluding any curved or tapered section known as the curb return. All curb cuts, widths, and other specifications shall comply with the standards established by the City Engineer.

h. Any portion of a parking or loading area abutting a sidewalk at a point other than a permitted driveway shall be provided with wheel stops, bumper guards, or other devices to prevent encroachment of parked, standing or moving vehicles upon any sidewalk area not contained within a permitted driveway.

i. On a corner lot no fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery or automobile shall be parked or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three (3) feet above the curb shall occupy the space in a triangle formed by measuring ten (10) feet back along the side and front property lines.

12. Retail Sales and Service – Mortuary/Funeral Home.

a. Minimum lot size shall be twenty thousand (20,000) square feet.

b. Off-street parking - One space for each four (4) seats for patron use or one space for each sixty (60) square feet of building area, whichever is greater.

c. Funeral home or mortuary shall have a horizontal separation of at least fifty (50) feet from any adjacent residential building site.

d. Adjacent streets shall not be considered as automobile parking space for any use of the funeral home and ingress and egress from premises shall be so designed to prevent traffic congestion.

13. Retail Sales and Service – Outdoor Sales Display Area.

a. The sales display area shall be maintained in an orderly fashion, with display items consisting solely of products sold or distributed on the site.

b. The sales display area shall not occupy any required parking or landscaping areas.

c. Items for sale shall not be displayed within the public right-of-way, except as specifically approved by the City Commission.

14. Retail Sales and Service – Vehicle Sales Lots.

a. Vehicle sales lots shall be subject to the perimeter landscaping requirements of Section 14-03-11.

b. Vehicles for sale shall not be displayed within the public right-of-way.

c. On a corner lot no fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery or automobile shall be parked or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three (3) feet above the curb shall occupy the space in a triangle formed by measuring ten (10) feet back along the side and front property lines.

15. Schools.

a. At least thirty-five (35) percent of the site area shall be maintained as landscaped open space.

16. Telecommunication Facilities.

a. Wherever possible, all telecommunications facilities shall be placed on existing poles, tanks, towers, roofs, signs, or other existing manmade or natural features to make the equipment inconspicuous. Every reasonable effort shall be taken to design the equipment so as to minimize its visual impact. Whenever possible, natural terrain and hillsides shall be used to elevate equipment. Towers, antennae, poles, dishes and other equipment shall be the least size and height necessary to perform their intended functions and to maximize opportunities for co-locations, thereby minimizing new wireless telecommunications sites.

b. Towers shall be located, to the extent possible, to minimize any adverse impacts on residential property.

c. All antennas and towers shall be located and designed in a manner to minimize off-site visibility to the greatest extent possible and shall be painted a non-contrasting gray or similar color minimizing its visibility, unless otherwise required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

d. The height of any building mounted antennae or satellite dish, including its support structure, shall not exceed 20 feet above the highest point of the roof, and in no case shall the overall height of the building and

tower together exceed the height limitations for the underlying zoning district.

e. Free-standing antennas and towers shall not exceed the height limitation for the underlying zoning district.

f. No signs, other than public safety warning or equipment information, shall be affixed to any portion of the structure or accessory equipment enclosure.

g. No artificial illumination, except when required by law or by a governmental agency to protect the public's health and safety, shall be utilized.

h. Accessory equipment or buildings shall be screened in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-12.

i. Support buildings or enclosures to house switching and other equipment shall be constructed of materials compatible with the surrounding buildings.

#### 17. Vehicle Repair.

a. The building shall have a front yard setback of at least twenty-five (25) feet from any property line adjacent to a public right-of-way.

b. All vehicles awaiting repair or pickup shall be stored on site within an enclosed building or in a defined parking space.

c. All repair shall be performed within an enclosed building.

d. All vehicles parked or stored on site shall display a current license plate with a current license tab. Outside storage of automotive parts or storage of junk vehicles shall be prohibited.

e. Venting of odors, gas and fumes shall be directed away from residential uses.

#### 18. Vehicle Service, Limited.

a. The building shall have a front yard setback of at least twenty-five (25) feet from any property line adjacent to a public right-of-way.

b. Access to and egress from a limited vehicle service facility shall be arranged for the free flow of vehicles at all times, so as to prevent the blocking or endangering of vehicular or pedestrian traffic through the stopping or standing or backing of vehicles on sidewalks or streets.

c. Adequate off-street parking shall be provided in conformance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance. In addition, for car wash facilities, vehicle stacking spaces shall be provided on the premises in accordance with Section 14-03-10 of this ordinance, in addition to all common ingress and egress areas provided.

d. Ingress and egress points shall be maintained at not less than sixty (60) feet from an intersecting street corner on arterial or collector streets, and not less than forty (40) feet from an intersecting street corner on local streets.

e. All access and egress driveways shall cross a sidewalk only in such a manner that its width at the inner edge of the sidewalk is no greater than its width at the curb, excluding any curved or tapered section known as the curb return. All curb cuts, widths, and other specifications shall comply with the standards established by the City Engineer.

f. Any portion of a parking or loading area abutting a sidewalk at a point other than a permitted driveway shall be provided with wheel stops, bumper guards, or other devices to prevent encroachment of parked, standing or moving vehicles upon any sidewalk area not contained within a permitted driveway.

g. On a corner lot no fence, wall, terrace, structure, shrubbery or automobile shall be parked or other obstruction to vision having a height greater than three (3) feet above the curb shall occupy the space in a triangle formed by measuring ten (10) feet back along the side and front property lines.

*(Ord. 5422, 05-24-05; Ord. 5719, 05-12-09; Ord. 5852, 11-22-11; Ord. 5958, 03-26-13, Ord. 6034, 02 25 14; Ord. 6040, 04-22-14; Ord. 6170, 10-27-15; Ord. 6456, 03-29-21)*

## CHAPTER 14-05 – ENFORCEMENT

14-05-01. Administration and Enforcement. This title shall be administered and enforced by the Zoning Administrator.

14-05-01.1. Building Permits and Approval of Plans. The Building Official shall in no case grant any permit for the construction, moving, or alteration of any building if the building as proposed to be constructed, moved or altered would be in violation of any of the provisions of this article. All applications for building permits shall be accompanied by plans in duplicate, drawn to scale, showing the actual shape and dimensions of the plot to be built upon, the exact sizes and locations on the plot of the buildings and accessory buildings then existing, and the lines within which the proposed building or structure shall be erected or altered, the existing and intended use of such building or part of a building, the number of families or housekeeping units the building is designed to accommodate, and such other information with regard to the plot and neighboring plots as may be necessary to determine and provide for the enforcement of this chapter. One

copy of such plans shall be returned to the owner when such plans shall have been approved by the Building Official.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14)*

14-05-02. Certificate of Occupancy. It shall be unlawful to use or permit the use of any building or premises or part thereof, hereafter created, erected, changed, converted, moved, altered or enlarged wholly, or partly in its use or structure, until a certificate of occupancy shall have been issued therefore by the Building Official. Such certificate shall show that such building or premises or part thereof and the proposed use thereof are in conformity with the provisions of this article.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09)*

14-05-03. Duties of Zoning Administrator, Board of Adjustment, Health Officer, Courts, City Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of City Commissioners as to Matter of Appeal. It is the intent of this article that questions arising in connection with the enforcement of the article shall be presented first to the Zoning Administrator and that such questions shall be presented to the board of adjustment only on appeal from the Zoning Administrator and that from the decision of the board of adjustment, appeal may be made to the board of city commissioners as provided by ordinance. Questions involving the enforcement of Section 14-05-05.1 shall be presented first to the Health Officer and that such questions shall be presented to the Board of Adjustment only on appeal from the Health Officer and that from the decision of the Board of Adjustment, appeal may be made to the board of city commissioners as provided by ordinance. Questions involving special uses shall be presented to the City Planning and Zoning Commission and appeal may be made to the Board of City Commissioners as provided by ordinance. Temporary special uses may be granted by the Zoning Administrator and appealed to the Board of City Commissioners.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14)*

14-05-03.1. Notice and Order. Whenever a violation of this title is found, the Zoning Administrator or his or her agent shall give written notifications to the owner of the property or to the occupant or renter of the property that a violation has occurred and order the violation abated and the property, building or use brought into compliance with this title. Whenever a violation of Section 14-05-05.1 of this title is found, the Health Officer or his or her agent shall give written notifications to the owner of the property or to the occupant or renter of the property that a violation has occurred and order the violation abated and the property, building or use brought into compliance with this title. A reasonable amount of time must be allowed for compliance.

*(Ord. 4862, 08-12-97; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14)*

14-05-04. Remedies. In case any building or structure is erected, constructed, reconstructed, repaired, moved, converted or maintained, or any building, structure, or land is used in violation of this article, the building inspector or any other appropriate authority or any adjacent, nearby or neighboring property owner who would be affected by such violation, in addition to other remedies, may institute injunction, mandamus, or other appropriate action in proceeding to prevent the occupancy of such building, structure or land.

14-05-05. Fees. The fees to be charged and collected for consideration of any application for a variance, appeal to the Board of Adjustment, special use permit, zoning map amendment, annexation or certificate of occupancy for uses not requiring a building permit shall be as established by the Board of City Commissioners and shall be collected at the time of filing of an application.

*(Ord. 4385, 07-30-91; Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 4635, 09-27-94; Ord. 5028, 02-22-00; Ord. 5063, 07-25-00; Ord. 5214, 11-12-02)*

14-05-05.1. Accumulation of Certain Items Prohibited.

1. No person shall cause, permit, keep, accumulate or allow the accumulation of any commercial equipment, junk, refuse, surplus, scrap, salvage or other similar items outside of a closed building in any residentially-zoned district, except for storage associated with certain home occupations as permitted under Section 14-03-06 of the City Code of Ordinances. The items for which accumulations are prohibited under this section may include one or more of the following but are not limited to hazardous wastes, scrap metals, used or scrap lumber, household appliances, machinery, farm machinery, commercial equipment, new or used building materials, construction or demolition waste or salvage, abandoned or unlicensed vehicle(s), vehicle(s) without current registration tabs affixed to the license plates, automotive or machinery parts, tires, used oil or solvents, garbage or rubbish of any kind, waste paper, used furniture or other household goods, barrels, rags, boxes, cardboard, or other similar items. The fact that an item or items has value or is operational shall not excuse conduct prohibited by this section. For the purposes of this section, residential districts shall include RR, RR5, R5, RMH, R10, RM, RT, PUD, and HM. Prior to signing a complaint under this section, the Health Officer or his or her agent must serve the property owner or tenant with a notice and order pursuant to Section 14-05-03.1.

2. No person shall cause, permit, keep, accumulate or allow the accumulation of any junk, refuse, surplus, scrap, salvage or similar items outside of a closed building or opaque fencing in any commercially, industrially or agriculturally-zoned district absent a special use permit. The items for which accumulations are prohibited under this section may include one or more of the following but are not limited to hazardous wastes, scrap metals, used or scrap lumber, household or commercial appliances, used building materials or salvage, construction demolition waste or salvage, abandoned or unlicensed vehicle(s), automotive or machinery parts, used tires, used oil or solvents, garbage or rubbish of any kind, waste paper, used furniture or other household goods, barrels, rags, boxes, cardboard, or other similar items. The fact that an item or items may have value does not excuse the conduct prohibited by this section. The prohibitions contained in this section shall apply to properties zoned CA, CG, MA, MB, A, PUD, DC, or DF. Prior to signing a complaint under this section, the Health Officer or his or her agent must serve the property owner or tenant with a notice and order pursuant to Section 14-05-03.1.

*(Ord. 4861, 08-12-97; Ord. 4936, 09-08-98; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6234, 10-25-16; Ord. 6563, 10-02-23; Ord. 6583, 10-30-24)*

14-05-06. Violations. The erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, conversion or maintenance of any building or structure, or the use of any building, structure or land, in violation of this title, or of any regulation, order, requirement, decision or determination made under authority conferred by this title shall constitute the maintenance of a public nuisance and any appropriate action or proceeding may be instituted by the City of Bismarck, through any administrative official, department, board or bureau charged with the enforcement of this title.

1. To prevent such unlawful erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, conversion, maintenance or use;
2. To restrain, correct or abate such violation;
3. To prevent the occupancy of the building, structure or land; or
4. To prevent any illegal act, conduct, business or use in or about such premises.

A violation of any provision of this title or a violation of or refusal or failure to comply with any regulation, order, requirement, decision or determination made under authority conferred by this title shall be an infraction and punishable as provided in Title 1 entitled "General Provisions" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck. Each day the violation continues constitutes a separate violation.

*(Ord. 4963, 02-23-99)*

14-05-06.1 Abatement. The imposition of a penalty provided by the provisions of this title shall not preclude the city from instituting proceedings to restrain, correct or abate a continuing violation of this title. If within ten days of a final order that order has not been obeyed, the Zoning Administrator or Health Officer or their agent is hereby authorized to restrain, correct or abate the violation and have the costs incurred assessed against the property. An order of the Zoning Administrator or Health Officer issued pursuant to Section 14-05-03.1 becomes final when upheld by the Board of City Commissioners or when the time specified for appeal to the board of city commissioners has expired.  
*(Ord. 4963, 02-23-99; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14)*

14-05-07. Requirement for Building Permit. No permit for the erection of any new principal building or any new accessory building prior to the construction of the principal building shall be issued unless such building is to be located on a lot in a subdivision platted pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC or on a tract of land not less than forty (40) acres in size or the aliquot part of a corrective section intended to comprise a quarter-quarter-section, provided such aliquot part is not less than thirty-five (35) acres in size.

A building permit may be issued for an addition to an existing single-family principal building on a parcel of record, provided: 1) the value of said addition does not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the assessed value of the building to which it is being added; 2) the parcel of record meets the minimum lot area requirement for a zoning lot in the district in which the parcel is located; 3) the parcel of record has its principal frontage on a dedicated public right-of-way or on a permanent, exclusive, non-obstructed access

easement to a dedicated public right-of-way not less than twenty feet wide; and 4) the parcel of record is an auditor's lot or an aliquot description rather than a metes and bounds description.

A building permit may be issued to reconstruct an existing single-family principal building damaged by fire, flood, explosion, wind, war or other catastrophe on a parcel of record, provided: 1) the value of the reconstruction does not exceed fifty (50) percent of the assessed value of the building being reconstructed; 2) the reconstruction is within the original footprint of the building being reconstructed; 3) the parcel of record meets the minimum lot area requirement for a zoning lot in the district in which the parcel is located; 4) the parcel of record has its principal frontage on a dedicated public right-of-way or on a permanent, exclusive, non-obstructed access easement to a dedicated public right-of-way not less than twenty (20) feet wide; and 5) the parcel of record is an auditor's lot or aliquot description rather than a metes and bounds description.

A building permit may be issued to construct a replacement single-family principal building on a parcel of record, provided: 1) the parcel of record meets the minimum lot area requirement for a zoning lot in the district in which the parcel is located; 2) the parcel of record has its principal frontage on a dedicated public right-of-way or on a permanent, exclusive, non-obstructed access easement to a dedicated public right-of-way not less than twenty (20) feet wide; 3) the parcel of record is an auditor's lot or aliquot description rather than a metes and bounds description; 4) the replacement single-family principal building meets all of the setback and other development requirements for the district in which the parcel is located; and 5) the existing single-family principal building is removed from the property or no longer used as a residential structure upon completion of the new single-family principal building.

A building permit may be issued for a new accessory building on a parcel of record with an existing single-family principal building, provided: 1) the parcel of record meets the minimum lot area requirement for a zoning lot in the district in which the parcel is located; 2) the parcel of record has its principal frontage on a dedicated public right-of-way or on a permanent, exclusive, non-obstructed access easement to a dedicated public right-of-way not less than twenty feet wide; and 3) the parcel of record is an auditor's lot or aliquot description rather than a metes and bounds description.

*(Ord. 4423, 03-31-92; Ord. 5026, 02-08-00; Ord. 5278, 09-23-03; Ord. 5689, 08-26-08; Ord. 5726, 05-26-09)*

## CHAPTER 14-06 - BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

14-06-01. Members. The board of adjustment heretofore created by ordinance shall continue in full force and effect. The board of adjustment shall consist of six (6) members, each to be appointed by the board of city commissioners for a term of three (3) years. The board of adjustment shall have all of the powers and duties imposed upon it by the statutes of the State of North Dakota and the ordinances of the City of Bismarck. *(Ord. 5667, 05-27-08)*

14-06-02. Powers and Duties. The board of adjustment is an administrative board whose powers and duties are limited generally by the laws of the State of North Dakota,

particularly by the powers and duties set forth in this section. The board of adjustment shall not have the power to amend this article on zoning, nor to permit nor prohibit any actions which accomplish an amendment of this article on zoning, nor to permit any action nor fail to prohibit any action which would violate this article. However, it is declared the intent of this section that any actions taken by the board of adjustment in full compliance with the provisions of this section shall be deemed to be administrative actions, and shall not be interpreted as unauthorized amendments of the article. The board of adjustment shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Interpretation. On appeal from an order, requirement, determination or provision made by the Zoning Administrator or other administrative official, or by request from any official, agency or head of the city, the board of adjustment shall decide any question involving the interpretation of any provision of this article. The board of adjustment may, in conformity with this article, reverse, affirm, or modify wholly or in part, or render a decision upon any such appeal or request.

2. Variances. On appeal from an order, requirement, decision or determination made by an administrative official, the board of adjustment may vary or adjust the strict application of any of the requirements of this article in the case of an exceptionally irregular, narrow, shallow or steep lot or other exceptional physical or topographical condition, by reason of which the strict application of the provisions of the article would result in unnecessary hardship that would deprive the owner of a reasonable use of the land or building involved, but in no other case.

No adjustment in the strict application of any provisions of this article shall be granted by the board of adjustment unless it finds:

a. That there are special circumstances or conditions, fully described in the findings of the board, applying to the land or buildings for which the variance is sought, which circumstances or conditions are peculiar to such land or building, and do not apply generally to land or buildings in the neighborhood, and have not resulted from any act of the applicant taken subsequent to the adoption of this article, whether in violation of the provisions of the article, or not.

b. That, for reasons fully set forth in the findings of the board, the circumstances or conditions so found are such that the strict application of the provisions of this article would deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of said land or building, and the granting of the variances is necessary for the reasonable use of the land or building, and that the variance as granted by the board is the minimum variance that will accomplish the relief sought by the applicant.

c. That the grant of the variance will be in harmony with the general purposes and intent of this article, and will not be injurious to the neighborhood or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.

d. A variance granted under this chapter must be put into use within 24 months of the granting of the variance or it shall lapse and the landowner must re-apply.

3. Conditional Variance. In granting any variance, the board of adjustment shall prescribe any conditions applying thereto that it may deem necessary or desirable to carry out the general purposes of the article or preserve the neighborhood or general welfare from injury.

4. Renewal of Certificate of Occupancy for Nonconforming Use. The board of adjustment shall have the power to renew a certificate of occupancy for nonconforming use in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-03-09 of this article. In granting such renewal, the board of adjustment shall determine that the temporary continuation will not be injurious to the neighborhood, nor to the public welfare, and that there are unusual circumstances or conditions which would create an unnecessary hardship on the applicant for extension, if such extension were refused. The board of adjustment may refuse to grant an extension of the certificate of occupancy for a nonconforming use if application for such extension is received by the board of adjustment less than fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration of the original certificate of occupancy.

5. Renewal of Automatically Revoked Building Permit: Upon appeal by any person holding a building permit automatically revoked by the provisions of Section 14-03-04 of this article, the board of adjustment shall hear and determine whether or not such revoked building permit will be renewed. The board of adjustment shall authorize such renewal only where it specifically finds:

- a. Construction of the building has, in fact, been started;
- b. Substantial expenditures have been made for such construction; and
- c. The plans for building and actual construction of the building are in full compliance with the zoning ordinance in effect at the date of issuance of the building permit, and in full compliance with the building code and any other ordinance of the City of Bismarck.

6. Off-street Parking. The board of adjustment shall, upon application, hear and decide any question relating to the decrease of required off-street parking or off-street loading spaces as set forth in Section 14-03-10 of this article.

7. Airport Zoning. The board of adjustment shall have all powers and duties granted to it by the Bismarck Municipal Airport zoning regulation ordinance.

8. Recommendations to City Planning and Zoning Commission. The board of adjustment is authorized to recommend to the city planning and zoning commission for study or action any changes or amendments to the text or district zoning maps that said board finds desirable. The city planning and zoning commission shall consider such recommendation and may prepare appropriate amendments for the consideration of the board of city commissioners to carry out said recommendation.

9. Miscellaneous Powers and Duties. The board of adjustment shall have such other powers and duties as may be authorized by this article, or any amendment thereto.

10. Rules. The board of adjustment is authorized to establish such rules of procedure, not in conflict with any provisions of the laws of North Dakota, this article, or any other ordinance of the City of Bismarck, as it may deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09)*

#### 14-06-03. Appeal Procedure.

1. Appeal - How taken: An appeal to the board of adjustment may be taken by any aggrieved applicant, including any person, firm, or corporation aggrieved, or by any governmental officer, department, board, or bureau affected by any decision of the Zoning Administrator based in whole or in part upon the provisions of this article. Such appeal shall be taken within such time as shall be prescribed by the board of adjustment by general rule, by filing with the Zoning Administrator and with the board of adjustment at the community development department, a notice of appeal and specifying the grounds thereof. The Zoning Administrator shall forthwith transmit to the board all the papers constituting the record upon which the action appealed from was taken. An appeal stays all proceedings in furtherance of the action appealed from unless the Zoning Administrator certifies to the board of adjustment, after the notice of appeal shall have been filed with him that by reason of facts stated in the certificate a stay would, in his opinion, cause imminent peril to life or property, in which case proceedings shall not be stayed otherwise than by a restraining order which may be granted by the board of adjustment or by a court of record on application, and notice to the Zoning Administrator and on due cause shown.

2. Appeal - Procedure. The board of adjustment shall fix a reasonable time for the hearing of an appeal or for action on any matter upon which it is required to pass under this article and give due notice thereof to interested parties, and make all decisions within a reasonable time. Upon any hearing, any party to the appeal may appear in person or by representative or attorney. The concurring vote of four members of the board shall be necessary to reverse an order, requirement, decision or determination of the Zoning Administrator or other official, or to decide in favor of the applicant any matter upon which it is required to pass under this article. The board shall adopt rules of procedure and shall keep records of applications and action thereon, which shall be a public record.

3. Appeal to the Board of City Commissioners. A decision of the board of adjustment may be appealed to the board of city commissioners by either the aggrieved applicant or by any officer, department, board, or bureau of the city by filing, within fifteen (15) calendar days after notice of the decision, with the office of the city administrator or the community development department, a notice of appeal pursuant to the provisions of section 40-47-11, NDCC. The board of city commissioners shall fix a time, within thirty days, for the hearing of the appeal and shall give due notice of the hearing to the parties. The appeal shall be decided within a reasonable time. Any party to the appeal may appear in person or by representative or by attorney at the hearing of the board of city commissioners on the appeal. The board of city commissioners may reverse or affirm the decision of the board of adjustment, in whole or in part, or may modify the order, decision or determination appealed.

*(Ord. 4486, 04-27-93; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6028, 01-28-14; Ord. 6042, 04-22-14)*

## CHAPTER 14-07 - AMENDMENTS

14-07-01. Purposes. Wherever the public necessity, convenience, general welfare, or good zoning practice requires, the board of city commissioners may amend, supplement, or change the regulations in the zoning ordinance, or the zoning boundaries or classification of property on the zoning map, as set forth herein.

### 14-07-02. Procedure.

1. Initiation of Amendments. Amendments to the zoning ordinance shall be initiated only in the following manner:

a. Amendments to the text of the ordinance and/or changes in the zoning boundaries or classification of properties shown on the zoning map may be initiated by the board of city commissioners or the planning commission.

b. Amendments to the zoning boundaries or classification of property shown on the zoning map may be initiated by property owners of the land proposed to be rezoned, by the filing with the planning commission secretary of a zoning change application, which application shall be provided by the planning commission secretary, and accompanied by the applicable fee and all other materials and data required in said application.

2. Application for Amendment.

a. The zoning change application shall be completed and filed by all owners of the property proposed to be changed, or his/their designated representative.

b. The zoning change application shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development by the specified application deadline

and on the proper form and shall not be accepted by the Director of Community Development unless and until all of the application requirements of this section have been fulfilled.

3. Preliminary Consideration by Planning Commission. The planning commission secretary, upon the satisfactory fulfillment of the zoning change application and requirements contained herein, shall schedule the requested amendment for a regular or special meeting of the planning commission, but in no event later than sixty (60) calendar days following the filing and acceptance of the application. The planning commission may approve and call for a public hearing on the request, deny the request or table the request for additional study.

4. Public Hearing by Planning and Zoning Commission. Following preliminary approval of a zoning change application, the Director of Community Development shall set a time and place for a public hearing thereon. Notice of the time and place of holding such public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the hearing. Not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the scheduled public hearing, the City shall attempt to notify all known adjacent property owners within three hundred (300) feet of the proposed zoning change. "Notify" shall mean the mailing of a written notice to the address on record with the City Assessor or Burleigh County Auditor. The failure of adjacent property owners to actually receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings. The Planning and Zoning Commission may approve, approve subject to certain stated conditions being met, deny or table the application for further consideration and study.

5. Planning and Zoning Commission Recommendations. Following approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission after the public hearing, the Director of Community Development shall forward the proposed amendment to the Board of City Commissioners together with the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation and a report fully setting forth the reasons for such recommendation. If the Planning and Zoning Commission denies the request, the proposed amendment shall not be forwarded to the Board of City Commissioners unless appealed pursuant to Section 14-01-06.

6. Board of City Commissioners' Actions. Upon receipt of the Planning Commission's recommendation and report, the Board of City Commissioners shall consider the proposed amendment and, if they agree, schedule a public hearing on same within ninety (90) days following the time said recommendation and report were first received by the Secretary to the Board of City Commissioners. Notice of the time and place of holding such public hearing shall first be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the hearing. At the public hearing, each party and other interested persons may present evidence or argument consisting of testimony and exhibits introduced through either sworn or unsworn testimony, as required by the city commission, in any order deemed sufficient by the city commission so long as all interested parties or persons are given a reasonable opportunity to be heard. All of the records of the proceeding before the planning

and zoning commission are deemed to be part of the record of this public hearing. The record before the planning and zoning commission transmitted to the city commission shall become part of the record of the public hearing. Following the public hearing on the proposed amendment, the Board of City Commissioners may approve, approve subject to certain stated conditions being met, deny or table the application for further consideration and study by either staff or the planning and zoning commission.

7. Protest. If a protest petition against a change, supplement, modification, amendment or repeal of the zoning ordinance is filed and is signed by owners of twenty (20) per cent or more of the property immediately adjacent and within one hundred fifty (150) feet of the request, excluding street right-of-way widths, the amendment shall not become effective except by the favorable vote of three-fourths (3/4) of all members of the board of city commissioners. Otherwise said amendment shall not be approved or adopted without proceeding anew as in the case of a new amendment.

8. No amendments to the zoning ordinance shall be approved for a change in zoning classification different from the one applied for and contained in the public notice of hearing except that a downzoning may be approved. No amendments to the zoning ordinance shall be approved for a change in zoning classification for any land not included in the application and the public notice of the hearing without referring said change to the planning commission for its review and recommendations, and proceeding pursuant to subsections (2), (3) and (4) above, provided, however, that an amendment may be approved for only a portion of the area proposed for rezoning if the portion rezoned is accurately and sufficiently delimited in the approval action.

9. Withdrawal of Applications. Any application filed pursuant to subsection (b) of subsection (2) above may be withdrawn upon written request by the applicant any time prior to the submission of any public hearing notice for advertisement; provided, that the request for withdrawal shall be only with the consent of either the planning commission or the board of city commissioners, whichever body has advertised the hearing, or their respective secretaries.

*(Ord. 4222, 1-03-89; Ord. 4298, 10-31-89; Ord. 4647, 12-06-94; Ord. 4946, 10-27-98; Ord. 5214, 11-12-02, Ord. 5218, 11-26-02; Ord. 5343, 06-22-04; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6042, 04-22-14)*

## CHAPTER 14-08 - MASTER PLAN

14-08-01. Master Plan Established. All street, road, land use, water, sanitary sewer and drainage plans as might from time to time be adopted by the City of Bismarck pursuant to statute and filed with the register of deeds shall be in full force and effect from and after their final passage and adoption. The various master plans shall hereinafter be referred to as the "master plan" or "the plan."

14-08-02. Purposes of Plan. The street and highway plan is adopted to protect and promote public health, safety, comfort, convenience and general welfare and for the accomplishment thereof is adopted for the following purposes:

1. To assist in providing a definite plan of development for the City of Bismarck and adjacent territory, and to guide, control and regulate the future growth of said area in accordance with said plan.
2. To provide a guide for the intelligent outlay of the capital expenditures of said city for street, highway, drainage and utility improvements.
3. To provide an authentic source of information as to the development of the city for prospective residents and investors therein.
4. To provide a pattern for such future subdivisions of land as may take place in said city and adjacent territory.
5. To obviate the menace to the public safety resulting from inadequate provision of city improvements in connection with and as a result of the development of the city.
6. To prevent deterioration of property values and impairment of conditions making for desirable agricultural, residential, commercial or industrial development, as the case may be, which would result from a lack of plans designed to assure the orderly, harmonious and beneficial development of the city and territory adjacent thereto.

14-08-03. Territorial Application. The territorial application or jurisdiction of the master plan shall be the entire area within the corporate and extraterritorial limits of the city and adjacent territory beyond the corporate and extraterritorial limits which the commission has determined bears a relation to the planning of the city and is designated on said master plan.

14-08-04. Streets, Sewers, Mains to Conform to Plan. The City of Bismarck shall not accept, lay out, open, improve, grade, pave, or curb any street, or lay or authorize to be laid sewers or connections thereto, or water mains or connections thereto, in any street or right-of-way within the territory of subdivision jurisdiction described in Section 14-08-03, unless such street (a) shall have been accepted or open as, or shall otherwise have received the legal status of a public street prior to the adoption of this street and highway plan; or unless such street (b) corresponds with a street shown on the street or highway plan, or an amendment thereto. Utilities may be placed on private property or in private rights-of-way with the city engineer's approval.

14-08-05. Buildings to Conform to Plan. No building shall be erected on any lot within the territory designated in Section 14-08-03, nor shall a building permit be issued for such building unless the street giving access to the lot upon which such building is proposed to be placed (a) shall have been accepted, opened or shall otherwise have received legal status of a public or private street prior to that time; or (b) unless such a

street corresponds with a street shown on the master plan or an amendment thereto. Any building erected in violation of this section shall be deemed an unlawful structure and the building inspector or other appropriate official may cause it to be vacated and have it removed.

## CHAPTER 14-09 - REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SUBDIVISION OF LAND

### 14-09-01. Planning Commission.

1. The planning commission of the City of Bismarck is hereby authorized and instructed to review and approve or disapprove the formal subdivision of land within its jurisdiction.

2. The territorial jurisdiction of the city planning commission over the subdivision or platting of land shall include all land located within the corporate limits, and all land lying within the extraterritorial jurisdiction as defined in Section 14-02-03 hereof.

*(Ord. 5278, 09-23-03)*

14-09-02. Purpose of Subdivision Regulations; Approval of Plats. As each new subdivision of land in the City becomes a permanent unit in the basic structure of the expanding community, to which the community will be forced to adhere, the design and arrangement of such subdivisions must correlate to the unified scheme of community interests. In order to provide for the proper arrangement of streets in relation to other existing and planned streets, and to the master plan of the City of Bismarck; to provide for adequate and convenient open spaces, for recreation, for light and air; in order to avoid congestion of population; in order to provide for traffic, for utilities, for access of fire-fighting apparatus; in order to promote, preserve and enhance area natural resources; in order to provide for and improve the public health, safety and general welfare of the City of Bismarck, the following rules and regulations for the platting and subdivision of land within the City of Bismarck and adjacent territory have been adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Bismarck, in accordance with the laws of the State of North Dakota and the ordinances of the City of Bismarck.

Every piece of land proposed within the City or within the City's extraterritorial area shall be prepared, presented for approval and recorded as described in this Chapter. This chapter applies to the platting of land into a single parcel, the subdivision of a lot or parcel of land into two or more lots, or other division of land for the purpose of sale or development, whether immediate or future, including the resubdivision or replatting of lots. No plat of a subdivision of land within the City of Bismarck or within the adjacent territory designated on any filed master plan as subject to subdivision regulations of the City of Bismarck, shall be filed or recorded until it shall have been approved by the Planning Commission of the City of Bismarck and such approval entered in writing on the plat by the chairman and secretary of the City Planning Commission. Such subdivision plats must be prepared in accordance with provisions of Chapter 40-50 of the North Dakota Century Code. The filing of a plat of irregular description in accordance with Chapter 57-02-39 of the North Dakota Century Code does not meet the requirements of this Chapter.

(Ord. 4822, 02-25-97; Ord. 5146, 12-18-01)

14-09-03. Definitions. The following definitions represent the meanings of terms as they are used in these regulations:

**Collector:** Roadway which provides traffic movements between local roads and arterial roads and also provides direct access to abutting property. Collectors are often only two-lane roads but should be planned and designed to minimize on-street parking and direct driveway access. The locations of roadways classified as collectors shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

**Functional Classification:** The process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes, or systems, according to the character of service they are intended to provide.

**Ghost platting:** A method of master planning for future urban densities in rural residential large-lot subdivisions located within the Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB). Platting for future urban densities is achieved by establishing lines for future splits of large lots into smaller lots and dedication of right-of-way and easements for future streets, utilities, storm water facilities etc. As the city grows and rural residential large-lot subdivisions are incorporated into the city, costs of public facility improvements can be shared among more users by planning ahead for conversion of rural residential subdivisions into urban density neighborhoods.

**Interstate:** Roadway which provides rapid movement of large traffic volumes between major population centers and other arterials. Interstates are multi-lane divided highways with grade separations at all crossroads, full access control and no parking. The locations of roadways classified as interstates shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

**Local:** Roadway whose primary function is to provide access to abutting property. Local roads are usually two-lane roads with parking and direct access to adjacent lands.

**Lot:** As used in Section 14-09-01 and following of this ordinance shall mean a "record lot" as defined in Section 14-02-02 hereof unless otherwise stated.

**Lot Combination:** A combination of two (2) or more previously platted lots or parcels into a single parcel.

**Lot Line Adjustment:** An administrative adjustment of an existing previously platted lot line between two (2) adjoining lots or parcels by relocation of a common boundary.

**Lot Modification:** A lot line adjustment, lot split or lot combination as defined herein.

**Lot Split:** The division of a previously platted lot or parcel into not more than three (3) lots or parcels.

**Minor Arterial:** Roadway which provides through traffic movements between areas and links collectors with other arterials. Minor arterials usually have two to four lanes and may be divided or undivided roads, preferably with little or no parking, and limited access. The locations of roadways classified as minor arterials shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

**Neighborhood Park:** A park that typically serves the immediate residential areas within walking distance. Both passive and active park uses may be provided. Neighborhood parks do not typically have amenities that citizens would be drawn to drive to, but may include such features as part of a Park Development Agreement.

**Park Concept Development Plan:** A conceptual plan of development of park and open space facilities for a particular property. Such plans may be developed for a subdivision plat or as part of a larger property that may be developed in phases and form the basis for subsequent subdivision plats.

**Park Development Agreement:** A written agreement between the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District and an owner and/or developer of land within the planning and zoning jurisdiction of the City of Bismarck. Such agreements shall be in accordance with the latest adopted City policy and shall include provisions for the transfer of property to the Park District for the purpose of development of park and open space facilities and the obligations of all parties pursuant to the provisions of the agreement.

**Plat of Irregular Description:** A plat made for taxation purposes at the request of the County Auditor in accordance with Section 57-02-39 NDCC. Such a County Auditor's plat is not platting pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC, but rather is made for the convenience of tax officials in describing property on the tax rolls.

**Principal Arterial:** Roadway which provides for rapid movements of relatively large traffic volumes between large land areas, major traffic generators and other arterials. Principal arterials should have controlled access and are usually multi-lane roads with no parking. The locations of roadways classified as principal arterials shall be as designated on the most recent edition of the North Dakota Department of Transportation functional classification map.

**Subdivision:** The division of a tract or parcel of land into record lots for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale or of building development, including any plat or plan which includes the creation of any part of one or more streets, public easements, or other rights-of-way, whether public or private, for access to

or from such lots, and/or including the creation of new or enlarged parks, playgrounds, plazas or open spaces. However, the division of land for agricultural purposes into parcels of ten (10) or more acres not involving any new street or easement of access, shall be exempted from these regulations.

Subdivision Plat, Major: Any subdivision, platted pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC, that does not meet the definition of a minor subdivision.

Subdivision Plat, Minor: A subdivision, platted pursuant to Chapter 40-50 NDCC, that is part of a previously platted subdivision and does not include the dedication of new public rights-of-way.

*(Ord. 4631, 08-30-94; Ord. 4735, 11-14-95; Ord. 5146, 12-18-01; Ord. 5279, 09-23-03; Ord. 5452, 08-23-05; Ord. 5539, 08-22-06; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 5819, 04-26-11; Ord. 6295, 12-12-17; Ord. 6492, 01-06-22)*

#### 14-09-04. Procedure.

##### 1. Pre-submittal Considerations for Major Subdivision Preliminary Plats and Minor Subdivision Final Plats.

- a. Prior to preparing either a preliminary major subdivision plat or a minor subdivision plat for submittal, the applicant or applicant's consulting engineer shall complete a pre-submittal scoping sheet for a post-construction stormwater management permit and submit it to the City Engineer in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 14.1-04 of the Code of Ordinances (Stormwater Management/Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit).
- b. Prior to preparing a subdivision plat for submittal, the applicant shall schedule a pre-application meeting with City staff to discuss the proposed plat, consistency of the plat with City policies and plans, the overall concept plan for the area, the extension of municipal utilities needed to service the plat (both route and funding expectations), compliance with the fringe area road master plan, any undevelopable land within or adjacent to the proposed plat, and any storm water management issues.
- c. Prior to preparing a preliminary major subdivision plat for submittal, if the proposed plat is to include urban residential zoning, the applicant shall schedule a pre-application meeting with Bismarck Parks and Recreation District staff to discuss the proposed plat, consistency of the plat with Parks and Recreation District policies and plans, and the development of park and open spaces within the plat.
- d. It is the duty of the Planning and Zoning Commission to discourage the subdividing of lands that are far in advance of the needs of the community; that by their location cannot be efficiently served by

public utilities, fire protection, police protection or other municipal services; that are located in areas subject to flooding; that are located in areas that would adversely impact water quality and environmentally sensitive lands; that are topographically unsuitable for development; or that for any other reason are being unwisely or prematurely subdivided. It shall also be the duty of the planning commission to encourage the replatting of lands deemed to be unsatisfactorily subdivided or which represent an obstacle to the orderly and efficient growth of the city. It shall also be the duty of the planning commission to encourage the coordinated platting of adjacent parcels of land.

2. Major Subdivision Plat – Preliminary Plat (Tentative Approval):

- a. An application for tentative approval of a major subdivision plat (preliminary plat) shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development by the specified application deadline and on the proper application form. All current owners of property within the plat shall sign or ratify the application form.

The application shall be accompanied by:

- i. The applicable fee;
- ii. The number of paper prints as indicate in the current application form, prepared in compliance with the provisions of Section 14-09-07(1) of the regulations;
- iii. An 8½ x 11 inch reduction of the plat;
- iv. A pdf of the full-size plat;
- v. A dwg file of the plat in accordance with the City’s GIS submittal requirements; and
- vi. A concept development plan showing the proposed location of roadways and a generalized lot layout for all adjacent land within ½ mile of the proposed plat that is owned by the applicant.
- vii. A statement of intent to provide neighborhood park and open space, as shown on the plat, unless waived in writing by the Director of Parks and Recreation or unless the proposed plat does not include any urban residential zoning.
- viii. A copy of the completed scoping sheet for a post-construction stormwater management permit submitted to the City Engineer in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 14.1-04 of the

Code of Ordinances (Stormwater Management/ Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit) and approved by the City Engineer.

b. For a proposed subdivision plat that will be served by municipal utilities, a preliminary utility servicing plan is also required. This preliminary utility servicing plan shall include:

- i. An accurate location map;
- ii. The proposed layout of lots and streets;
- iii. Topographic contours with a minimum contour interval of two (2) feet;
- iv. The location of any existing municipal utilities within or adjacent to the plat; and
- v. The proposed location and size of water and sanitary sewer mains within the subdivision, how these mains are proposed to connect to the existing utility systems, the incorporation of any city master-planned utilities, and any easements on adjacent property required to accommodate connections.

c. For proposed subdivision plats outside of the corporate limits, but within the Urban Service Area Boundary, the following profiles for roads/streets are also required:

- i. Three profiles of existing ground elevation; one at centerline and one on each side of the right-of-way, fifty feet beyond the right-of-way lines, and
- ii. Two centerline profiles of proposed design elevations; one for a rural road section and another for a future urban street section design.

d. For proposed subdivision plats within two-miles of the corporate limits, the source of water (either city or rural) shall be identified. If the subdivision is to be served by South Central Regional Water District, a rural water agreement will be required as part of the platting process. Said rural water agreement shall include a statement indicating that all rural water service line installed by or on behalf of South Central Regional Water District will be installed to City specifications. The City Engineer, in consultation with the Director of Public Works – Utility Operations, will review the request and make a determination as to whether or not South Central Regional Water District service will be allowed and the appropriate term for the rural water agreement.

e. All areas proposed for development shall be platted to the edge of the property with all undevelopable land included within the plat (subject to discussion and agreement between the landowner and the City).

i. Land determined by the owner and City to be undevelopable and/or needed for stormwater purposes shall be:

a. Included in adjoining platted lot(s) as either a stormwater and drainage easement or a slope protection easement that is privately owned and maintained. The amount of property taxes and special assessments for these areas will be determined by the City based on the level of benefit and the value of the land; or

b. Platted as a separate lot(s) that is owned and maintained by the City, as a regional stormwater conveyance or detention facility; or

c. Platted as a separate lot(s) that is owned and maintained by the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District, (subject to their agreement) either with or without a city-maintained stormwater easement; or

d. Other options as agreed to by the landowner and the City.

f. After receipt of a complete application for tentative approval of a major subdivision preliminary plat, the plat shall be scheduled for review. Upon completion of the review by staff and compliance with all requirements, the Director of Community Development shall schedule the plat for consideration by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Planning and Zoning Commission shall approve, approve conditionally, table or disapprove such major subdivision preliminary plat. If approved with modification or waiver of certain requirements by the Planning and Zoning Commission, the reasons therefore shall be specified. If approved conditionally, the conditions and reasons therefore shall be specified. In any conditional approval, the Planning and Zoning Commission may require the property owner to submit a revised major subdivision preliminary plat. If disapproved, the reasons for that action shall be stated, and if possible, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall make recommendations on the basis of which the proposed subdivision may be approved.

g. The action of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be entered on the official records of the Planning and Zoning Commission, including any conditions imposed and the reasons for any disapproval of a major subdivision preliminary plat.

h. Tentative approval of a major subdivision preliminary plat by the Planning and Zoning Commission is not an acceptance of the major subdivision plat for record, but is rather an expression of approval of a general plat for the final approval and recording upon fulfillment of all requirements of these regulations.

i. Tentative approval shall be effective for a maximum period of twelve (12) months, unless upon application by the property owner, the Director of Community Development grants an extension. If the major subdivision final plat has not been submitted for final approval within this time limit, a major subdivision preliminary plat must again be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission for tentative approval.

3. Major Subdivision Plat – Final Plat (Final Approval):

a. An application for approval of a major subdivision final plat shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development by the specified application deadline and on the proper form. All current owners of property within the plat shall sign or ratify the application form.

The application shall be accompanied by:

- i. The applicable fee;
- ii. The number of paper prints as indicated in the current application form, prepared in compliance with the provisions of Section 14-09-07(2) of these regulations.
- iii. Either a copy of a current title insurance policy running to the benefit of the City of Bismarck or a current attorney's opinion of ownership;
- iv. An 8½ x 11 inch reduction of the plat;
- v. A pdf of the full-size plat;
- vi. A dwg file of the plat in accordance with the City's GIS submittal requirements;
- vii. A copy of the conditional post-construction stormwater management permit issued by the City Engineer; and
- viii. A Park Development Agreement or Park Concept Development Plan in accordance with the latest adopted City policy, unless waived in writing by the Director of Parks and Recreation or unless the proposed plat does not include any urban residential zoning.

b. For a proposed subdivision plat that will be served by municipal utilities, a revised utility servicing plan may be required. This revised utility servicing plan shall include:

- i. An accurate location map;
- ii. The proposed layout of lots and streets;
- iii. Topographic contours with a minimum contour interval of two (2) feet;
- iv. The location of any existing municipal utilities within or adjacent to the plat; and
- v. The proposed location and size of water and sanitary sewer mains within the subdivision, how these mains are proposed to connect to the existing utility systems, the incorporation of any city master-planned utilities, and any easements on adjacent property required to accommodate connections.

c. For proposed subdivision plats outside of the corporate limits, but within the Urban Service Area Boundary, the following are also required:

- i. Grading plans for both rural section roadways to be constructed to serve the rural lots and future urban roadway sections to be constructed to serve the ghost platted urban lots; and
- ii. Master plans for the future extension of municipal water and sewer facilities to ghost platted urban lots.

d. After receipt of the complete application for major subdivision final plat approval, the plat shall be scheduled for review. Upon completion of the review by staff and compliance with all requirements, the Director of Community Development shall give notice of a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission on such proposed subdivision by advertising the time and place of such hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the date of such hearing. Not less than ten (10) days prior to date of the scheduled public hearing, the City shall attempt to notify all known adjacent property owners within three hundred (300) feet of the proposed major subdivision plat. "Notify" shall mean the mailing of a written notice to the address on record with the City Assessor or Burleigh County Auditor. The failure of adjacent property owners to actually receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings. The Director of Community Development shall send a notice of the time and place of such public hearing to the property owner(s) via registered mail not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the scheduled public hearing.

e. After a public hearing, the Planning and Zoning Commission may act upon the request for final approval of a major subdivision final plat. If the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the subdivision, such approval will be entered upon the plat prepared for recording purposes and will be signed by the secretary (Director of community Development) and the Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission. If the Planning and Zoning Commission disapproves the subdivision, such action, together with the reasons therefor will be entered in the official records of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the property owner shall be so notified.

f. Upon final approval of a major subdivision final plat involving the creation of new street(s); the widening, decreasing or vacation of existing street(s) or alley(s); the creation or modification of easements; or the creation, enlargement or decrease of other lands devoted to public use, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall at the same time and without further public hearing, approve such change in streets, alleys, easements or public lands as an amendment to the master plan. The Planning and Zoning Commission will transmit notice of such action to the Board of City Commissioners together with appropriate recommendations concerning the acceptance of dedicated streets and alleys, or the vacation thereof, and of the acceptance of easements and other dedicated lands. In the case of streets, alleys and public lands lying outside the City of Bismarck, notice of the action of the Planning and Zoning Commission and appropriate recommendations will be transmitted to the Board of County Commissioners of Burleigh County or other body having jurisdiction in order to procure approval of roadway dedications.

g. Final approval of a major subdivision final plat by the Planning and Zoning Commission shall in no way constitute legal acceptance of any dedicated streets, alleys or other public lands.

h. A major subdivision final plat that is recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission will be forwarded to the Board of City Commissioners. Following final approval of the major subdivision final plat and the Park Development Agreement or Park Concept Development Plan (if required) by the Board of City Commissioners, a plat in recordable form and all required ratifications shall be furnished to the Director of Community Development within one hundred eighty (180) days following approval. If the plat in recordable form and all required ratifications are not furnished to the Director of Community Development within one hundred eighty (180) days following approval, the approval of the plat shall be considered null and void and the applicant will have to reapply for approval.

Upon review and obtaining required signatures, and upon submittal of a final dwg file, the Director of Community Development shall file and record the original signed plat with the Burleigh County Recorder. A signed Park Development

Agreement (if required) shall be recorded in conjunction with the plat. The recording of Park Concept Development Plans is not required. A rural water agreement (if required) shall also be recorded in conjunction with the plat.

4. Minor Subdivision – Final Plat.

a. The purpose of this subsection is to provide for an expedited review and approval process for the resubdivision of property that is completely contained within a previously platted subdivision and does not include the dedication of new public rights-of-way.

b. An application for approval of a minor subdivision final plat shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development by the specified application deadline and on the proper form. All current owners of property within the plat shall sign or ratify the application form.

The application shall be accompanied by:

- i. The applicable fee;
- ii. The number of paper prints as indicated in the current application form, prepared in compliance with the provisions of Section 14-09-07(2) of these regulations;
- iii. Either a copy of a current title insurance policy running to the benefit of the City or a current attorney's opinion of ownership;
- iv. An 8½ x 11 inch reduction of the plat;
- v. A pdf of the full-size plat;
- vi. A dwg file of the plat in accordance with the City's GIS submittal requirements; and
- vii. A copy of the completed scoping sheet for a post-construction stormwater management permit submitted to the City Engineer in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 14.1-04 of the Code of Ordinances (Stormwater Management/ Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit) and approved by the City Engineer.

c. After receipt of a complete application for minor subdivision final plat approval, the plat shall be scheduled for review. Upon completion of the review by staff and compliance with all requirements, including the issuance of a conditional post-construction stormwater management permit by the City Engineer, the Director of Community Development shall give notice of a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission on such proposed subdivision by advertising the time and place of such hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once

each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the date of such hearing. Not less than ten (10) days prior to date of the scheduled public hearing, the City shall attempt to notify all known adjacent property owners within three hundred (300) feet of the proposed minor subdivision final plat. "Notify" shall mean the mailing of a written notice to the address on record with the City Assessor or Burleigh County Auditor. The failure of adjacent property owners to actually receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings. The Director of Community Development shall send a notice of the time and place of such public hearing to the property owner(s) via registered mail not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the scheduled public hearing.

d. After a public hearing, the Planning and Zoning Commission may act upon the request for minor subdivision final plat approval. If the Planning Commission recommends approval of the minor subdivision final plat, such approval will be entered upon the plat prepared for recording purposes and will be signed by the secretary of the Planning Commission (Director of Community Development) and the Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission. If the Planning and Zoning Commission denies the subdivision, such action, together with the reasons therefor, will be entered in the official records of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the property owner shall be so notified.

e. A minor subdivision final plat that is recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission will be forwarded to the Board of City Commissioners. Following final approval by the Board of City Commissioners, a plat in recordable form and all required ratifications shall be furnished to the Director of Community Development within one hundred eighty (180) days following approval. Upon review and obtaining required signatures, and upon submittal of a final dwg file, the Director of Community Development shall file and record the original signed plat with the Burleigh County Recorder. If the plat in recordable form and all required ratifications are not furnished to the Director of Community Development within one hundred eighty (180) days following approval, the approval of the plat shall be considered null and void and the applicant will have to reapply for approval.

## 5. Rural Residential Lot Splits.

a. The purpose of this subsection is to provide for approval of lot splits within the rural residential zoning districts (RR and RR5) that meet specific criteria and for the waiver of standard platting requirements specified elsewhere in this Chapter. This process is intended to facilitate the further division of previously platted rural residential lots into two or three parcels for development.

b. Any person having a legal interest in the property may file an application for a rural residential lot split.

c. An application for approval of a rural residential lot split shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development on the proper form. The application shall be accompanied by:

i. The applicable fee;

ii. A sketch of the proposed modification with all existing buildings or structures on the property and setbacks from existing and proposed parcel boundaries;

iii. The legal description(s) of the existing lot(s) and/or parcel(s); and

iv. The legal description(s) of the resulting lots(s) and/or parcel(s).

d. After receipt of all items required for the application for approval of a rural residential lot split, the Director of Community Development shall give notice of a public hearing on the proposed rural residential lot split by advertising the time and place of such hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bismarck once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks prior to the date of such hearing. Not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of such hearing, all known adjacent property owners within 1,320 feet of the proposed lot split shall be notified of the public hearing by letter. "Notify" shall mean the mailing of a written notice to the address on record with the City Assessor or Burleigh County Auditor. The failure of adjacent property owners to actually receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings. The Director of Community Development shall send a notice of the time and place of such public hearing to the property owner(s) before the date fixed for the hearing.

e. After a public hearing, the Planning and Zoning Commission may act upon the request for a rural residential lot split. The action of the Planning and Zoning Commission, together with the reasons therefor, will be entered in the official records of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the applicant shall be so notified. If the Planning and Zoning Commission approves the lot split, the applicant shall record a document that legally creates the two new parcels with the Burleigh County Recorder. Failure to record such a document within sixty (60) days shall nullify the approval of the lot split.

## 6. Lot Modifications - Lot Line Adjustments, Lot Combinations, and Lot Splits.

a. The purpose of this subsection is to provide for approval of lot modifications that meet specific criteria and for the waiver of standard platting requirements specified elsewhere in this Chapter. This process is

intended to facilitate the further division of previously platted lots, the combination of previously platted lots or for the adjustment of an existing lot line or parcel line by relocation of a common boundary.

b. Lot line adjustments must meet the following criteria to be approved administratively:

i. Does not involve lots or parcels within more than one zoning classification;

ii. Is not one lot line adjustment in a series of lot line adjustments proposed for contiguous lots as a way to circumvent the minor subdivision plat process;

iii. Both of the resulting parcels conform to the minimum lot area, width and depth for the zoning district in which the property is located, or will when combined with an adjacent parcel as part of the same lot modification action; and

iv. The resulting parcels can be legally described with no more than two (2) directional descriptors (e.g. the north 100 feet of the west 200 feet of Lot 1, Block 1, ABC Addition). For lot line adjustments between irregularly-shaped parcels or to transfer an irregularly-shaped portion of a lot to an adjacent land owner, the Director of Community Development may waive this requirement, provided the resulting parcels can be legally described with an accurate metes and bounds or other legal description.

c. Lot combinations must meet the following criteria to be approved administratively:

i. Does not involve the vacation of existing easements; and

ii. Does not involve lots or parcels within more than one zoning classification.

d. Lot splits must meet the following criteria to be approved administratively:

i. The property is not in a rural residential zoning district (RR or RR5);

ii. The lot split does not involve the creation of any new utility easements;

iii. The lot split does not require the dedication of a public rights-of-way or a private access easement for the purpose of gaining access to any part of the property;

iv. All resulting parcels conform to the minimum lot area, width and depth for the zoning district in which the property is located;

v. The resulting parcels can be legally described with no more than two (2) directional descriptors (e.g. the north 100 feet of the west 200 feet of Lot 1, Block 1, ABC Addition). For an irregularly-shaped lot, the Director of Community Development may waive this requirement, provided the resulting parcels can be legally described with an accurate metes and bounds or other legal description; and provided that any line dividing the parcel along a common wall is a straight line from the front property line to the back property line among the common wall; and

vi. The property has not previously been divided through the lot split provisions of this ordinance.

e. Any person having a legal interest in the property may file an application for a lot modification. For an adjustment of an existing lot line, an affidavit or separate signature sheet with signatures from all affected property owners indicating their consent must also be submitted.

f. An application for approval of a lot modification shall be submitted to the Director of Community Development on the proper form. The application shall be accompanied by:

i. The applicable fee;

ii. A sketch of the proposed modification with all existing buildings or structures on the property, setbacks from existing or proposed parcel boundaries, and the location and dimensions of any previously recorded easements;

iii. The legal description(s) of the existing lot(s) and/or parcel(s); and

iv. The legal description(s) of the resulting lots(s) and/or parcel(s).

g. For lot combinations and lot line adjustments in all zoning districts and for lot splits in all zoning districts except RR – Residential and RR5 – Residential, the application will be reviewed by the Director of Community Development, in consultation with other impacted departments, and shall be tentatively approved if all requirements are met. No hearing or

review by either the Planning and Zoning Commission or City Commission is necessary.

h. Upon tentative approval of a lot line adjustment or a lot split, a Certificate of Survey showing the location of any found and set pins and signed by a registered land surveyor licensed in the State of North Dakota will be required prior to a lot modification being administratively finalized and the resulting parcels created. The County Auditor may also require an Auditor's Plat or Plat of Irregular Description of the parcel(s) prior to the acceptance of a deed transferring ownership of any resulting parcel.

*Ord. 4393, 08-27-91; Ord. 4483, 02-02-93; Ord. 4733, 11-14-95; Ord. 4804, 11-12-96; Ord. 4822, 02-25-97; Ord. 4946, 10-27-98; Ord. 5097, 02-13-01; Ord. 5138, 11-13-01 Ord. 5146, 12-18-01; 5218, 11-26-02; Ord. 5279, 09-23-03; Ord. 5297, 02-24-04; Ord. 5343, 06-22-04; Ord. 5351, 08-24-04; Ord. 5370, 11-23-04; Ord. 5452, 08-23-05; Ord. 5453, 08-23-05; Ord. 5567, 12-12-06; Ord. 5728, 05-26-09; Ord. 6015, 10-22-13; Ord. 6197, 04-26-16; Ord. 6295, 12-12-17; Ord. 6492, 01-06-22)*

#### 14-09-05. Design Standards.

##### 1. Streets and alleys:

a. The arrangement, character, extent, width, grade, and location of all streets shall conform to the master plan and shall be considered in relation to existing and planned streets, to topographical conditions, and to the proposed uses of lands to be served thereby.

b. Where it is now shown on the master plan, the arrangement of streets in a subdivision shall either:

1. Provide for the continuation or appropriate projection of existing arterial and collector streets in surrounding areas; or

2. Conform to a plan for the neighborhood approved or adopted by the planning commission to meet a particular situation where topographical or other conditions make continuance of or conformance to existing streets impractical.

c. Local streets shall be so laid out that their use by through traffic is discouraged.

d. Where a subdivision abuts or contains an existing or proposed arterial street, the planning commission shall limit access to the arterial street and may require reverse frontage of lots with a screen planting contained in a non-access reservation along the rear property lines, deep lots with rear services alleys, or other treatment that it deems advisable to limit such access and to give adequate protection to residential properties and to afford separation of through and local traffic.

e. Private streets are discouraged but may be permitted provided that the plat of any subdivision with private streets shall clearly establish or indicate private easements on such streets for the benefit of those who may become owners of lots in such subdivision, and further shall provide use of such private street easements to and for the use of any governmental subdivision, its officers and employees for utilities and any other governmental use or uses it deems necessary or advisable, provided the City shall not be responsible in any way to furnish any City services if such private street easements are not properly maintained or are obstructed by the owners of property in the subdivision. Private streets shall meet, at a minimum, the requirements of the most recent version of the International Fire Code (IFC) that has been adopted by the City and shall not become a maintenance liability for the City or County, depending on the location. Detailed written justification for the use of private streets in proposed subdivision plats shall be provided as part of the plat application process. Each private street shall be evaluated by the City or County, depending on the location, during the subdivision review and approval process.

f. Nonaccess lines shall be placed along all arterial streets and at the intersections of all streets, with the dimensions of same to be approved by the planning commission.

g. Street jogs should be avoided.

h. A tangent at least one hundred (100) feet long shall be introduced between reverse curves on arterial and collector streets.

i. When connecting street lines deflect from each other by more than ten (10) degrees they shall be connected by a curve of adequate radius to insure clear visibility for vehicles.

j. Intersecting streets shall be laid out at as nearly right angles as possible, and no such angle of intersection shall be less than sixty (60) degrees.

k. In all areas within the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck right-of-way and roadway widths shall be as follows:

Functional Classification	Right-of-Way (in feet)	Roadway Width (in feet)
Principal Arterial	150	63 <sup>2</sup>
Minor Arterial	120	51 <sup>2</sup>
Parkway	120	36 <sup>3</sup>
Collector (No Parking)	80	36
Collector (Parking one side)	80	44

Collector (Parking both sides)	80	48
Local Commercial	80	48
Local Residential Option A	66	38
Local Residential Option B	60	32
Local Residential Option C (Parking one side)	54	26

<sup>1</sup> Measured as the distance between curb faces for streets with standard curbs or six (6) inches from the back of the curb for streets with mountable curbs.

<sup>2</sup> Typical width. Actual width to be determined by traffic study.

<sup>3</sup> Including both drive lanes and bike lanes, but not including median.

Principal arterials, minor arterials, and parkways shall be designed to prohibit all on-street parking. Collector roadways may be designed to prohibit all on-street parking or allow parking on either or both sides of the street, subject to the minimum roadway widths of this section and all restrictions of Section 12-13-02 of the City Code of Ordinances. Local residential streets with a pavement width of thirty-two (32) feet or greater and local commercial roadways shall be designed to allow on-street parking on both sides of the street, and all local residential streets with a pavement width of less than thirty-two (32) feet shall be designed to prohibit parking on one side of the street, subject to all restrictions of Section 12-13-02 of the City Code of Ordinances.

All principal arterial, minor arterial, collector, and local commercial streets shall be constructed with standard curbs. Local residential streets within the R5 – Residential or R10 – Residential zoning districts may be constructed with either standard or mountable curbs, provided the type of curb is determined prior to approval of the subdivision dedicating said right-of-way and incorporated into the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit for said subdivision.

All new residential, commercial, industrial, or public properties shall include the installation of sidewalks to City specifications unless specifically waived by the City Commission during the subdivision process.

If demonstrated by the developer that special circumstances exist, or for the purpose of transitioning between existing and new roadways of varying geometry, the City Engineer may recommend adjusted required right-of-way roadway widths, and curb types during the subdivision review process.

l. In all areas outside the corporate limits but within the extraterritorial area of the City of Bismarck, unless otherwise shown on the master plan, right-of-way and roadway widths shall be as follows:

Functional Classification	Minimum Right-of-Way (in feet)	Typical Roadway Width (in feet)
Principal Arterial	150	40
Minor Arterial	150	36
Collector	80	30
Local	80	26

If demonstrated by the developer that special circumstances exist, the County Engineer may recommend adjusted minimum required right-of-way and roadway widths during the subdivision review and approval process.

m. Half-streets shall be prohibited except where essential to the reasonable development of the subdivision in conformity with the other standards of these regulations, and where the planning commission finds it will be practicable to require the dedication of the other half-street when the adjoining property is subdivided. Wherever there exists a half-street adjacent to a tract to be subdivided, the other half of the street shall be platted within such tract.

n. Cul-de-sacs. The use of cul-de-sac streets shall be limited in order to promote a well-connected street network that provides for safe, direct and convenient access by vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. Cul-de-sac streets may be permitted in instances where there is no reasonable opportunity to provide for future connections to adjoining streets, including natural barriers such as topography or water features, man-made barriers such as railroad tracks, or to discourage through traffic between incompatible land uses. Detailed written justification for the use of cul-de-sac streets in proposed subdivision plats shall be provided as part of the plat application process. In such cases where cul-de-sacs are accepted by the City, the following standards shall apply:

1. Length. The maximum overall length of a cul-de-sac shall be seven hundred-fifty (750) feet. The minimum throat length of a cul-de-sac shall be two hundred-thirty (230) feet. Such lengths shall be measured from the centerline intersection with the through street to the center point of the turnaround.

2. Turnaround Dimension. One of the following sets of dimensional standards shall apply:

a. Circular cul-de-sac turnarounds shall have a dedicated right-of-way diameter of at least one hundred twenty-two (122) feet and a paved diameter of at least ninety-six (96) feet for plats within the corporate limits and a paved diameter of at least eighty (80) feet for plats within the extraterritorial area. Such paved diameter shall be measured from face to face of the curb within the corporate limits and from roadway edge to roadway edge within the extraterritorial area.

b. Irregular cul-de-sac turnarounds shall provide a minimum inside radius of twenty-eight (28) feet to the face of the curb and a minimum outside turning radius of forty-eight (48) feet to the face of the curb. Additional area beyond the minimum outside radius will need to be provided if parking is allowed.

3. Lot Width. In the R5 and R10-Residential zoning districts, each lot located on a cul-de-sac street shall have a minimum width of forty (40) feet, measured at the front property line and in addition, shall have a minimum width of sixty (60) feet, measured at the front setback line.

4. Multi-use Paths. Access easements may be required to provide current and/or future access connections from the turnaround terminus area to other streets, schools, neighborhood activity centers, or open space areas. Such access easements shall be included in a maintenance agreement with either a neighborhood association or governmental entities, subject to review and approval by the City and recorded as part of the subdivision plat approval process.

5. Islands/Medians. Islands or medians within a cul-de-sac are subject to the following standards:

a. Maintenance. Landscaped islands or medians may be permitted provided a neighborhood association assumes responsibility for curb and vegetation maintenance. Maintenance agreements shall be reviewed and approved by the City, depending on the location of the plat, and recorded as part of the subdivision plat approval process.

b. Parking. Islands or medians may provide off-street parking areas. All such parking shall be subject to review and approval by the City or County, depending on the location of the plat.

c. Snow storage. Islands or medians, including any adjacent parking area shall be available for snow storage purposes by the City or County, depending on the location of the plat.

d. The design of such proposed islands or medians shall be subject to review and approval by the City or County, depending on the location of the plat during the subdivision plat approval process. Landscaping within islands or medians within the corporate limits shall be subject to the City's landscape permit approval process.

6. Street Surface Width. The minimum width of street surface on a cul-de-sac within the corporate limits shall be forty (40) feet, or if separated by an island or median, each lane shall be at least twenty (20) feet in width. If constructed with mountable curbs, the minimum street surface width may be reduced to thirty-seven (37) feet and the minimum width of each lane may be reduced to eighteen and one-half (18.5) feet. If fire hydrants are located along a cul-de-sac, all such lane widths shall be at least twenty-six (26) feet.

o. No street names will be used that will duplicate or be confused with the names of existing streets. Streets that are now or will eventually be continuations of existing streets shall be called by the names of the existing streets. The City shall review and make recommendations for street names. Numbered street names may only be used for arterial and collector roadways within the northeast and southeast quadrants, unless the name is a logical extension of an existing street.

p. All streets shall have a grade of not less than three-tenths (0.3) per cent. No arterial street shall have a grade in excess of five (5) per cent, and no other street shall have a grade in excess of ten (10) per cent except that roadways with grades not meeting these standards may be allowed where topography makes it impossible to meet normal standards.

q. Alleys shall be avoided in residential districts but may be required in commercial and industrial districts.

r. The width of all alleys shall be no less than twenty (20) feet.

s. Dead-end alleys should be avoided, but if unavoidable, shall be provided with adequate turnaround facilities at the closed end.

t. On rural road sections within the corporate limits of the City of Bismarck the following standards shall apply:

1. Adequate culverts shall be installed to handle all drainage, with a minimum size of eighteen (18) inches in diameter or equivalent. The owner shall present to the City Engineer two (2) copies of a report proposing the size, type, and location of all drainage structures. All drainage structures shall conform to current North Dakota Department of Transportation standard specifications. For

drainage structures with drainage areas of over forty (40) acres, the report shall include acceptable engineering calculations for the required hydraulic capacity. Written approval shall be obtained from the City Engineer prior to the installation of drainage structures.

2. Gravel surfacing, where permitted, shall be in accordance with the standards and specifications of the City Engineer.

Rural subdivision roadways must be paved in accordance with the standards and specifications of the City Engineer.

All approaches shall be graveled or paved in accordance with the standards and specifications of the City Engineer.

3. All drainage under streets, private drives, and approaches must have culverts installed where required by the City Engineer.

4. All streets must be constructed to an adequate height to ensure proper snow clearance and removal. Any deviation from the minimum road section must have written approval of the City Engineer. Protective covenants shall be filed by the owner to preserve the backslopes extending onto the lots.

5. The City Engineer will inspect the completed roads in each subdivision before assuming responsibility and maintenance of the roads and streets to ensure that the above standards, and those of the zoning regulations, have been complied with.

6. No more than two (2) approaches onto an arterial or section line road in any one thousand three hundred twenty (1,320) feet of distance will be allowed without prior approval of the City Engineer. No approach may be constructed without first having obtained an approach permit from the City Engineer.

u. On rural road sections outside the corporate limits but within the extraterritorial area of the City of Bismarck the following standards shall apply:

1. Adequate culverts shall be installed to handle all drainage, with a minimum size of eighteen (18) inches in diameter or equivalent. The owner shall present to the County Engineer two (2) copies of a report proposing the size, type, and location of all drainage structures. All drainage structures shall conform to current North Dakota Department of Transportation standard specifications. For drainage structures with drainage areas of over forty (40) acres, the report shall include acceptable engineering calculations for the

required hydraulic capacity. Written approval shall be obtained from the County Engineer prior to the installation of drainage structures.

2. Gravel surfacing, where permitted, shall be in accordance with the standards and specifications of the County Engineer. Gravel surfacing shall be spread the full width of the roadway. The depth of the gravel surfacing shall not be less than six (6) inches when compacted in place. Aggregates for gravel surfacing shall conform to North Dakota Department of Transportation specifications for Class 13 Aggregate.

All costs for sampling and testing shall be the responsibility of the developer.

3. Rural subdivision roadways must be paved in accordance with the standards and specifications of the County Engineer. Minimum depth of hot bituminous pavement shall be six (6) inches in the MA or MB zoning district and four (4) inches in all other zoning districts compacted in place with proper base and subgrade.

All approaches shall be graveled with Class 13 or Class 3 aggregate to an un-compacted depth of two (2) inches. Gravel shall extend from the edge of the roadway to the property line.

4. All drainage under streets, private drives, and approaches must have culverts installed where required by the County Engineer.

5. All streets must be constructed to an adequate height to ensure proper snow clearance and removal. Any deviation from the minimum road section must have written approval of the County Engineer. Protective covenants shall be filed by the owner to preserve the backslopes extending onto the lots.

6. The County Engineer will inspect the completed roads in each subdivision before assuming responsibility and maintenance of the roads and streets to ensure that the above standards have been complied with.

7. No more than two (2) approaches onto an arterial or section line road in any one thousand three hundred twenty (1,320) feet of distance will be allowed without prior approval of the Board of County Commissioners and the County Engineer. No approach may be constructed without first having obtained an approach permit from the County Engineer.

## 2. Easements:

a. Easements across lots or on rear or side lot lines shall be at least ten (10) feet wide where necessary for overhead or underground utilities.

b. Where a subdivision is traversed by a watercourse, coulee, drainageway, channel, or stream, there shall be provided a storm water easement or drainage right-of-way conforming substantially with the lines of such watercourse, and such further width for construction that will be adequate for such purpose. Parallel streets or parkways may be required in connection with such drainage easement.

c. There shall be a sidewalk construction and maintenance easement established on the front one and one-half feet of each lot except where this area is covered by a building.

3. Blocks:

a. Block length should usually not exceed one thousand three hundred twenty (1,320) feet nor be less than three hundred (300) feet, measured from street center line to street center line.

b. Pedestrian walkways not less than twelve (12) feet wide may be required in blocks longer than nine hundred (900) feet where such crosswalks are deemed by the planning commission to be essential to provide circulation, or access to schools, playgrounds, shopping centers, transportation, or other community facilities. Crosswalks may be six (6) feet wide if they are no more than one hundred fifty (150) feet in length.

c. Blocks intended for business and industrial use should be designed for such purposes.

4. Lots:

	Minimum Width at Building Line (feet)	Minimum Depth (feet)	Minimum Area (Square Feet)
Lots served by a public water supply system and a central sanitary sewer systems approved by the North Dakota Department of Health	60	100	7,000
Lots not served by a central sanitary sewer system approved by the North Dakota Department of Health	150	200	65,000

a. Lot dimensions and areas shall be no less than shown in the above table, shall be no less than the minimum requirements of the underlying zoning district, and shall be sized to accommodate on-site wastewater, storm water and water supply facilities as soil conditions require.

b. Rural residential lots platted within the city's Urban Service Area Boundary (USAB) shall show future re-subdivision into urban sublots (ghost lots) which meet the minimum lot width, depth, and area requirements of the R5 – Residential zoning district. These sublots shall be lettered and dimensioned within the boundaries of the plat and the area of each sublot shall be shown in a table format to avoid confusion with the area shown for the numbered rural lots. A plat note shall also be included which indicates that the sublots must be held in common ownership until annexation and servicing by municipal utilities occurs. Within the Urban Service Area Boundary, proposed structures shall be subject to the R5 sideyard and

rearyard building setbacks from interior ghost lot lines, in addition to any setbacks from the primary lot lines required in the underlying zoning district.

c. Within the Urban Service Area Boundary and as part of the ghost platting process, dedications are required for any additional right-of-way, utility easements or stormwater easements needed for further subdivision and the future development of ghost lots. Installation of roadways and utilities within the dedications are not required until annexation occurs.

d. All lots shall abut on a street or other public or private right-of-way.

e. Double frontage or reverse frontage lots shall not be permitted except where lots back on arterial streets or highways, or where topographic or other conditions render subdividing in another fashion unreasonable. Such double frontage lots shall have an additional depth of at least twenty (20) feet over and above normal lot size in order to allow screen planting and landscaping along the back lot line.

f. Corner lots shall be of extra width sufficient to maintain building lines on both streets.

g. Side lot lines shall be approximately at right angles or radial to street lines.

h. A screen planting easement is required between residential and commercial or industrial lots in accordance with Section 14-03-11.

*(Ord. 4166, 7-21-87; Ord. 4631, 08-30-94; Ord. 4875, 10-14-97; Ord. 5279, 09-23-03; Ord. 5539, 08-22-06; Ord. 5688, 08-26-08; Ord. 6153, 08-11-15; Ord. 6172, 10-27-15; Ord. 6396, 09-10-19)*

#### 14-09-06. Improvements.

1. Improvements Required within the Corporate Limits. Before issuing a building permit for any structure within the corporate limits, the City will require that the following improvements are either:

a. Constructed and in place;

b. Assured of completion by the deposit with the City of Bismarck of a certified check in an amount sufficient to construct such improvements, the amount to be determined by the City Engineer; or,

c. Assured of completion by the posting of a bond with the City of Bismarck, in an amount sufficient to construct such improvements, the amount to be determined by the City Engineer, and the form and surety of the bond to be approved by the City Attorney. The improvements required shall be:

1. Street grading.
  2. Sanitary sewers, except where, in the opinion of the City Engineer, the provision of sanitary sewers is impractical, in which case individual lots will comply with the size requirements of these regulations and will be provided with approved septic tanks and disposal fields prior to or at the time of construction of any buildings on such lots.
  3. Watermains, except where, in the opinion of the City Engineer, connection to a public water supply is impractical, in which case individual lots will comply with the size requirements of these regulations.
  4. Monuments, as required by the North Dakota Century Code and Section 14-09-07 of this Chapter.
  5. Fences shall be provided along the boundary of any subdivision at all points at which the subdivision abuts or adjoins interstate highway right-of-way or any open drainage facility where required by the City Engineer. Said fence shall meet the requirements of the North Dakota Department of Transportation where applicable, and the City Engineer.
2. Procedure for Improvements within the Corporate Limits.
    - a. No improvements shall be made unless and until all necessary plans, profiles and specifications therefor have been submitted to and approved by the City Engineer.
    - b. At the time such plans, profiles and specifications are submitted for review, the City Engineer shall prepare an estimate of cost for office review and field inspection of all improvements. The subdivider shall thereupon deposit with the Director of Finance an amount of money equal to said estimated cost. All work done by the City Engineer in connection with checking, computing and correcting such plans for improvements and in connection with field inspection of the construction thereof, shall be charged to such deposit. If during the progress of the work, it shall appear that the cost thereof will exceed the amount so deposited, the City Engineer shall notify the subdivider of this fact and shall do no further work in connection with such review or field inspection until the subdivider has deposited the additional amount of money necessary to cover the cost of the work.
    - c. Upon completion of the work of reviewing plans and inspecting the construction of improvements, the City Engineer shall forward to the Director of Finance a statement of the amount of the engineering and inspection costs to be charged against the deposit made by the subdivider. The Director of Finance shall thereupon refund to the subdivider any

unexpended balance of such deposits. If such engineering and inspection charges shall for any reason exceed the amount of the deposits, the Director of Finance shall collect the balance due and shall issue a statement that such charges have been paid.

d. At the time of filing an application for a building permit the applicant will submit either (a) a certificate signed by the City Engineer that all required improvements are in place or (b) a certificate signed by the City Engineer that plans, specifications, and profiles for such improvements have been filed with and approved by him, and a certificate signed by the Director of Finance that a certified check or satisfactory performance bond has been posted for completion of improvements, including the City's review and inspection costs. Where part of the improvements has been completed, appropriate certification will be filed.

e. Other improvements which may be required by the City after a building permit is issued, but prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, include:

1. Street paving;
2. Curb and gutter;
3. Driveways; and
4. Storm sewers, culverts and bridges.

f. Other improvements which may be required by the City after a certificate of occupancy is issued include:

1. Sidewalks; and
2. Street lights.

3. Improvements Required within the Extraterritorial Area.

a. A building permit for any structure within a platted subdivision within the extraterritorial area may not be issued until all improvements described in this section are constructed and accepted by the County Engineer.

b. The improvements required are:

1. The grading of all roadways within the subdivision;
2. The paving of all roadways within the subdivision, unless this requirement was specifically waived by both the Board of City

Commissioners and the Board of County Commissioners in conjunction with the approval of the subdivision;

3. The construction and paving of section line roads needed to provide access to the subdivision or the paving of previously constructed section line roads that provide access to the subdivision is required by Burleigh County unless the requirement is specifically waived by the Board of County Commissioners;

4. The installation of the storm water management facilities required to manage storm water in accordance with the approved storm water management plan and submittal of a statement from the consulting engineer that certifies that the facilities were built in accordance with the approved storm water management plan; and

5. The construction of any other required facilities, such as turning lanes or bridges.

c. Improvements that are required within a right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the North Dakota Department of Transportation must be accepted by the NDDOT District Engineer.

d. The completion of required off-site improvements, such as the construction of turning lanes or the paving of section line roadways, may be delayed with the submittal of an assurance of completion.

3. Procedure for Improvements within the Extraterritorial Area.

a. No improvements shall be made unless and until all necessary plans, profiles and specifications therefor shall have been submitted to the County Planner and approved by the County Engineer in accordance with the Burleigh County Highway Department Subdivision Road Design and Construction Policy.

b. Before any improvements are installed, the developer shall submit a County Development Permit Application to the County Planner. Once the Development Permit Application has been reviewed and approved by the County Engineer, the developer may proceed with the construction of the road subgrades within the subdivision.

c. Upon satisfactory completion of all required roadways, the County Engineer will notify the City in writing.

*(Ord. 4914, 06-09-98; Ord. 5477, 12-13-05; Ord. 6153, 08-11-15; Ord. 6295, 12-12-17)*

14-09-07. Specifications for Plats.

1. The preliminary plat shall contain the following:

- a. Proposed name of subdivisions.
- b. Location of subdivision by section, township and range, to the quarter section, or other legal description.
- c. Names and addresses of property owner(s) and registered land surveyor who prepared the plat.
- d. Scale of plat, which shall be one (1) inch equals one hundred (100) feet or less and shown graphically.
- e. Date.
- f. North point indication.
- g. Boundary line of proposed subdivision indicated by a solid heavy line.
- h. Total acreage within subdivision.
- i. A location map inset showing the boundary of the proposed subdivision and covering the area within a one-mile radius of the subdivision.
- j. Existing and proposed access points along public right-of-way within or adjacent to the subdivision. In addition, all such adjacent access points within one-quarter (1/4) mile of the subdivision shall be shown or noted if the subdivision is located within the extraterritorial jurisdiction.
- k. Name, location, width of all existing or previously platted streets, including the type and width of surfacing within or adjacent to the subdivision.
- l. Name, dimensions and location of any railroad right-of-way within or adjacent to the subdivision.
- m. Name, dimensions and location of any utility easements within or adjacent to the subdivision.
- n. Name, dimensions and location of any parks, public land or multi-use trails or crosswalks within or adjacent to the subdivision.
- o. Name, dimensions and location of any permanent buildings or structures within or adjacent to the subdivision.
- p. Location of any corporate boundaries within or adjacent to the subdivision.

q. Location and identification of any section lines within or adjacent to the subdivision.

r. Existing water mains, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, culverts, bridges, poles, pipelines and other utility structures within or adjacent to the tract, indicating pipe sizes, grades, and exact locations.

s. Existing zoning of proposed subdivision and adjacent tracts of subdivided and un-subdivided land.

t. Boundary lines of tracts of subdivided and un-subdivided land within or adjacent to the proposed subdivision. Owners' names are not needed for adjacent tracts within the corporate limits but must be shown for any adjacent tracts within the extraterritorial jurisdiction.

u. Topographic contours with a minimum contour interval of two (2) feet, with indication of datum used (NGVD29 or NAVD88 with NAVD88 required for areas with current floodplain information in that datum).

v. 100-year floodplain and floodway elevations if any portion of the subdivision is within the floodplain, with indication of datum used (NAVD88 required for areas with current floodplain information in that datum).

w. Layout, numbers and dimensions of lots and blocks.

x. Layout of proposed streets, alleys, crosswalks and easements, showing all widths and proposed street names.

y. Location and dimensions of proposed utility easements, including easements for storm water management facilities and proposed locations of culverts and retention/detention areas, if available.

z. Location and dimension of all non-access lines.

aa. Identification of parcels of land intended to be dedicated or reserved for public use, or set aside for use of property owners within the subdivision.

bb. Fencing note for fencing along Interstate 94 or drainage facilities in accordance with Section 14-09-06.

cc. The airport noise contours as established by the latest available data.

2. The final plat shall be submitted on high quality mylar in sheets thirty (30) inches by thirty-six (36) inches, provided that when more than one sheet is required, there shall also be filed an index sheet on high quality mylar and of the

same dimensions, showing the entire subdivision on one sheet and giving block and lot numbers. The final plat shall contain the following:

- a. Name of subdivision.
- b. Location of subdivision by section, township and range, to the quarter section, or other legal description.
- c. Names and addresses of owners and registered land surveyor.
- d. Scale of plat, which shall be one (1) inch equals one hundred (100) feet or less and shown graphically.
- e. Date.
- f. North point indication.
- g. Basis of bearings, as derived from State Plane Coordinates.
- h. Indication of both vertical datum and horizontal datum used for the plat.
- i. Boundary line of subdivision based on an accurate traverse, with angular and lineal dimensions indicated.
- j. Legal description of property being platted, including any section line right-of-way not previously deeded for plats within the extraterritorial jurisdiction.
- k. Accurate locations of all monuments. For plats located within the corporate limits or plats that will be annexed prior to development, one such monument shall be placed at each corner and at each change of direction in the boundary line of the subdivisions; one such monument shall be placed at each block corner, one such monument shall be placed at each lot corner and at each point of deflection in the interior lot lines, and one such monument shall be placed at the point of curvature and point of tangency of each curve in a street line on both sides of the street. The monuments for the boundary line of the subdivision must be placed prior to recording the final plat, the monuments for block corners and the points of curvature and tangency of each curve in a street line on both sides of the street must be placed upon completion of roadway and municipal utility improvements, and monuments for lot corners and each point of deflection in the interior lot lines must be placed prior to obtaining a building permit for that lot.

For plats located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction, one such monument shall be placed at each corner and at each change of direction in the boundary line of the subdivision; one such monument shall be placed at each block corner, one such monument shall be placed at each lot corner and at

each point of deflection in the interior lot lines, and one such monument shall be placed at the point of curvature and point of tangency of each curve in a street line on both sides of the street. All monuments must be placed prior to recording the final plat.

l. True angles and distances to the nearest official monuments (which shall be accurately described on the plat and not less than two (2) for subdivisions within the extraterritorial jurisdiction and not less than one (1) for subdivisions within the corporate limits). For the purpose of this requirement, an official monument is defined as a section corner or quarter corner.

m. Ties to a minimum of two (2) accepted State Plane Coordinates based on NAD 83 horizontal datum (adjusted 86), units of measurement international feet, ND south zone 3302.

n. Elevations referenced to a durable benchmark described on the plat with its location and elevation to the nearest hundredth of a foot, with indication of datum uses (NAVD88 required for areas with current floodplain information in that datum).

o. Exact location, width and name of all rights-of-way within and adjoining the subdivision, and the exact location of all alleys and or multi-use trails within the subdivision.

p. Accurate outlines and legal description of any areas (not including streets, alleys or public utility easements) to be dedicated or reserved for public use, with the purposes indicated; and of any areas to be reserved by deed covenant for common use of all property owners within the subdivision.

q. All easements for rights-of-way provided for public services and public utilities.

r. All lot and block numbers and lot lines, with accurate dimensions in feet and hundredths.

s. Square footage or acreage of land within the subdivision, each individual lot, each subplot created by ghost platting, and the total area in streets. If the subdivision crosses a quarter-section line, the acreage within each quarter section must also be noted.

t. Radii, deltas, and lengths of all curves based on arc definitions.

u. Location and dimension of all non-access lines and any access points within a continuous non-access line.

v. 100-year floodplain and floodway elevations and topographic contours with a minimum contour interval of two (2) feet for the portion of the plat lying within a designated floodplain, with an indication of datum used (NAVD88 required for areas with current floodplain information in that datum).

w. For any waterways or bodies of water within or adjacent to the plat, the present shoreline locations (relative to the meander line).

x. Water elevations must be shown and dated (meander line).

y. For subdivisions adjacent to the Missouri River, the 33,000 cfs flowline contour must be shown, which is the ordinary high water mark defined herein for the purposes of measuring setback distances for land abutting the Missouri River.

z. Certification by registered land surveyor to the effect that the plat represents a survey made by him/her, or under the surveyor's direct supervision, and that the monuments shown thereon are accurate, all required monuments have been set, and that all dimensions and elevations are correct.

aa. Notarized certification by the owners of the land of the adoption of the plat and the dedication of sewers, water distribution lines, streets, public areas and other improvements. If there are multiple owners, the specific lot(s) owned by each owner must be specified.

bb. Proper form for the approval of the Planning Commission.

cc. Proper form for acceptance of plat, and amendment of Master Street Plan by the Board of City Commissioners.

dd. Proper form for the approval of the City Engineer.

ee. Fencing note for fencing shall be shown in accordance with Section 14-09-06.

ff. All restrictive airport noise, clear zone and approach zone elevations as established by the latest available data, where applicable.

gg. All easements for stormwater management facilities shall be shown and dedicated in accordance with Title 14.1.

hh. Border line of one-half (1/2) inch shall be provided on the top, bottom and right sides of the plat, with two (2) inches provided on the left side.

*(Ord. 4460, 08-18-92; Ord. 4733, 11-14-95; Ord. 4778, 08-13-96; Ord. 4822, 02-25-97; Ord. 4851, 06-24-97; Ord. 5279, 09-23-03; Ord. 5567, 12-12-06)*

14-09-08. Variances.

1. Hardship.

a. Where it can be shown in the case of a particular proposed subdivision, that strict compliance with the requirements of these regulations would result in extraordinary hardship to the subdivider because of unusual topography, soils, or other such conditions which would result in retarding the achievement of the objective of these regulations, then the board of adjustment may vary, modify or waive requirements so substantial justice may be done and the public interest secured; provided that such variance, modification or waiver will not have the effect of nullifying the intent and purpose of these regulations, or of the master plan.

b. In no case shall any variance, modification or waiver be more than a minimum easing of the requirements; in no case shall it have the effect of reducing the traffic capacity of any arterial or collector street; in no case shall it be in conflict with the existing zoning regulations.

c. In granting variances, modifications or waivers, the board of adjustment may require such conditions as will, in its judgment secure substantially the objectives of the standards and regulations so affected.

2. Large-scale development:

a. These regulations may be modified by the planning commission in the case of a plan for a planned unit development which provides such covenants, financial guarantees, and other legal assurance that the plan will be followed and will be achieved.

14-09-09. Fees.

1. In order to cover the costs of examining plans, advertising and holding public hearings, and other expenses incidental to the approval of a subdivision, the subdivider shall pay a fee at the time of application for a lot modification, a minor subdivision plat or tentative approval of a preliminary major subdivision plat. If, because of the failure of the subdivider to submit a final major subdivision plat within twelve (12) months after receiving tentative approval of a preliminary major subdivision plat, it is necessary to resubmit a preliminary major subdivision plat for tentative approval, the subdivider shall be required to pay the fee currently in effect at the time of resubmission.

2. The fees to be charged and collected for consideration of any application for a major subdivision plat, subdivision plat vacation, lot modification or minor subdivision plat shall be established by the Board of City Commissioners and shall be collected at the time of filing of an application.

3. All fees established by this section are in addition to any sums paid to cover the costs of review of improvement plans and field inspection of construction required under the provisions of Section 14-09-06, subsection 2(b) of these regulations.

*(Ord. 4386, 07-30-91; Ord. 4635, 09-27-94; Ord. 5028, 02-22-00; Ord. 5146, 12-18-01; Ord. 5214, 11-12-02)*

14-09-10. Penalties.

1. After the adoption of these subdivision regulations as provided by law, it shall be unlawful to sell or offer for sale a lot in a subdivision in the area under the jurisdiction of the planning commission, unless that subdivision has received final approval and been recorded in compliance with these regulations.

2. Whoever, being the owner or agent of the owner of any land located within the territory of a subdivision subject to the approval of the planning commission of the City of Bismarck, transfers or sells, or agrees to sell any land by reference to or exhibition of or by other use of a subdivision plat, before such plat has been approved by said planning commission in accordance with the requirements of these regulations and recorded or filed for record as so approved in the office of the appropriate county register of deeds, shall, in addition to the punishment provided in Title 1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bismarck), forfeit and pay a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each lot or parcel so transferred or sold, or agreed to be sold. The description of such lot or parcel by metes and bounds shall not exempt the transaction from such penalties or the remedies herein provided. Such fine and forfeiture shall not act to stop the City of Bismarck from enjoining such transfer or sale or agreement by action from injunction in a court of equity jurisdiction.

*(Ord. 4635, 09-27-94)*

14-09-11. Vacation of Plats. Any property owner wishing to vacate a previously approved and recorded plat or any part thereof must follow the same procedures as those required for plat approval and outlined in Section 14-09-04.

14-09-12. Change or Correction of Street Names. The Board of City Commissioners may, by resolution, change the name of any street within the city of Bismarck if it finds that such name is confusing, in error, or otherwise inconsistent with the other street names within the city. All property owners on the street being considered for a change of name shall be notified at least 10 days before the Board of City Commissioners considers the resolution changing the name of the street. Upon passage of a resolution changing the name of the street, a copy of the resolution along with a map detailing the change shall be filed with the register of deeds.

*(Ord. 4573, 01-04-94)*

## TITLE 14.1 - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Title 14.1 Becomes effective January 1, 2018

### CHAPTER 14.1-01 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

14.1-01-01. Purpose and Need. This Title sets forth uniform requirements for stormwater management systems within the City and its extraterritorial jurisdiction. It is the intent of the Board of City Commissioners that the requirements and standards contained in this Title comply with all applicable state and federal laws. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Title and the provisions of any erosion control, shoreland protection, floodplain ordinance, or other regulations adopted by the City, County, State or Federal authorities, the more restrictive standard prevails.

The objectives of this Title are:

1. To promote, preserve, and enhance the natural resources within the City of Bismarck and its extraterritorial jurisdiction;
2. To protect and promote the health, safety, and welfare of the people and property through effective stormwater management practices;
3. To protect the City and surrounding area's natural resources from adverse impacts caused by development or other activities;
4. To regulate land development, land disturbing, or other activities that may have an adverse and potentially irreversible impact on water quality and environmentally sensitive lands;
5. To minimize conflicts and encourage compatibility between land disturbing and development activities and environmentally sensitive issues (i.e. land, water, habitat, etc.);
6. To require detailed review standards and procedures for land development activities proposed throughout the City, and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, thereby achieving a balance between growth and development, and the protection of water quality;
7. To provide for the protection of surrounding or adjacent properties from water and wind erosion through the use of best management practices that meet the intended use;
8. To provide for adequate stormwater system analysis and appropriate stormwater system design as necessary to protect public and private property, water quality, and existing natural resources; and
9. To comply with the requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) under the North Dakota Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPDES).  
(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-01-02. Transfer of Authority. The City may, through the use of a joint powers agreement, transfer the authority for the administration and/or enforcement of this Title in the City's extraterritorial area to another entity.  
(Ord. 5853, 11-22-11)

14.1-01-03. Definitions. For the purpose of this Title, the following terms, phrases, and words, and their derivatives, shall have the meaning as stated in this section. When inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future tense. Words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and the word "may" is always permissive.

**Agricultural Land Use:** The use of land for planting, growing, cultivating and harvesting crops for human or livestock consumption and pasturing or yarding of livestock.

**Applicant:** Any person, firm, corporation, sole proprietorship, partnership, federal or state agency, or political subdivision wishing to engage in a land disturbance and/or land development activity or obtain a building permit, special use permit, zoning change or subdivision approval that requires a mandatory stormwater management permit.

**Basis of Design Report:** A refinement report required to document conformance with an approved stormwater management plan. A basis of design report is a required submittal for a post-construction stormwater management permit.

**Best Management Practices or "BMPs":** A schedule of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce increases in run-off rates and/or the pollution of downstream waters.

**Board of City Commissioners:** The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Bismarck.

**Catchment:** The area of a development project that collects stormwater to a discrete point of discharge or point of analysis.

**Certification Report:** The required analysis documenting that the facilities identified in an approved stormwater management plan have been constructed and function as intended. A certification report is a required submittal for a post-construction stormwater management permit.

**City:** The City of Bismarck.

**City Engineer:** The City Engineer of the City of Bismarck or a duly authorized representative of the City Engineer.

**Common Plan of Development or Sale:** A contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct construction activities are planned to occur at different times on different schedules under one plan, such as a phased housing development.

Conditional Approval: Tentative approval of a post-construction storm water management plan issued by the City Engineer prior to submittal of construction plans and specifications.

Construction Activity: As defined by the current North Dakota stormwater discharge General Construction Permit NDR10-0000, including, but not limited to, a disturbance to the land that results in a change in topography, existing soil cover (both vegetative and non-vegetative), or the existing soil topography that may result in accelerated stormwater run-off, leading to soil erosion and movement of sediment into surface waters or drainage systems. Examples of construction activity may include clearing, grading, filling and excavating. Construction activity includes the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb one (1) acre or more. Construction activity does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the facility.

Construction Plans: Engineered drawings detailing the size and character of post-construction stormwater management facilities and site development. Construction plans are a required submittal for a post-construction stormwater management permit.

Construction Stormwater Management: The implementation of appropriate temporary BMPs to minimize soil sediment or pollutants carried in run-off from construction activities. Also included is the management of run-on and run-off of stormwater from the construction activities.

Construction Stormwater Management Permit: A permit requiring the implementation of construction BMPs during development and land disturbing activities so as to protect the Public Storm Sewer System and ensure that development activities are in conformance with the requirements of the MS4 General Permit and this Title.

County: The County of Burleigh.

County Engineer: The County Engineer of Burleigh County or a duly authorized representative of the County Engineer.

Development: Any of the following activities:

- a. Structural development, including construction or demolition of a new building or other structure;
- b. Non-structural development including the creation or paving of roads, parking lots, storage areas or similar activities;
- c. Expansion or alteration of an existing structure that results in an increase in the ground surface dimensions of the building or structure;
- d. Redevelopment of a previously developed site;

- e. Land disturbing activities; or
- f. Creation or expansion of impervious surfaces.

**Erosion:** Any process that wears away at the surface of the land by the action of water, wind, ice, or gravity. Erosion can be accelerated by the activities of man and nature.

**Extraterritorial Jurisdiction:** The territorial zoning and subdivision authority of the City which extends to all unincorporated land located within four (4) miles of the corporate limits of the City, or as amended by agreement, as authorized by Section 40-47-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.

**FEMA:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Fill:** Any act by which earth, sand, gravel, rock or any other similar material is deposited, placed, replaced, pushed, dumped, pulled, transported or moved to a new location, and shall include the resulting conditions.

**Final Stabilization:** The permanent cover of soils exposed or disturbed during development activities.

**Illicit Connection:** A physical connection to the City's MS4 that primarily conveys non-stormwater discharges other than uncontaminated groundwater into the MS4; or a physical connection not authorized or permitted by the City of Bismarck, where a local authority requires authorization or a permit for physical connections.

**Illicit Discharge:** Any discharge to, or seepage into, the City's MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater or uncontaminated groundwater except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit. Examples include, but are not limited to, construction material discharges, discharging of sanitary sewers and run-off of spilled chemicals, fuels or lubricants. Exceptions to illicit discharges are included in the City's current MS4 General Permit.

**Impervious Surface:** Any land cover that prevents rain or melting snow from soaking into the ground, such as roofs (including overhangs), streets, sidewalks, patios, driveways and parking lots. For the purposes of mandatory stormwater permits, all road, driveway or parking surfaces, including gravel surfaces, shall be considered impervious.

**Land Disturbing Activity:** Any land alteration or disturbance that may result in erosion, sedimentation, or change in run-off including, but not limited to, removal of ground cover, grading, excavating or filling of land, but not including agricultural land uses such as planting, growing, cultivating and harvesting of crops, growing and tending of gardens, and harvesting trees.

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System or "MS4":** A conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditched, man-made channels or storm drains:

- a. Owned or operated by a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law) having jurisdiction over the disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater or other wastes, including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the Clean Water Act, that discharges to waters of the United States;
- b. Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
- c. Which is not a combined sewer; and
- d. Which is not part of a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) as defined by 40 CFR 122.2.

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit: Any permit or requirement enforced by the North Dakota State Department of Health pursuant to the Clean Water Act as amended for the purposes of regulating stormwater discharge.

NDDoH: The North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Water Quality.

Notice of Termination (NOT): Notification to the City and/or the NDDoH that all construction activities for a project have been completed and exposed soils have achieved final stabilization.

Notice of Transfer: Notification to the City and/or the NDDoH indicating that the responsibilities of the mandatory stormwater management permit have been transferred along with the transfer of a parcel of land.

Owner: Any person firm, corporation, sole proprietorship, or partnership owning a lot, parcel of land, or premises connected to and discharging stormwater into the City's stormwater system.

Permittee: Any person who applies for and receives a stormwater or other permit under this Title.

Pervious Surface: Any land cover that generally permits absorption of stormwater or snowmelt into the ground.

Point of Analysis: The location where run-off from development will be evaluated for compliance with the requirements of this Title. In general, this will be the location where post development flow rates must meet the existing conditions rates and water quality BMPs have been provided. The point of analysis may be located downstream of the point of discharge(s). The point of analysis will be determined by the City Engineer. In practicality, there may be more than one point of analysis on a site or for a project.

Point of Discharge: A location where stormwater discharges from development into the public storm sewer system or other receiving waters. In practicality, there may be more than one point of discharge on a site or for a project.

**Post Construction Facilities:** Permanent structural and non-structural best management practices to mitigate adverse impacts to stormwater quality and water quantity, identified in the approved storm water management plan, which are part of any natural or constructed stormwater system that require periodic or minimal maintenance to retain their operations capabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, storm sewers, infiltration areas, detention areas, channels, streets, etc.

**Post Construction Stormwater Management:** The implementation of appropriate permanent BMPs to address the stormwater quantity, quality and conveyance for development projects.

**Post Construction Stormwater Management Permit:** A permit requiring the implementation of permanent BMPs so as to protect the Public Storm Sewer System and ensure that development activities are in conformance with the requirements of the MS4 General Permit and this Title.

**Private Storm Sewer System:** A system of conveyances designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater on privately-owned land or easements which eventually discharges into the public storm sewer system. The private storm sewer system consists of both open and enclosed drainage systems (including roads with drainage systems, parking lots, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels or storm drains) that are owned and operated by private entities.

**Run-off:** The rainfall, snowmelt, dewatering or irrigation water flowing over the ground surface and into a public or private stormwater system.

**Sediment:** Solid material or organic material that, in suspension, is being transported or has been moved by air, water, gravity, or ice, and deposited at another location.

**Site:** The entire area included in the legal description of the parcel or other land division on which the land development or land disturbing activity is proposed in the permit application.

**State:** The State of North Dakota.

**Stormwater:** Stormwater run-off, snowmelt run-off, surface run-off and drainage.

**Stormwater Design Standards Manual:** The current edition of the "Stormwater Design Standards Manual, Bismarck, North Dakota" available from the office of the City Engineer, which contains the principal standards and design criteria for developing an effective and acceptable stormwater management plan.

**Stormwater Management:** The application of Best Management Practices (DMPs) to mitigate adverse impacts to stormwater quality and quantity, prevent sediments and other pollutants from entering surface or ground water; source controls, and treatment of run-off to reduce pollution.

Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP): A written document detailing stormwater run-off characteristics for a defined area and the management of that run-off to mitigate adverse impact to stormwater quality and quantity. A stormwater management plan is a required submittal for a post-construction stormwater management permit.

Stormwater Permit: A permit allowing development and land disturbing activities so as to protect the Public Storm Sewer System such that development activities are in conformance with the MS4 General Permit requirements and this Title.

Stormwater Program Coordinator: The person designated by the City of Bismarck to administer the NDPDES (MS4) permit and oversee the compliance and regulation of stormwater permits issued by the City or a duly authorized representative of the Stormwater Program Coordinator.

Structure: Anything manufactured, constructed, or erected which is normally attached to or positioned on land, including portable structures, earthen structures, roads, parking lots, and paved storage areas.

Watershed: An area of land where all surface water from rain, melting snow or ice converges to a single point at a lower elevation where the waters join another body of water, such as a river or lake.

Watershed Stormwater Master Plan: A stormwater management plan that characterizes and addresses run-off from a defined drainage area and makes recommendations for the implementation of regional facilities or BMPs to address peak flow and water quality compliance and/or regional drainage and conveyance systems. Watershed stormwater management plans that are adopted by the Board of City Commissioners are planning documents that provide drainage area specific refinements to stormwater management and performance requirements and design standards.

Wetlands: 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 typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

*(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5278, 09-23-03; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-01-04. Scope. Every applicant for a building permit, subdivision approval, or a permit to allow land disturbing activities for an approved development must comply with the provisions of this Title and the Stormwater Design Standards Manual. No building permit, subdivision approval, or permit to allow land disturbing activities shall be issued until the mandatory stormwater permits have been issued in accordance with the provisions of this Title. In addition, no land disturbing activities shall occur until the Construction Stormwater Management Permit is issued and the necessary construction BMPs have been installed at the project site.

Exemptions to the requirements of this Title include:

1. Installation of a fence, sign, telephone, and electric poles and other kinds of posts or poles; or

2. Emergency work to protect life, limb, or property.  
(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

## CHAPTER 14.1-02 - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

14.1-02-01. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. The City of Bismarck is a designated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) under the Environmental Protection Agency's Stormwater Phase II Final Rule published on December 8, 1999 and is regulated under the North Dakota Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPDES) by the North Dakota Department of Health. In order to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the MS4 General Permit, all development activities within the City's zoning jurisdiction must comply with the provisions contained herein related to construction stormwater management permits and post-construction stormwater management permits.

(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-02-02. Conformance with Local, State and Federal Regulations. In addition to the requirements contained herein, it is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain all required approvals from local, state and federal agencies for the proposed project. Agencies that may require consultation or permits include the Burleigh County Highway Department, the Burleigh County Water Resource District, the North Dakota Department of Transportation, the North Dakota State Water Commission, the North Dakota Department of Health, the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-02-03. Stormwater Design Standards Manual. The Stormwater Design Standards Manual, as adopted and amended by the City of Bismarck, contains the principal standards and design criteria for complying with the City's stormwater management program. The Manual details criteria for hydrologic evaluations, the design of stormwater management system facility components, water quality protection standards, and requirements for easements and rights-of-way. The Manual also contains a discussion of operation and maintenance requirements, standard forms to be used, and standard construction details adopted by the City.

(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-02-04. Waiver. The City Engineer may waive any requirement of this Title upon making a finding that compliance with the requirement will involve an unnecessary non-economic hardship, and the waiver of such requirement will not adversely affect the standards and requirements contained herein. The City Engineer may require as a condition of the waiver, such dedication or construction, or agreement to dedicate or construct, as may be necessary to adequately meet the said standards and requirements. The City Engineer may not waive any requirement within the City's extraterritorial area without written concurrence of the County Engineer.

(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-02-05. Illicit Discharges Prohibited. Illicit discharges, including dumping, into the public storm sewer system within the City of Bismarck or its extraterritorial area is prohibited.  
(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

#### CHAPTER 14.1-03 – CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PERMITS

14.1-03-01. Construction Stormwater Management Permits (CSMP) Required. A construction stormwater permit is required in order to facilitate implementation of appropriate best management practices (BMPs) and protect water quality during development construction activities in areas within the corporate limits and areas within the extraterritorial area that contribute to the City's MS4. Submittal and review requirements for a CSMP are dependent upon the size and scope of the project.

1. Small Site Construction Stormwater Management Permit. A small site construction stormwater management permit is required for construction activities applied for after January 1, 2018 that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a. Land disturbance greater than or equal to 3,000 square feet and less than 10,000 square feet, occurring on land with slopes of less than 12 percent; or
- b. Construction of a one- or two-family residential home if that construction activity is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that would disturb one acre or more.

2. Large Site Construction Stormwater Management Permit. A large site construction stormwater management permit is required for construction activities applied for after January 1, 2018, except for the construction of a one- or two-family residential home, that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a. Land disturbance greater than or equal to 10,000 square feet;
- b. Construction activity disturbing any amount of land if that construction activity is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that would disturb one acre or more;
- c. Land disturbance greater than or equal to 3,000 square feet and disturbance of any size occurring on land with slopes of 12 percent or more;
- d. Land disturbance activities that involves the excavation or filling in excess of 400 cubic yards of material regardless of surface area;
- e. Land disturbing activity that disturbs more than 200 feet of road ditch, grassed waterway or other land area where surface drainage flows in a defined open channel. This includes the replacement, repair or removal of any underground pipe, utility or other facility within the cross-section of the channel, regardless of the surface area;

f. Land disturbing activity as a result of any new public or private road(s) or access drive(s) longer than 150 feet, regardless of the surface area;

g. When discharges from a construction site violate illicit discharge requirements of this Title, regardless of surface area; or

h. Any other activity, including the construction of a one- or two-family residential home, that the City Engineer determines to have a high risk of soil erosion or water pollution, or that may significantly impact an open waterway, stream or wetland area.

3. City Contracted Projects. Projects contracted by the City of Bismarck shall meet the submittal and approval requirements of a Large Site Construction Stormwater Management Permit.

4. North Dakota Department of Health Construction General Permit. All projects that result in land disturbance activity that meets the minimum threshold outlined in the North Dakota Department of Health Construction General Permit are required to obtain a Construction Stormwater Management Permit from the City and coverage from the North Dakota Department of Health under the Construction General Permit.

5. Exclusions. The following activities are excluded from obtaining a mandatory Construction Stormwater Management Permit:

a. Plowing or tilling for agricultural purposes;

b. Emergency activity that is immediately necessary for the protection of life, property or natural resources;

c. Construction of a one or two-family dwelling within the City's extraterritorial area, with the understanding that erosion control measures are implemented on-site during construction by the builder;

d. Construction of any project in the City's extraterritorial area, other than a one or two-family dwelling, that does not contribute to the City's MS4, with the understanding that erosion control measures are implemented on-site during construction by the builder; or

e. Other construction activities that are determined by the City Engineer to not have potential for adverse impact on stormwater quality.

*(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

#### 14.1-03-02. Small Site Construction Stormwater Management Permits.

1. Application Required. An application for a small site construction stormwater management permit shall be submitted prior to or concurrently with an application for a building permit for one- or two-family dwellings or other projects that meet the thresholds outlined in Section 14.1-03-01. Site development activities shall not commence until said application has been approved and best management practices (BMPs) are in place.

2. Submittal Requirements. The submittal requirements for a small site construction stormwater management permit are outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual.

3. Review and Approval Procedures. The review and approval procedures are outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual. A building permit will not be issued and no site development activities may commence until the small site construction stormwater management permit has been approved and BMPs are properly installed.

4. Transfer of Permit. Small site construction stormwater management permits cannot be transferred to a subsequent owner.

5. Termination of Permit. During construction, stormwater management best management practices (BMPs) must be installed and remain in place until final stabilization, as outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual, has been achieved on the site. When final stabilization has been achieved, the applicant shall submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) request to the City Engineer. Upon review and approval by the City Engineer, the applicant will be notified that the authorization has been terminated.

*(Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

#### 14.1-03-03. Large Site Construction Stormwater Management Permits.

1. Application Required. An application for a large site construction stormwater management permit shall be submitted concurrently with the submittal of construction drawings or, if review of construction drawings is not required, a minimum of 30 days prior to commencement of construction for projects that meet the thresholds outlined in Section 14.1-03-01. Site development activities shall not commence until the large site construction stormwater management has been approved and best management practices (BMPs) are in place.

2. Submittal Requirements. The submittal requirements for a large site construction storm water permit are outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual. The submittal package shall be prepared and sealed by a registered professional engineer.

3. Review and Approval Procedures. The review and approval procedures are outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual. A building permit will not be issued and no site development activities may commence until the large site construction stormwater management permit has been approved.

4. Transfer of Permit. Upon a change of ownership of a property subject to a large site construction stormwater management permit, the original permittee must submit a request for permit transfer/modification to the City Engineer. A permit transfer/modification request is not required for the legal transfer, sale or closing on a property between permittees covered by a separate construction stormwater management permit (such as the transfer of a lot from the developer to a builder).

5. Termination of Permit. During construction, stormwater management best management practices (BMPs) must be installed and remain in place until final stabilization, as outlined in the Storm Water Design Standards Manual, has been achieved on the site. When final stabilization has been achieved, the applicant shall submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) request to the City Engineer.

*(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

#### CHAPTER 14.1-04 POST-CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PERMITS.

14.1-04-01. Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permits. A post construction stormwater management permit addresses the long-term or permanent function of drainage facilities for development projects. A post-construction stormwater management permit is required for development projects applied for after January 1, 2018 in areas within either the corporate limits or the extraterritorial area that meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Development projects resulting in a cumulative addition of 20,000 square feet or more of impervious surface;

2. Any development project that results in construction activity disturbing any amount of land if that construction activity is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that would disturb one acre or more;

3. Land disturbing activity that involves excavating and/or filling in excess of 400 cubic yards of material, regardless of surface area;

4. Any development activity that requires approval of a subdivision under Title 14 of the City Code of Ordinances or any development project that requires approval of a site plan; or

5. Any other activity that the City Engineer determines to have a high risk for water quality or quantity impacts to the public storm sewer system or adjoining property.

*(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-04-02. Review and Approval Procedures. Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit submittal, review and approval procedures are outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual.

*(Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08 22 17)*

14.1-04-03. Mandatory Stormwater Management Scoping Sheet. Prior to the submittal of an application for a post-construction stormwater management permit, the applicant shall complete a pre-submittal scoping sheet and submit it to the City Engineer. The City Engineer will review the basic project information submitted by the applicant and will add information to the scoping sheet regarding the required point of analysis and level of effort required for the stormwater management application. For projects within the extraterritorial area, the City Engineer shall obtain concurrence from the County Engineer prior to approving the scoping sheet. A copy of the approved scoping sheet is a required component of the post-construction stormwater management permit application.

*(Ord. 4817, 02-25-97; Ord. 5853, 11-22-11; Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-04-04. Conditional Approval. Conditional approval of a post-construction stormwater management permit is required prior to submittal of an application for approval of the associated final plat, minor subdivision final plat or site plan. In order to provide adequate time for review and approval, applications for conditional approval of a post-construction stormwater management permit should be submitted no less than thirty (30) days prior to the submittal of an application for approval of a final plat, a minor subdivision final plat or a site plan. For projects that do not require approval of a site plan or a final plat, the application for conditional approval shall be submitted no less than sixty (60) days prior to construction.

1. Submittal Requirements. The submittal requirements for conditional approval of a post-construction stormwater management permit are outlined in the City's Stormwater Design Standards Manual. The submittal package shall be prepared and sealed by a registered professional engineer.

2. Review and Conditional Approval Procedures. The review and conditional approval procedures for a post-construction stormwater management permit are outlined in the Stormwater Design Standards Manual. For projects within the City's extraterritorial area, the City Engineer will provide copies of the stormwater management plan to the County Engineer for review and comment. For projects within the extraterritorial area, the City Engineer shall obtain written concurrence from the County Engineer prior to granting conditional approval of the post-construction stormwater management permit. Upon conditional approval of the post-construction stormwater management permit, the City Engineer will provide the applicant with the original signed copy of the conditional permit by mail or in person and a copy via e-mail. A copy of the conditional permit shall be submitted with the application for approval of a final plat, minor subdivision final plat or site plan.

3. Expiration of Conditional Approval. If a project receiving conditional approval is not initiated within one (1) year of the date of conditional approval, the conditional approval shall expire.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-04-05. Material Submitted After Conditional Approval. After obtaining conditional approval of a post-construction stormwater management permit, construction plans and specification, geotechnical reports and operation and maintenance plans may be submitted.

1. Construction Plans and Specifications.

a. Construction Plans and Specifications for Public Facilities within the Corporate Limits. The construction plans and specifications prepared for the construction of public stormwater management facilities within the corporate limits or on land that will be annexed prior to development must:

1. Include a basis of design report demonstrating consistency with the approved storm water management plan and conditionally approved post-construction stormwater management permit.

2. Be in conformance with the requirements of the City of Bismarck Construction Specifications for Municipal Public Works Improvements, current special provisions, and any other necessary permits issued by other governmental agencies.

3. Be sealed and signed by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of North Dakota.

4. Be submitted to the City Engineer for approval.

5. Be submitted concurrently with the application for approval of a large site construction management permit.

No construction may commence until the construction plans and specifications have been approved by the City Engineer and all other applicable permits and approvals are received from outside agencies.

b. Construction Plans and Specifications for Private Facilities within the Corporate Limits. The construction plans and specifications prepared for the construction of private stormwater management facilities within the corporate limits or on land that will be annexed prior to development must:

1. Include a basis of design report demonstrating consistency with the approved storm water management plan and conditionally approved post-construction stormwater management permit.

2. Be sealed and signed by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of North Dakota.

3. Be submitted to the City Engineer for approval.

4. Be submitted concurrently with the application for approval of a large site construction management permit.

No construction may commence until all applicable permits and approvals are received from the City and outside agencies.

c. Construction Plans and Specifications for Public Facilities within the Extraterritorial Area. The construction plans and specifications prepared for the construction of public stormwater management facilities within the extraterritorial areas must:

1. Include a basis of design report demonstrating consistency with the approved storm water management plan and conditionally approved post-construction stormwater management permit.

2. Be in conformance with the requirements of the Burleigh County Highway Department and any other necessary permits issued by other governmental agencies.
3. Be sealed and signed by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of North Dakota.
4. Be submitted to the County Engineer for approval.
5. Be submitted concurrently with the application for approval of a large site construction management permit.

No construction may commence until the construction plans and specifications have been approved by the County Engineer and all other applicable permits and approvals are received from outside agencies.

2. Operations and Maintenance Manual. An operations and maintenance manual shall be submitted in conjunction with construction plans and specifications for public projects within the corporate limits and for private projects within both the corporate limits and the extraterritorial area. An operations and maintenance manual shall be submitted for each post-construction stormwater management control, in accordance with the provisions of the Stormwater Design Standards Manual.

3. Access and Drainage Easements. The City Engineer may require that an easement be recorded to allow for continued access to constructed stormwater management facilities within or adjacent to the corporate limits, to provided cross parcel drainage easements and for other elements that are deemed necessary. All required access and drainage easements shall be prepared by a professional land survey, reviewed by the City Engineer and recorded at the Burleigh County Recorder's Office, with a copy of the recorded document provided to the City Engineer.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

#### 14.1-04-06. Completion and Final Approval.

1. Completion and Certification. Upon completion of the project, a Certification Report shall be submitted to the City Engineer. The Certification Report shall certify that installed BMPs are consistent with the conditionally approved Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan (PCSMP), or report that BMPs are not consistent with the conditionally approved PCSMP. The Certification Report requirements are outlined in the Stormwater Design Standards Manual.

2. Record Drawings Required. For public projects, record drawings of the project shall also be submitted to the City Engineer.

3. Final Inspection. Upon submittal of the Certification Report and required record drawings, the City Engineer will perform a final inspection of the site. Upon satisfactory completion of the final inspection, final approval of the Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan will be issued.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

## CHAPTER 14.1-05 ENFORCEMENT.

14.1-05-01. Remedies and Enforcement Powers. The City shall have the following remedies and enforcement powers:

1. Withhold Permits. The City may deny or withhold all permits, certificates or other forms of authorization as to any applicant for a construction stormwater management permit. Instead of withholding or denying an authorization, the City may grant such authorization subject to the condition that the violation be corrected. This enforcement provision applies regardless of whether the current owner or applicant is responsible for the violation in question. The City may deny or withhold all permits, certificates or other forms of authorization on any land or structure or improvements owned by a person who owns, develops or otherwise causes an uncorrected violation of a provision of this Title or of a condition or qualification of a permit, certificate, approved stormwater management plan or other authorization previously granted by a decision-making body. This provision applies regardless of whether the property for which the construction stormwater management permit or other approval is sought is the property in violation.

2. Revocation of Construction Stormwater Management Permits. A construction stormwater management permit may be revoked when the City Engineer determines that:

a. There is departure from the plans, specifications, or conditions as required under terms of a construction stormwater management permit or post-construction stormwater management permit;

b. The plans, specifications, or conditions were obtained by false representation or the construction stormwater management permit was issued by mistake; or

c. Any of the provisions of this Title are being violated as to the project under the construction stormwater management permit.

3. Revocation of a Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit or Other Approval. When a violation of this Title involves a failure to comply with an approved post-construction stormwater management permit or conditions to which the approval of such permit was made subject, the City Engineer may, upon giving proper notice, revoke the permit approval or other approval, allow work to continue on condition of strict compliance with all applicable rules and regulations, or impose such other conditions as the City Engineer deems appropriate and necessary.

4. Suspension of Post-Construction Stormwater Management Permit or Construction Stormwater Management Permit. The City Engineer shall have authority to suspend a post-construction stormwater management permit or a construction stormwater management permit upon finding that an actual or threatened discharge exists or when such conditions present an imminent or substantial danger to the health or welfare of persons downstream, environment, natural resources, stormwater quantity, water quality, and/or environmentally

sensitive lands. Upon issuance of suspension notice and order, all work in the area covered by the permit, shall cease immediately. If any person fails to comply with the suspension order, the City shall commence whatever steps are necessary to obtain compliance. The City Engineer may lift the suspension order upon proof of compliance with all post-construction stormwater management permit or a construction stormwater management permit conditions.

Whenever the City Engineer orders the suspension of a post-construction stormwater management permit or a construction stormwater management permit and declares the situation to be an emergency, the City Engineer shall serve a notice and order on the permittee personally, or by registered or certified mail. The permittee has the right to an informal hearing before the City Engineer by making an appointment with the City Engineer. The informal hearing must be held within five (5) days of service of the notice and order. Following the hearing, the City Engineer may affirm, modify or rescind the stop work order.

5. Stop Work Order. The City Engineer shall have authority to issue a stop work order, ordering suspension of all work and activity at the site, upon finding that an actual or threatened discharge exists or when such conditions present an imminent or substantial danger to the health or welfare of persons downstream, the environment, natural resources, stormwater quantity, water quality, and/or environmentally sensitive lands. Upon issuance of a stop work order, all work in the area covered by the construction stormwater management permit, if a permit has been issued, shall cease immediately. If any person notified of such stop work order fails to comply, the City shall commence whatever steps are necessary to obtain compliance. The City Engineer may lift the stop work order upon proof of compliance with all post-construction stormwater management permit or a construction stormwater management permit requirements and conditions.

Whenever the City Engineer issues a stop work order and declares the situation to be an emergency, the City Engineer shall serve a notice and order on the person performing the work personally, or by registered or certified mail. The person performing the work, owner or permittee has the right to an informal hearing before the City Engineer by making an appointment with the City Engineer. The informal hearing must be held within five (5) days of service of the notice and order. Following the hearing, the City Engineer may affirm, modify or rescind the stop work order.

6. Injunctive Relief. The City may seek an injunction or other equitable relief in court to stop any violation of this Title or of a construction stormwater management permit, a post-construction stormwater management permit, certificate or other form of authorization granted hereunder.

7. Abatement. The City may seek a court order in the nature of mandamus, abatement, injunction or other action or proceeding to abate or remove a violation or to otherwise restore the premises in question to the condition in which they existed prior to the violation.

8. Restitution. The City may seek an order requiring restitution as a condition to be met by a person before the person's construction stormwater management permit is restored, before the person is allowed to lawfully discharge

into the City's MS4, or before other action may be taken by the person as determined by an appropriate order.

9. **Costs of Damage.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this Title or who initiates an activity that causes a deposit, obstruction, or damage or other impairment to the City's MS4 is liable to the City for any expense, loss, or damage caused by the violation or the discharge. The City may bill the person violating this Title the costs of any cleaning, repair or replacement work caused by the violation of stormwater discharge, and if unpaid within ninety (90) days may result in assessment of such costs against the violator's property.

10. **City Attorney's Fees and Costs.** In addition to the fees and penalties provided herein, the City may recover reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, court reporter's fees, and other expenses of litigation by appropriate action against the person found to have violated this Title or the orders, rules, regulations and permits issued hereunder.

11. **Other Remedies.** The City shall have such other remedies as are and as may be from time to time provided by North Dakota law and municipal codes for the violation of this Chapter or related provisions.

12. **Remedies Cumulative.** The remedies and enforcement powers established in this Chapter are cumulative.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-05-02. Administrative Search Warrant. Whenever the City Engineer is denied access to a property to inspect for compliance with this Title, he/she may secure an administrative search warrant from the municipal judge in accordance with Chapter 29-29.1, N.D.C.C.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-05-03. Notice and Order. Except for emergency orders under Section 14.1-05-01(4) and (5), whenever the City Engineer finds that any person has violated or is violating this Title, a construction stormwater management permit and/or its conditions, an approved post-construction stormwater management permit, or any prohibition, limitation or requirement contained herein, the City Engineer shall serve upon such person a written notice and order stating the nature of the violation. Within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice, unless a different time frame is set by the City Engineer due to the nature of the violation, the correction thereof must be completed to the satisfaction of the City Engineer.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-05-04. Appeal. All decisions of the City Engineer dealing with violations of a construction stormwater management permit or this Title or the issuance or non-issuance of the permits required by this Title are subject to appeal to the Board of City Commissioners upon written notice of appeal filed within fifteen (15) days of issuance of the decision. If no appeal is filed within the time period specified, the decision of the City Engineer is final. An appeal stays the City Engineer's decision unless the City Engineer declares the order to be an emergency and certifies to the Board that a stay would cause imminent danger to life and property in which case the decision may be stayed only by a restraining order from the Board of City Commissioners or a court of record.

*(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)*

14.1-05-05. Hearing. Upon receiving the notice of appeal the Board of City Commissioners shall set a date for a hearing within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice of appeal. Notice of the time and place for the hearing must be served upon the appellee by certified mail or in person not less than five (5) days prior to the hearing.  
(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

#### CHAPTER 14.1-06 PENALTIES.

14.1-06-01. Penalty. Any person who fails to comply with a final or un-stayed decision of City Engineer or a decision of the Board of City Commissioners after a hearing or who has failed to comply with any provision of this Title and the orders, rules, regulations and permits issued hereunder, is guilty of an ordinance violation and subject to the provisions of Chapter 1-02 of the City Code (Penalties). Each day the violation continues constitutes a separate offense.  
(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-06-02. Abatement. The imposition of a penalty provided by the provisions of this Title shall not preclude the City from instituting proceedings to restrain, correct or abate a continuing violation of this Title. If any person violates any of the provisions of this Title or initiates an activity which causes a deposit, obstruction, or damage or other impairment to the City's MS4 and within ten days of a final order issued under this Chapter, fails to obey that order, the City Engineer is hereby authorized to restrain, correct or abate the violation and have the costs incurred assessed against the property.  
(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)

14.1-06-03. Falsifying Information. Any person who knowingly makes any false statements, representations, or certification in any applicable record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained pursuant to this Title, or construction stormwater management permit, or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring devices or method required under this Chapter, shall be guilty of an offense.  
(Ord. 6270, 08-22-17)