

CITY OF GIG HARBOR

ORDINANCE NO. 573

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, REPEALING CERTAIN CHAPTERS OF TITLE 17 OF THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE HAVING TO DO WITH ZONING DISTRICT, ENACTING NEW CHAPTERS TO TITLE 17 OF THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the current city zoning code was initially adopted in 1968 and has been subject to numerous revisions since that date, resulting in a fragmented ordinance, and;

WHEREAS, the present trend of development substantially differs from that of the late 1960's, upon which the current zoning code was based, and;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, following several public meetings and public hearings, has developed a revised zoning code which is a substantial update of the current code, and;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has recommended adoption of the revised and updated Title 17, and;

WHEREAS, the revised zoning code furthers the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan and promotes the public's health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington, ORDAINS as follows:

Section 1. The following chapters of Title 17 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code are hereby repealed: 17.04, 17.12, 17.16, 17.20, 17.24, 17.28, 17.36, 17.40, 17.64, 17.68, 17.72, and 17.84.

Section 2. The following chapters are hereby enacted:

CHAPTER 17.01

GENERAL PROVISIONS

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17.01.020 Purpose

17.01.030 Conformity With Regulations Required

17.01.040 Public Uses

17.01.050 Interpretation and Application of Provisions

17.01.060 Conflict with Other Regulations

17.01.070 Public Hearings

17.01.010 Title. This Title shall be known and cited as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington, as passed and adopted by Ordinance #573, approved on February 26, 1990.

17.01.020 Purpose.

A. The purpose of this Title is to regulate the use of land and improvements by districts in accordance with the City of Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan.

These zoning regulations are designed to provide for orderly development, to lessen street congestion, to promote fire safety and public order, to protect the public health and general welfare, to prevent overcrowding, and to stimulate the systematic development of transportation, water, sewer, schools, parks, storm drainage, and other public facilities.

B. It is further intended that any financial responsibility of the developer for work to be done on city streets bounding, in close proximity to and/or giving access to the development, which arises out of the provisions of this chapter, be made the subject of a contractual agreement between the developer and the city, and that such contractual agreement shall contain provisions to effectuate other sections of this chapter.

17.01.030 Conformity With Regulations Required. No building or land within the City of Gig Harbor shall hereafter be occupied or used and no building or part thereof shall be erected, moved, or altered unless in conformity with applicable provisions specified in this Title.

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17.01.040 Public Uses.

- A. Approved Required to Insure Conformity. To insure that public uses and structures conform to the general community pattern and to the regulations governing private uses and development, agencies of the Federal Government, the State of Washington and its political subdivisions, including the City of Gig Harbor, shall submit plans and receive approvals in conformity with the regulations outlined herein when any activity covered by this Title is contemplated in the City of Gig Harbor.
- B. Private Use of Public Property.
  - 1. When private use is made of any public land or public structures, such private use shall fully conform to the regulations set forth in this Title.
  - 2. Commercial uses of public land shall require written approval from the Planning Director and the Public Works Director. Said written approval to be terminated with thirty (30) days written notice from the City Administrator to the private user.
  - 3. Commercial user shall obtain insurance, with limits, and coverages as required by the City Administration. The City of Gig Harbor shall be named as additional insured in respect to all coverages.
  - 4. No commercial use of public property to occur prior to conditions B1, B2 and B3 being met.

17.01.050 Interpretation and Application of Provisions.  
The provisions of this Title shall be the minimum regulations and shall apply uniformly within each District and each class or kind of building, structure, land, or water area, except as hereinafter specifically provided.

17.01.060 Conflict With Other Regulations. Whenever the regulations of this Title are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rule or regulation or ordinance of the City of Gig Harbor, then the most restrictive of these provisions, or the

provision imposing the highest standards as the case may be, shall apply.

17.01.070 Public Hearings.

A. When required. A public hearing is required whenever action is to be taken on the following:

A project which requires a conditional use permit;  
A project for which a site plan is required;  
A project or activity for which a variance permit is required;  
Appeals as allowed in Chapter 17.10; and  
Amendments to this Title or the Comprehensive Plan.

B. Public Hearing By Whom. Public hearings shall be held by the Hearing Examiner on all the subjects set forth in Section 17.01.080A, above, except in the case of appeals. Public hearings on appeals shall be by the City Council only.

C. Procedure.

1. Upon receipt of an application or petition for an action on any of the subjects, excepting appeals, requiring a public hearing, the Planning Director shall set a date for a public hearing before the Hearing Examiner.
2. The Hearing Examiner shall forward in writing the results of its public hearing to the City Council. Upon receipt of the Hearing Examiner's report, the City Council, at a regular meeting, shall set a time and place for a public hearing for its consideration of the subject.
3. Upon receipt of an appeal, the Planning Director shall set a date for a public hearing before the City Council.
4. The Planning Director shall give notice at least ten days in advance of the public hearings by publication in a local newspaper of general circulation.
5. In addition to the above notices, if an action which is subject to a public hearing affects the use of a particular real property, or properties, individual written notice, by the U.S. Postal Service, shall be given to all owners of properties within 300 feet of the exterior boundaries of particular real property, or properties, whose use will be affected.

Those owners to whom individual written notice will be given shall be those who are shown on the tax rolls.

6. In addition to the above notices, if an action which is subject to a public hearing affects the use of a particular real property, or properties, written notices shall be posted as follows:
  - a. At a prominent location and easily viewed by the public, on the subject property and in a manner so as to be weather resistant until the date of the public hearing.
  - b. In the lobby of the City Hall in a prominent location and easily viewed by the public.
7. All notices shall state as follows:
  - a. Reference to the authority under which such matters are being considered;
  - b. The general nature of the matters to be considered and issues involved, and;
  - c. The time and place of said hearing, and the manner in which interested persons may present their views thereon.
8. The Planning Director shall also inform the following persons of the time, place and substance of such hearing:
  - a. Members of the City Council or Planning Commission, as the case may be;
  - b. The applicant or his agent; and
  - c. Property owner (s) whose property is under consideration.

17.01.090 Curbs and Sidewalks. Concrete sidewalks having a width of six (6) feet (measured from the face of the curb) shall be provided along the street side(s) of any development, along with concrete curbs and gutters and street paving to connect the new walk to the adjacent street.

17.01.100 Underground Utilities. All utilities shall be run underground to each structure from the nearest utility service.

## CHAPTER 17.04

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17.04.010 General Interpretation. For the purposes of this ordinance, certain usages and words herein shall be interpreted as follows:

- A. Words used in the present tense include the future tense;
- B. The singular number includes the plural;
- C. The word person includes a legal entity as well as an individual;
- D. The word lot includes the words plot, parcel, and tract;
- E. The word shall signifies a requirement;
- F. The words used and occupy as applied to any building or land include the words intended, arranged, or designed to be used or occupied;
- G. The word may signifies permission and desire..

17.04.020 Administrative Official. An Administrative Official is a municipal official appointed by the Mayor to administer and enforce this Title and all other laws, statutes, rules and regulations applicable within the City of Gig Harbor.

17.04.030 Alley. An alley is a public thoroughfare which allows motor vehicular use, and affords a second means of access to abutting property.

17.04.040 Alteration. An alteration is any change, addition, or modification in the construction, location, occupancy, or use classification of any building or land.

17.04.050 Animal Clinic. An animal clinic is a stationary facility that is under the direction of a veterinarian licensed by the State of Washington and is established to perform examination, diagnostic, prophylactic, and medical services on small animals not requiring confinement or supervised care and which are normally kept as pets. Animal clinics shall not tend to poisonous reptiles or animals normally kept as farm animals.

17.04.055 Antennae. A metallic device used for the transmission or reception of electromagnetic waves. This definition does not include satellite dish

antennae.

17.04.060 Apartment. An apartment is any portion of a building that is designed, built, rented, leased, let, or hired out to be occupied as an independent housekeeping unit with its own cooking facilities and that is contained within a multiple-family dwelling (see Section 17.04.290).

17.04.070 Area, Building. The building area is the total ground coverage of a building or structure and is measured from the outside of the building's or structure's external walls.

17.04.080 Area, Site. The area of a site is all the area within the boundaries of a site excluding public right-of-ways dedicated to the State of Washington, County of Pierce, or City of Gig Harbor, for use as thoroughfares, and private right-of-ways established for motor vehicular thoroughfares; also excluding any area excluding easements granted for purposes other than public access or thoroughfare.

17.04.100 Basement. A basement is a story having at least fifty percent of its volume below grade.

17.04.103 Bed and Breakfast. A bed and breakfast is a single family residence which provides overnight lodging for guests and which is limited to five (5) guest rooms.

17.04.110 Boarding House. A boarding house is a dwelling in which not more than six (6) roomers or boarders are housed and where lodging with or without meals is provided for compensation on other than a day-to-day basis.

17.04.120 Boat House. A boat house is a building that provides shelter for a boat or boats.

17.04.130 Building. A building is any structure built for the support or enclosure of persons, animals, chattels, or property of any kind.

17.04.140 Building, Accessory. An accessory building is a detached building the use of which is appropriate, subordinate, and customarily incidental to the principal building or the principal use of the land and is located on the same lot as the principal building or principal use of the land. A building shall not be accessory and

shall be considered to be part of the principal building when joined to the principal building by a common wall at least four feet long or when connected to the principal building by a breezeway that is eight feet or less in length.

17.04.150 Building, Existing. An existing building is a building erected before the effective date of this Title or one for which application for a building permit was made before the effective date of this Title.

17.04.160 Building Height. The building height is the vertical distance measured from the highest elevation of the natural grade of the property where the footprint of the building will be located to the highest point of the roof, excluding chimneys and antennae.

17.04.170 Building Line. The building line is the surface of that face or corner of the part of the building nearest the property line.

17.04.180 Building, Principal. The principal building is the building that contains the principal use of a lot.

17.04.190 Building, Setback. Building setback is the distance between the building line and the nearest boundary to the site or lot, measured at right angles to the boundary.

17.04.200 Business. Business is an activity involving the wholesale or retail sale or the rental of any article or substance or commodity, including but not limited to building materials and vehicles, or involving the provision of commercial services.

17.04.210 Clinic. A clinic is a building designed and used for the medical and surgical diagnosis and treatment of human patients under the care of doctors and nurses or other licensed health professionals.

17.04.220 Club. A club is an incorporated or unincorporated association of persons organized for social, educational, or charitable purposes.

17.04.230 Coverage. Coverage is that percentage of the area of a lot or site that is built on or occupied by buildings parking areas and other impervious surfaces.

17.04.250 Comprehensive Plan. A comprehensive plan is an officially adopted document of texts, charts, graphics, maps or any combination thereof that is designed to portray a general long-range proposal for the arrangement of land uses and the development of an economic base of human resources and that is intended primarily to guide government policy toward achieving the orderly and coordinated development of the entire community.

17.04.260 Conditional Use. A conditional use is a use listed among those classified in any given zone but permitted only after a public hearing by the City Council and the granting of a conditional use permit imposing such performance standards as will make the use compatible with other permitted uses in the same district.

17.04.264 Day Care. The supervised non-medical care of people for periods of less than 24 hours. The care of up to six children under the age of 12 years and supervised by the occupants of the residence is regarded as an accessory use, requiring no permits under this title.

17.04.270 Detached Buildings. A detached building is a building surrounded on all sides by open space and not connected to another building or structure except by utilities.

17.04.280 Dock. A dock is a place or structure that connects with the shore and provides access to a boat vessel from the land.

17.04.285 Drive-In Restaurant. A drive-in restaurant is any eating establishment that contains the following characteristics:

- A. An outside service window; and
- B. The provision of services to patrons who are in automobiles on the premises of the eating establishment.

17.04.290 Dwelling, Multiple-Family. A multiple-family dwelling is a residential building that is designed for or occupied by three or more families living independently of each other in separate dwelling units.

17.04.300 Dwelling, Single-Family. A single-family dwelling is a detached building that is constructed on a

permanent foundation, is designed for long-term human habitation exclusively by one family, and constitutes one dwelling unit. For the intent and purpose of this ordinance, a factory built dwelling is classified as single-family dwelling. A mobile/manufactured dwelling is not a single-family dwelling.

17.04.305 Dwelling, Mobile/Manufactured. A residential unit on one or more chassis for towing to the point of use and designed to be used as a dwelling unit on a year-round basis, and if to be installed, one which bears an insignia by a state or federal regulatory agency indicating that the mobile/manufactured home complies with all applicable construction standards of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of a manufactured home.

17.04.310 Dwelling, Two Family. A two-family dwelling is a detached building that is designed for and occupied by two families living independently of each other in separate units.

17.04.320 Dwelling Unit. A dwelling unit is one or more rooms with at least one kitchen, that is designed as a unit for occupancy by not more than one family for sleeping and living purposes.

17.04.325 Dwelling, Factory-Built. A structure constructed in a factory of factory assembled parts and transported to the building site in whole or in units which meets the requirements of the Uniform Building Code. The completed structure is not a mobile/manufactured home. It is a detached building that is designed for long-term human habitation exclusively by one family, has complete living facilities, and constitutes one dwelling unit.

17.04.330 Family. A family is any number of individuals related by blood or marriage or an unrelated group of not more than five persons living together in a dwelling unit.

17.04.240 Fence. A fence is a barrier that is constructed of one or more of the following materials or a combination thereof: wood, metal, plastics, and masonry materials.

17.04.350 Fence Height. Fence height is the vertical distance from grade directly under the fence to the highest point of the fence above the point of

measurement.

17.04.360 Floor Area. The floor area is the sum of the horizontal area of the several floors of a building or buildings measured from the exterior faces of exterior walls and from center lines of division walls. The floor area includes basement space, the elevator shafts and stairwells at each floor, mechanical equipment rooms, finished attics with a headroom of seven and one-half feet or more, penthouse floors, interior balconies and mezzanines, and enclosed porches. The floor area shall not include accessory water tank and cooling towers, mechanical equipment, unfinished attics regardless of headroom, nor areas constructed for and designated as a garage area.

17.04.370 Garage. A garage is a building or a portion thereof in which motor vehicles are stored, repaired, or maintained.

17.04.380 Garage, Motor Vehicle Repair. A motor vehicle repair garage is a garage that is available to the public, is operated for gain, and is used for the storage, repair, rental, greasing, washing, servicing, adjusting, or equipping of motor vehicles.

17.04.390 Garage, Private. A private garage is an accessory building or any portion of a principal building that is used in connection with residential purposes as a garage.

17.04.400 Gasoline Service Stations. A gasoline service station is any area of land, including the structures thereon, that is used for the sale of gasoline or other motor fuels, oil, lubricants, and auto accessories, and that may or may not include washing, lubricating and other minor servicing but painting, body work, or major engine overhaul or activities are not allowed.

17.04.405 Grade. The grade is the finished surface of the ground after grading for development.

17.04.415 Hotel/Motel. A hotel or motel is any building or group of building in which there are guest rooms designed or intended to be used for the purpose of offering lodging to the general public on a day-to-day basis with or without food.

17.04.420 Impervious Surface. An impervious surface is a surface practically incapable of being penetrated by water.

17.04.430 Junk Yard. A junk yard is any lot or portion of any lot used for the storage or keeping, of junk or waste material including worn-out or wrecked motor vehicles, scrap, partially or fully discarded tangible materials, combinations of materials or items such as machinery, metal, rags, rubber, paper, plastics, chemicals, and building materials that cannot, without further alteration or reconditioning, be used for their original purpose. A junk yard may include an auto-wrecking yard.

17.04.432 Legal Interest. The owner of record for the parcel and/or the duly authorized agent for the owner of record.

17.04.434 Light Assembly. The assembly of pre-fabricated materials or components into a finished product. Included in this definition is product wholesaling and material storage.

17.04.436 Light Manufacturing. Any premise devoted to the production of a finished or semi-finished product and which has minimal nuisance factors such as, but not limited to, noise, light, glare, odors, particulate emission and hazardous wastes.

17.04.440 Loading Berth. A loading berth is an off-street space or berth that is on the same lot with the building it serves, is used for the parking of a vehicle while loading or unloading material or items.

17.04.450 Lot. A lot is an area of land that is described by metes and bounds, or recorded plat and is to be used, developed, or built upon as a single unit of land.

17.04.455 Lot of Record. A lot, tract, or parcel which is defined by a deed recorded with the Pierce County Auditor and assigned a tax number prior to the effective date of the City of Gig Harbor subdivision ordinance or short plat ordinance or which has been defined by a survey recorded pursuant to Washington State survey or platting laws or parcels which have been recognized by resolution of the Gig Harbor City Council, prior to the effective date of the City of Gig Harbor subdivision

ordinance or short plat ordinance, in conformance with Chapter 58.17.

17.04.460 Lot Area. The area of a lot is all the area within the boundaries of a lot excluding right-of-ways, etc. (see 17.04.080).

17.04.470 Lot, Corner. A corner lot is a lot situated at the junction of and bordering on two intersecting public right-of-ways. On a corner lot, the front lot line is the shorter lot line adjacent to a public street; the longer lot line adjacent to a public street is a side lot line.

17.04.480 Lot, Depth of. The depth of a lot is the average distance from the front lot line to the rear lot line measured horizontally from the mid-point of the front lot line to the mid-point of the rear lot line.

17.04.490 Lot, Interior. An interior lot is any lot other than a corner lot.

17.04.500 Lot Line. A lot line is a portion of the boundary of a lot dividing it from other lots or parcels of land.

17.04.510 Lot Line, Front. The front lot line of an interior lot is the lot line adjacent to a public street or the total line first crossed when gaining access to the lot from a public street. See section 17.04.470 for the definition of the front lot line of a corner lot.

17.04.520 Lot Line, Rear. The rear lot line is the lot line opposite and most distant from the front lot line, and in the case of an irregularly, triangularly, or triangular-shaped lot, the rear lot line will be determined by the Planning Director.

17.04.530 Lot Line, Side. A side lot line is any lot line that is not the front lot line or the rear lot line.

17.04.540 Lot, Through. A thorough lot is an interior lot fronting on two streets. A thorough lot has two front lot lines and no rear lot line.

17.04.550 Lot Width. The lot width is the horizontal dimension of the front lot line or, in an irregularly shaped lot, the horizontal dimension across the lot at

the building setback line.

17.04.555 Mini-Warehousing. Fully enclosed commercial storage facilities, available to the general public, and used solely for the storage of personal property.

17.04.560 Mobile/Manufactured Home. A mobile/manufactured dwelling is a residential unit on one or more chassis for towing to the point of use and designed to be used as a dwelling unit on a year-round basis, and if to be installed, one which bears an insignia by a state or federal regulatory agency indicating that the mobile/manufactured home complies with all applicable construction standards of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of a manufactured home.

17.04.570 Mobile/Manufactured Home Park. A tract of land under single ownership or control upon which two or more mobile/manufactured homes occupied as dwellings may be located.

17.04.580 Mobile/Manufactured Home Subdivision. A mobile/manufactured home subdivision is two or more mobile/manufactured homes on separate lots developed under the supervision of the provisions of Title 16 and the conditional use procedures of this Title and where mobile/manufactured homes are permanently installed for residential use on individually owned lots.

17.04.590 Moorage. Moorage is a space occupied by a vessel or boat when secured in place by anchor (s) or lines to shore or dock or float.

17.04.600 Motel/Hotel. A motel or hotel is any building or group of buildings in which there are guest rooms designed or intended to be used for the purpose of offering lodging to the general public on a day-to-day basis with or without food.

17.04.605 Natural Grade. That local soil or rock on the property that has existed legally on such property unmoved by natural or unnatural forces for a period of not less than 60 months prior to submittal of an application for a building permit.

17.04.610 Natural Resource Extraction. Natural resource extraction in commercial or industrial operations involving the removal of natural resources,

excluding fish or wildlife

17.04.620 Nonconformity. A nonconformity is any lot, structure, use of land, use of structure, or characteristic of use that does not conform to the terms of this Title or its future amendments, but that was lawful before the effective date of the Title or its future amendments.

17.04.625 Nursery, Agricultural. An agricultural nursery is a place where plants are grown. Sales are restricted to those items grown on the premises.

17.04.630 Nursery, Day. A day nursery is a commercial enterprise where more than six children are supervised for a period less than 24 hours. This can include a pre-school and/or a kindergarten but not first year school grades and above.

17.04.635 Parking Off-Street. Parking on privately owned property.

17.04.640 Parking, Public. Public parking is a structure or an open area that is other than a street, alley, or other right-of-way, is adequate for parking an automobile, has room for opening doors on both sides of an automobile, and has adequate maneuvering room on a parking lot with access to a public street or alley.

17.04.660 Planned Unit Development. A planned unit development is a development in a district on a parcel of land under single ownership, in a manner that makes possible greater variety and diversification in the relationships between building, open space, and uses, in order to encourage the conservation and retention of historical and natural topographic features, while meeting the purposes and objective of the Comprehensive Plan.

17.04.670 Parsonage. A parsonage is the permanent place of residence of the pastor of a church whose total income is derived from the church.

17.04.680 Profession. A profession is an occupation or calling requiring the practice of a learned art or specialized knowledge based upon a degree issued by an institute of higher learning, e.g., a doctor of medicine, an engineer, or a lawyer.

17.04.690 Property Line. A property line is a portion of the boundary of a parcel of land dividing it from other parcels of land.

17.04.700 Residential. Residential means activity involving the human occupation of a building for living, cooking, sleeping, and recreation.

17.04.710 Satellite Dish Antennae. A ground mounted circular or parabolically-shaped device of solid or mesh construction, designed and erected for receiving telecommunication signals.

17.04.720 Setback. Building setback is the distance between the building line and the nearest boundary to the site or lot, measured at right angles to the boundary.

17.04.730 Sign. A sign is any device, flag, light, figure, picture, letter, work, message, symbol, plaque, poster, or building face that is visible from outside the lot on which it is located and that is designed to inform or attract the attention of the public through visual communication, excluding murals or architectural designs that do not advertise a business, product, or service. Signs are subject to all regulations specified in subsection 17.05.090 of this Chapter.

17.04.740 Sign Area. The sign area is the entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of a sign but excluding any structural elements not forming an integral part of the display.

17.04.750 Story. A story is that portion of a building between any floor and the next floor above except that the topmost story shall be that portion of a building between the topmost floor and the ceiling or roof above it. If the finished floor level directly above a basement, cellar, or unused floor space is more than six feet above the grade for more than fifty percent of the total perimeter of the building or is more than twelve feet above the grade at any one point, then such basement, cellar, or unused floor space shall be considered a story. A story as used here shall not exceed 15 feet in height.

17.04.760 Street. A street is a public thoroughfare that is permanently opened to general use and that affords the principal means of access to abutting

property. A street includes an avenue, a place, a drive, a boulevard, a highway, and any other similar public thoroughfare except an alley as defined herein.

**17.04.765 Street Classification.** Major arterials, which are defined as transportation arteries which connect the focal points of traffic interest within a city; arteries which provide communications with other communities and the outlying areas; or arteries which have relatively high traffic volume compared with other streets within the City;

Secondary arterials are defined as routes which serve lesser points of traffic interest within a city; provide communication with outlying districts in the same degree or serve to collect and distribute traffic from the major arterials to the local streets;

Access streets are defined as land service streets and are generally limited to providing access to abutting property. They are tributary to the major and secondary arterials and generally discourage through traffic.

**17.04.770 Structure.** A structure is a combination of materials that is constructed or erected, either on or under the ground, or that is attached to something having a permanent location on the ground, excluding residential fences, retaining walls, rockeries, and similar improvements of a minor character the construction of which is not regulated by the Building Code of the City of Gig Harbor.

**17.04.780 Structural Alteration.** A structural alteration is any change, other than an incidental repair, in the load or stress of a structural element of a building or structure, or the replacement of an element of a building or structure which is essential to its structural stability.

**17.04.790 Tank Farm.** A tank farm is a lot that has one or more tanks the aggregate volume of which is 10,000 gallons or more and that contain something other than water.

**17.04.800 Tract.** A tract is a parcel of land in single ownership that has not been subdivided into lots in conformance with the applicable laws of the State of Washington, County of Pierce, or City of Gig Harbor.

17.04.830 Travel Trailer. A motor vehicle or portable vehicular structure that is capable of being towed on the highways by a motor vehicle, is designed or intended for casual or short-term human occupancy for travel, recreational, or vacation uses, is identified by a model number, serial number, or vehicle registration number.

17.04.835 Truck Garden. A truck garden is a farm producing vegetables for sale.

17.04.840 Use. A use how land or a building is arranged, designed, occupied, or maintained.

17.04.850 Use, Principal. A principal use is the primary use of land or a building as distinguished from a secondary or minor use.

17.04.860 Use, Accessory. An accessory use is a use that is customarily incidental or subordinate to the principal use of the land, building or structure and is located on the same lot or parcel or tract of land as the principal use.

17.04.870 Variance. A variance is a relaxation of the requirements of this ordinance with respect to building setback, building height, the size of signs, coverage, or parking, (but not with respect to use) approved by the City Council upon the recommendation of the Hearing Examiner.

17.04.880 Yard. A yard is a required open space that is on the same lot with the principal use and is unoccupied or unobstructed by any portion of a structure, provided however, that paved terraces, fences, walls, poles, posts, ornaments, furniture, and other customary yard accessories may be permitted in any yard subject to height limitations and requirements limiting the obstruction of visibility at intersections.

17.04.890 Yard, Front. A front yard is a yard extending the full length of the front lot line and its depth is measured horizontally at right angles to the front lot line from mid-point of the front lot line to the mid-point of the front building line.

17.04.900 Yard, Rear. A rear yard is a yard extending the full length of the rear lot line and its depth is measured horizontally at right angles to the rear lot line from mid-point of the rear lot line to mid-point of

the rear building line.

17.04.910 Yard, Side. A side yard is a yard extending from the front yard to the rear yard and its depth is measured horizontally at right angles to the side lot line from the mid-point of the side lot line to the mid-point of the side building line except roof eves may extend up to eighteen (18) inches into the yard.

## CHAPTER 17.12

### ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

#### SECTIONS

17.12.010 Districts Established

17.12.020 Zoning Map

17.12.030 Map Changes

17.12.040 Map Replacement

17.12.050 District Boundary - Interpretation When Uncertainty Exists

17.12.060 District Boundary - Interpretation When Street or Alley is Vacated or Abandoned

17.12.010 Districts Established. The City of Gig Harbor is divided into the following use districts:

- A. Single Family Residential (R-1)
- B. Medium Density Residential (R-2)
- C. Multi-family Residential (R-3)
- D. Residential Business 1 (RB-1)
- E. Residential Business 2 (RB-2)
- F. Downtown Business (DB)
- G. General Business (B-1)
- H. General Business (B-2)
- I. General Commercial (C-1)
- J. Westside Commercial (WSC)
- K. Waterfront District (W-1)
- L. Waterfront Use District A (W-2)
- M. Waterfront Use District B (W-3)

N. General Service Use District (GS)

17.12.020 Zoning Map. The use Districts described herein are bound and defined on an official zoning map or maps that deal with the distinct areas of the City of Gig Harbor and are entitle Zoning Map of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington. Copies of the zoning map are on file in the office of the Planning Director. These maps are incorporated as a part of this Title as if the districts were described in detail and written descriptions in the Title.

17.12.030 Map Changes.

- A. No changes of any nature shall be made in the official zoning maps or matters shown thereof except in conformity with the procedures set forth in Chapter 17.100 of this Title.
- B. Regardless of the existence of purported copies of the official zoning maps that may from time to time be made or published, the official zoning maps shall be located in the office of the Planning Director and shall be final authority as to the current zoning of lands, water areas, building, and other structures within the City of Gig Harbor.

17.12.040 Map Replacement. In the event that one or more of the official zoning maps becomes damaged, destroyed, lost, mutilated, or difficult to interpret because of the nature or number of changes and additions, the City Council may, by resolution, adopt a new official zoning map, which shall supersede the prior official zoning map.

17.12.050 District Boundary - Interpretation When Uncertainty Exists. When uncertainty exists as to the boundaries of districts as shown on an official zoning map, the following rules shall apply:

- A. Boundaries indicated as approximately following the centerlines of streets, highways, or alleys shall be construed to follow such centerlines;
- B. Boundaries indicated as following platted outlines shall be construed to follow the lot lines in effect at the time the applicable zoning district was approved;
- C. Boundaries indicated as following public land survey section or section subdivision lines shall be construed as following such section or section

- D. subdivision lines;
- D. Boundaries indicated as approximately following City Limits shall be construed as following City Limits;
- E. Boundaries indicated as following shorelines shall be construed as following the mean high water line at the shore and, in the event of a change in the shoreline, shall be construed as moving with the mean high water line of the actual shoreline;
- F. Boundaries indicated as following approximately the centerline of streams shall be construed as following such centerlines;
- G. In unsubdivided property, the location of any district boundary, unless the same is indicated by dimensions shown on the official zoning map, shall be determined by the use of the scale appearing on the official zoning map;
- H. Boundaries indicated as parallel to or extension of features indicated in Subsections A through G above shall be so construed. Distances not specifically indicated on the official zoning map shall be determined by the scale of the official zoning map.

17.12.060 District Boundary - Interpretation When Street or Alley Vacated or Abandoned. When any public street or alley is officially vacated or abandoned, the regulations applicable to each parcel of abutting property shall apply to the portion of such street or alley added to the parcel by such vacation or abandonment.

## CHAPTER 17.16

### SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-1)

#### SECTIONS

- 17.16.010 Intent
- 17.16.020 Permitted Principal Uses and Structures
- 17.16.030 Conditional Uses
- 17.16.040 Prohibited Uses and Structures
- 17.16.050 Site Plans
- 17.16.060 Minimum Lot Size

17.16.070 Development Standards

17.16.080 Maximum Height of Structures

17.16.010 Intent.

An R-1 District is intended to provide for low density, single-family residential development, for certain community services and facilities while preserving the character of the existing single-family residential areas.

17.16.020 Permitted Principal Uses and Structures.

The following principal uses and structures are permitted in an R-1 District:

1. Single-family dwelling;
2. Agricultural uses including nurseries and truck gardens as long as objectionable odors or dust are not created.
3. Publicly owned and operated parks and playgrounds;
4. Temporary buildings for and during construction;
5. Family Day Care Centers serving six (6) or fewer children in a home.
6. Uses and structures that are necessary or desirable adjuncts to permitted uses and structures and are under the management and control of the person, organization, or agency responsible for the permitted principal use or structure.

17.16.030 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.64 and the standards and procedures for conditional uses as set forth in the Title, the following uses may be permitted in an R-1 District:

1. Child care facilities serving more than six (6) children outside of a home in an institution.
2. Public utilities and public service uses such as libraries, electric substations, telephone exchanges, and police, fire, and water facilities;
3. Schools, including playgrounds and athletic fields incidental thereto;
4. Houses of religious worship, rectories, and parish houses;
5. Home occupations;
6. Bed and Breakfast establishments.

17.16.040 Prohibited Uses and Structures.

The following uses and structures are prohibited in an R-1 District:

1. Those not listed under B. Permitted Uses and Structures, and C. Conditional Uses; and
2. The storage of mobile homes; and
3. Any use including permitted and conditional uses, that causes or may reasonably be expected to cause excessive noise, vibration, odor, smoke, dust or other particulate matter, toxic or noxious matter, humidity, heat, or glare at or beyond any lot line of the lot on which the use is located. The word excessive is defined for these purposes as a degree exceeding that generated by the customary manner of operation of the uses permitted in the District or as a degree injurious to the public health, safety, welfare, or convenience.
4. Dwelling, mobile/manufactured.

17.16.050 Site Plans.

Before a building permit will be issued for a nonresidential use or structure in an R-1 District, the site plan review process as specified in this chapter shall be followed.

17.16.060 Minimum Lot Size.

12,000 square feet for new divisions of land.

Undersized lots shall qualify as a building site if such lot is a legal lot of record. Maximum density is 3.5 dwelling units per gross acre.

17.16.070 Development Standards.

1.	Minimum lot area per building site in square feet .....	12,000
2.	Minimum Lot Width .....	70'
3.	Minimum Front Yard Setback* .....	25'
4.	Minimum Rear Yard Setback .....	30'
5.	Minimum Side Yard Setback .....	8'
6.	Maximum Impervious Lot Coverage .....	40%
7.	Minimum Street Frontage .....	20'

\* In the case of a corner lot, the owner of such

lot may elect any property line abutting on a street as the front property line, provided such choice does not impair corner vision clearance for vehicles and shall not be detrimental to adjacent properties in the opinion of the Planning and Public Works Directors.

The other property line abutting a street shall be deemed the side property line. An undersized lot or parcel shall qualify as a building site if such lot is a lot on record.

17.16.080 Maximum Height of Structures.

In an R-1 District, all buildings and structures shall have a maximum height of 16 feet except as provided for under Section 17.62 (Height Overlay District).

CHAPTER 17.20

MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-2)

SECTIONS

17.20.010 Intent

17.20.020 Permitted Uses

17.20.030 Conditional Uses

17.20.040 Minimum Lot Size/Maximum Density

17.20.050 Development Standards

17.20.060 Maximum Height of Structures

17.20.010 Intent.

An R-2 District is intended to allow for a moderate density of land use that is greater than is permitted in an R-1 District but less than is permitted in an R-3 District, where suitable facilities such as streets, water, sewer, and storm drainage are available. An R-2 District provides a transition between a higher density residential district in order to preserve the primarily residential character of existing residential areas.

17.20.020 Permitted Uses.

1. Single family detached dwellings
2. Two family dwellings (duplexes)
3. Public parks and playgrounds
4. Temporary buildings for and during construction
5. Family day care centers, serving six (6) or fewer children in a home
6. Accessory structures and uses
7. Home occupations subject to Chapter

17.20.030 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.64 and the standards and procedures for conditional uses as set forth in the Title, the following uses may be permitted in an R-2 District:

1. Child care facilities, serving more than six (6) children outside of a home, in an institution
2. Public utilities and public service uses such as libraries, electric substations, telephone exchanges and municipal service facilities
3. Schools, public and private, including accessory playgrounds and athletic fields
4. House of religious worship, rectories and accessory buildings
5. Bed and breakfast establishments
6. Nursing and retirement homes
7. Recreational buildings and community centers

17.20.040 Minimum Lot Size/Maximum Density.

The minimum lot areas for residential uses are: Two family homes, 14,000 square feet and single family homes, 7,000 square feet. Maximum density is six (6) dwelling units per acre.

17.20.050 Development Standards.

Single Family Dwell.	Duplex Dwell.	Non-Res.
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7,000-12,000	12,000+	
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1. Minimum lot area per building site in square feet

14,000	12,000
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2. Minimum lot width	50'	70'	70'	
3. Minimum Front Yard Setback*	25'	25'	25'	25'
4. Minimum Rear Yard	25'	25'	25'	30'
5. Minimum Interior Side Yard Setback	7'	8'	8'	10'
6. Maximum Impervious Lot Coverage	40%	40%	45%	50%
7. Minimum Street Frontage		20'	20'	20'

\* In the case of a corner lot, the owner of such lot may elect any property line abutting on a street as the front property line, provided such choice does not impair corner vision clearance for vehicles and shall not be detrimental to adjacent properties in the opinion of the Planning and Public Works Directors.

An undersized lot shall qualify as a building site if such lot is a lot of record.

17.20.060 Maximum Height of Structures.

In an R-2 District all buildings and structures shall have a maximum height of 16 feet except as provided for under Section 17.62 (Height Overlay District).

CHAPTER 17.24

MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-3)

SECTIONS

17.24.010 Intent

17.24.020 Permitted principal Uses and Structures

17.24.030 Conditional Uses

17.24.040 Site Plans

17.24.050 Development Standards

**17.24.060 Maximum Height of Structures**

**17.24.010 Intent.**

An R-3 District is intended to provide areas suitable for multiple-family dwellings and to serve as a buffer and transition between more intensively developed areas and residential properties of a lower density. An R-3 district is suitable in areas which are served by municipal services and in areas readily accessible to freeway access.

**17.24.020 Permitted Principal Uses and Structures.**

The following principal uses and structures are permitted in an R-3 District:

1. Duplexes and Multiple-family dwellings;
2. Bed and breakfast establishments;
3. Nursing and retirement homes subject to the basic density requirements of the district;
4. Family day care centers serving six (6) or fewer children in a home
5. Publicly owned parks and playgrounds; and
6. Accessory uses and structures such as:
  - a. Temporary buildings for and during construction; and
  - b. Uses and structures that are normal, necessary, or desirable adjuncts to permitted uses.

**17.24.030 Conditional Uses.**

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.64 and the standards and procedures for conditional uses as set forth in the Title, the following uses may be permitted in an R-3 District:

1. Child care facilities serving six (6) or more children outside of a home, in an institution
2. Public utilities and public services uses such as libraries, electrical substations, telephone exchanges, and police, fire, and water facilities;
3. Recreational buildings and community centers;
4. Schools, public and private;
5. Houses of religious worship, rectories, and parish houses; and
6. Private non-profit clubs
7. Parking lots
8. Single-family

17.24.040 Site Plans.

Before a building permit will be issued in an R-3 District, the site plan review process as specified in this chapter shall be followed.

17.24.050 Development Standards.

In an R-3 District, the minimum lot requirements are as follows:

	Single Family Dwell.	Duplex Dwell.	more units (as a conditional use)	3 or more Non-Res.	
1. Minimum lot area per building site in square feet	7,000	14,000	20,000	12,000	
2. Minimum lot width	70'	70'	70'	70'	
3. Minimum Front Yard Setback*	25'	25'	25'	25'	
4. Minimum Rear Yard Setback	25'	25'	15'	30'	
5. Minimum Interior Side Yard Setback	8'	8'	8'	10'	
6. Maximum Impervious Lot Coverage	40%	40%	65%	50%	
7. Minimum Street Frontage	20'	20'	50'	50'	

\* In the case of a corner lot, the owner of such lot may elect any property line abutting on a street as the front property line, provided such choice does not impair corner vision clearance for vehicles and shall not be detrimental to adjacent properties in the opinion of the Planning and Public Works Directors.

An undersized lot shall qualify as a building site if such lot is a lot of record. The maximum density in an R-3 District is eight (8) dwelling units per acre.

17.24.060 Maximum Height of Structures.

In an R-3 District, all buildings and structures shall have a maximum height of 16 feet except as provided for under Section 17.62 (Height Overlay District).

RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS DISTRICT (RB-1)

SECTIONS

- 17.28.010 Intent
- 17.28.020 Permitted Uses and Structures
- 17.28.030 Conditional Uses
- 17.28.040 Site Plan
- 17.28.050 Minimum Development Standards
- 17.28.060 Maximum Height of Structures
- 17.28.070 Parking and Loading Facilities
- 17.28.080 Signs
- 17.28.090 Performance Standards

17.28.010 Intent.

An RB-1 District is intended to provide a mix of residential uses with certain specified business, personal, and professional services. It is also intended to serve as a buffer between high intensity commercial and lower density residential uses. The regulations and restrictions in an RB-1 District are intended to protect and preserve residential uses while permitting business uses characterized principally by professional and consultive services or executive and administrative offices, compatible with single family residential development.

17.28.020 Permitted Uses and Structures.

The following principal uses and structures are permitted in an RB-1 District:

1. All uses permitted in the R-1 District;
2. Bed and breakfast establishments;
3. Business and professional offices;
4. Publicly owned parks and playgrounds;
5. Temporary buildings for and during construction;
6. Uses and structures that are necessary or desirable adjuncts to permitted uses and

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structures and are under the management and control of the person, organization, or agency responsible for the permitted principal use or structure;

7. Uses which complement or facilitate permitted uses such as parking facilities or public plazas; and
8. Pharmacies solely incidental to medical offices.

17.28.030 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.76 and the standards and procedures for conditional uses as set forth in this Title, the following uses may be permitted in an RB-1 District:

1. Nursing homes and retirement facilities;
2. Child care facilities containing more than six children;
3. Public utilities and public service uses such as libraries, electrical substations, telephone exchanges, and police, fire, and water facilities;
4. Recreational buildings and community centers;
5. Schools, public and private;
6. Houses of religious worship, rectories, and parish houses; and
7. Food stores or delicatessens provided:
  - a. situated on the street level in an apartment or office building;
  - b. Not to exceed 800 square feet;
  - c. No outside sales or storage; and
  - d. Hours of operation limited to 16 hours per day.

17.28.040 Site Plan.

Before a building permit will be issued in the RB-1 District, the site plan review process as specified in Chapter 17.88 shall be followed.

17.28.050 Minimum Development Standards.

	Single Family	Non-Residential
1. Lot Area (sq. ft.)	12,000	12,000
2. Lot Width (feet)	70'	70'

3. Non-Residential yards
  - Front -- 20
  - Side -- 10
  - Rear -- 15
4. Abutting R-1/R-2 Dist.: 30 feet, with dense vegetative screening
5. Residential Yards: Same as setbacks in R-3 District.
6. Maximum Impervious Cov.: 50% 60%
7. Minimum Street Frontage: 20' 50'
8. More than one principal structure may be allowed on a single lot in an RB-1 District.
9. An undersized lot of record shall qualify as a building lot provided it cannot be combined with another lot and provided further that compliance with the setback and coverage requirements are met.
10. Parking is not permitted in setback areas.

17.28.060 Maximum Height of Structures.

In an RB-1 District, all buildings and structures shall have a maximum height of 16 feet except as provided for under Section 17.62 (Height Overlay District).

17.28.070 Parking and Loading Facilities.

In an RB-1 District, parking and loading on private property shall be provided in connection with any permitted or conditional use as specified in Section 17.72.

17.28.080 Signs.

In an RB-1 District, signs may be allowed in conjunction with any permitted use and are subject to the provisions of Section 17.80

17.28.090 Performance Standards.

1. Exterior Mechanical Devices: Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened.
2. Landscaping is required and shall be installed in conformance with Chapter 17.78 by this Title

and/or by conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this Title, such landscaping shall be maintained in a neat manner. In no event shall such landscaped areas be used for storage of materials or parking of vehicles.

3. **Outdoor Storage of Materials:** The outdoor storage of materials, including but not limited to lumber, auto parts, household appliances, pipe, drums, machinery or furniture is permitted as an incidental or accessory activity of a Permitted Use or the principal feature of a Conditional Use. Such storage shall be screened by a wall, fence, landscaping or structure from surrounding properties and streets.
4. **Outdoor Lighting:** Within one hundred feet of any residential zone or use, outdoor lighting and aerial mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. Said lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. (Temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from this requirement.)
5. **Trash Receptacles:** Trash receptacles shall be screened from view. Screening shall be complimentary to building design and materials.

#### CHAPTER 17.31

#### DOWNTOWN BUSINESS (DB)

##### SECTIONS

- 17.31.010 Intent
- 17.31.020 Permitted Principal Uses and Structures
- 17.31.030 Conditional Uses

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- 17.31.040 Site Plans
- 17.31.050 Minimum Lot Requirements
- 17.31.060 Minimum Building Setback Requirements
- 17.31.070 Maximum Coverage by all Buildings
- 17.31.080 Maximum Height of Structures
- 17.31.090 Parking/Loading
- 17.31.100 Signs
- 17.31.110 Performance Standards (See B-2)

17.31.010 Intent.

The purpose of this district is to: 1) provide for an area that offers a broad range of goods and services for the citizens of Gig Harbor; 2) promote and enhance services and activities which cater to visitors to the city, and 3) maintain the traditional scale and character of downtown Gig Harbor.

The standards for development in this chapter are intended to allow uses which are: 1) primarily conducted within enclosed buildings except for parking, dining areas, and newsstands; 2) protect views; and 3) allow for commercial developments which do not adversely affect residences through excessive noise or bothersome activities.

17.31.010 Permitted Principal Uses and Structures.

The following principal uses and structures are permitted in this district:

1. Retail sales
2. Banks and financial institutions
3. Restaurants
4. Guest accommodations
5. Business and professional offices \*
6. Commercial recreation (theaters, bowling alleys, etc.)
7. Gasoline service stations
8. Personal services
9. Art galleries
10. Uses and structures customarily accessory to the permitted uses.

- \* Veterinary clinics shall have all activities conducted indoors.

17.31.030 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.64 and standards and procedures for conditional uses set forth in this Title, the following uses may be allowed:

1. Hospitals and clinics;
2. Retirement homes;
3. Child care centers;
4. Public utilities and public service uses such as libraries, electrical substations, telephone exchanges, and police, fire, and water facilities.
5. Recreational buildings and community centers;
6. Schools (public and private), including playgrounds and athletic fields;
7. Wholesale sales and distributor establishments;
8. Light manufacturing and assembling;
9. Taverns;
10. Religious institutions;
11. Private clubs and lodges; and
12. Residential uses.
13. Uses conducted outside buildings.

17.31.040 Site Plans.

Before a building permit will be issued in a DB District, the site plan review process as specified in Chapter 17.96 shall be followed.

17.31.050 Minimum Lot Requirements.

In a DB District, the minimum lot area is 6,000 square feet, and the minimum lot width is fifty feet.

17.31.060 Minimum Building Setback Requirements.

In a DB District, there are no minimum requirements for front, side and rear building setbacks. Setback dimensions may be determined as part of the site plan reviews of Chapter 17.96. Provided, however, that where a DB District abuts a residential district, a building setback shall be required as specified below, and the space so created shall be landscaped to screen the commercial uses from the abutting residential district. Such building setbacks shall be a minimum of twenty feet.

17.31.070 Maximum Coverage by all Buildings.

In the DB District, the maximum impervious coverage is

eighty percent (80%).

17.31.080 Maximum Height of Structures.

In the DB District, all buildings and structures shall have a maximum building height of 16 feet except as provided for under Section 17.62 (Height Overlay District).

17.31.090 Parking/Loading.

In the DB District, parking and loading facilities on private property shall be provided in connection with any permitted or conditional use as specified in Section 17.72, off-street parking and loading facilities.

17.31.100 Signs.

In the DB District, signs may be allowed in conjunction with any permitted use and are subject to the provisions of Section 17.80.

17.31.110 Performance Standards.

1. **Exterior Mechanical Devices:** Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened.
2. **Landscaping** is required and shall be installed in conformance with Chapter 17.78 by this Title and/or conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this Title, such landscaping shall be maintained in a neat manner. In no event shall such landscaped areas be used for storage of materials or parking of vehicles.
3. **Outdoor Storage of Materials:** The outdoor storage of materials, including but not limited to lumber, auto parts, household appliances, pipe, drums, machinery or furniture is permitted as an incidental or accessory activity of a Permitted Use or the principal feature of a Conditional Use. Such storage shall be screened by a wall, fence, landscaping or structure from surrounding properties and streets.
4. **Outdoor Lighting:** Within one hundred feet of any residential zone or use, outdoor lighting and aerial mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the

bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. Said lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. (temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from this requirement.)

5. Trash Receptacles: Trash receptacles shall be screened from view. Screening shall be complimentary to building design and materials.

## CHAPTER 17.36

### GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (B-2)

#### SECTIONS

- 17.36.010 Intent
- 17.36.020 Permitted Uses
- 17.36.030 Conditional Uses
- 17.36.040 Other Uses
- 17.36.050 Site Plans
- 17.36.060 Minimum Building Setback Requirements
- 17.36.070 Maximum Impervious Coverage
- 17.36.080 Maximum Height of Buildings
- 17.36.090 Parking Requirements
- 17.36.100 Signs
- 17.36.110 Off-Street Loading Facilities
- 17.36.120 Performance Standards

17.36.010 Intent.

The purpose of this district is to provide areas that offer wide range of consumer goods and services. It is further intended to group buildings and business establishments in a manner that creates convenient, attractive and safe development. The products and services shall primarily be for sale on the premises only. All business shall be conducted within enclosed building, except for approved outdoor storage, display and dining areas.

17.36.020 Permitted Uses.

The following uses and structures are permitted in a B-2 District:

1. Retail and wholesale sales (excluding motorized vehicles, trailers, and boats).
2. Business and professional offices.
3. Banks and other financial institutions.
4. Restaurants, cocktail and associated lounges and taverns (indoor dining - no drive through).
5. Commercial recreation, excluding drive-in theaters.
6. Gasoline service stations and car washes.
7. Personal and professional services.

17.36.030 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.64 and the standards and procedures for conditional uses as set forth in this Title, the following uses may be permitted in a B-2 District:

1. Utilities and public service uses such as libraries, electrical substations, water storage facilities, etc.
2. Light manufacturing and assembly.
3. Mini warehouses.
4. Recreational buildings and community centers.
5. Drive-in restaurants.
6. Radio and television transmission towers.

17.36.040 Other Uses.

Other uses similar to either permitted or conditional uses which are consistent with the intent of the district may be allowed. The determination of consistency and classification of use whether permitted or conditional shall be made by the Planning Director.

17.36.050 Site Plans.

Before a building permit will be issued, the site plan review process as specified in Chapter 17.96 shall be followed.

17.36.060 Minimum Building Setback Requirements.

Front Yard - 20 feet

Rear Yard - 20 feet

Side Yard - Interior yards - 5 feet  
Flanking street - 10 feet

Any yard abutting residential development - 30  
feet with dense vegetative screening.

17.36.070 Maximum Impervious Coverage.

Seventy percent (70%).

17.36.080 Maximum Height of Buildings and Structures.

Maximum height is 16 feet except as provided for under Section 17.62 (Height Overlay District).

17.36.090 Parking.

In a B-2 District, parking on private property shall be provided in connection with any permitted or conditional use as specified in Section 17.72.

17.36.100 Signs.

In a B-2 District, signs may be allowed in conjunction with any permitted use and are subject to the provisions of Section 17.80.

17.36.110 Loading.

In a B-2 District, off-street loading facilities shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 17.72.

17.36.120 Performance Standards.

1. Exterior Mechanical Devices: Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened.

2. Landscaping is required and shall be installed in conformance with Chapter 17.78 by this Title and/or by conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this Title, such landscaping shall be maintained in a neat manner. In no event shall such landscaped areas be used for storage of materials or parking of vehicles.

3. **Outdoor Storage of Materials:** The outdoor storage of materials, including but not limited to lumber, auto parts, household appliances, pipe, drums, machinery or furniture is permitted as an incidental or accessory activity of a Permitted Use or the principal feature of a Conditional Use. Such storage shall be screened by a wall, fence, landscaping or structure from surrounding properties and streets.
4. **Outdoor Lighting:** Within one hundred feet of any residential zone or use, outdoor lighting and aerial mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. Said lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. (Temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from this requirement.)
5. **Trash Receptacles:** Trash receptacles shall be screened from view. Screening shall be complimentary to building design and materials.

CHAPTER 17.40

COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-1)

SECTIONS

- 17.40.010 Intent
- 17.40.020 Permitted Uses
- 17.40.030 Permitted Accessory Uses
- 17.40.040 Conditional Uses
- 17.40.050 Prohibited Uses
- 17.40.060 Site Plans

- 17.40.070 Minimum Lot Requirements
- 17.40.080 Minimum Setback Requirements
- 17.40.090 Maximum Coverage
- 17.40.100 Maximum Height
- 17.40.110 Parking and Loading Facilities
- 17.40.120 Performance Standards

17.40.010 Intent.

A C-1 District is intended to provide for uses that though not necessarily hazardous or offensive, are different from direct sales and services to customers or residential developments. These uses include light manufacturing, sales, storage, maintenance, and processing. The regulations for a C-1 District are intended to allow the efficient use of the land while making the District attractive and compatible with a variety of uses within the District and in surrounding Districts.

17.40.020 Permitted Principal Uses and Structures.

The following principal uses and structures are permitted in a C-1 District:

1. All uses permitted in a B-2 District;
2. Repair shops for appliances, automobiles, and small equipment;
3. The production, processing, cleaning, servicing, testing, and repair of materials, goods, and products except that junk yards, auto wrecking yards, garbage dumps, and any activity that emits smoke, excessive noise, dirt, vibration, or glare or is otherwise offensive or hazardous are prohibited;
4. Indoor amusement establishments;
5. Animal hospitals, clinics with overnight confinement, and pounds;
6. The sale of motor vehicles, cars, trailers, and vehicle services such as car washes, garages, tire, and battery service facilities;
7. Boat sales and show rooms;
8. Building material sales;
9. Cartage and express facilities and trucking;
10. Contractors' offices and shops;

11. Fishing equipment supplies and repairs;
12. Frozen food lockers;
13. Fuel and ice sales;
14. Commercial greenhouses;
15. Linen towel, diaper, and similar supply services and laundry facilities;
16. Storage, warehousing, and wholesaling establishments;
17. Light manufacturing; and
18. All permitted uses of the waterfront.

17.40.030 Permitted Accessory Uses and Structures.

The following accessory uses and structures are permitted in a C-1 District:

1. Temporary buildings for and during construction; and
2. Uses and structures that are necessary or desirable adjuncts to permitted uses and structures and are under the management and control of the person, organization, or agency responsible for the permitted principal use or structure.

17.40.040 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.64 and the standards and procedures for conditional uses as set forth in this Title, the following uses may be permitted in a C-1 District:

1. Hospitals, clinics, and establishments for people convalescing from illness or operation;
2. Homes for the aged;
3. Day nursery schools;
4. Public utilities and public service uses such as libraries, electrical substations, telephone exchanges, and police, fire, and water facilities;
5. Recreational buildings and community centers;
6. Seasonal Christmas tree sales;
7. Schools, including playgrounds and athletic fields incidental thereto;
8. Houses of religious worship, rectories, and parish houses;
9. Private and not-for-profit clubs;
10. Planned unit developments;
11. Home occupations;
12. Mini-storage facilities;
13. Drive-in restaurants; and
14. Residential uses.

17.40.050 Prohibited Uses and Structures.

The following uses and structures are prohibited in a C-1 District:

1. Those not listed under B. Permitted Principal Uses and Structures, C. Permitted Accessory Uses and Structures, and D. Conditional Uses; and
2. The storage of mobile homes; and
3. Any use including permitted and conditional uses, that causes or may reasonably be expected to cause noise, vibration, odor, smoke, dust or other particulate matter, toxic or noxious matter, humidity, heat, or glare at or beyond any lot line of the lot on which the use is located. The word excessive is defined for these purposes as a degree exceeding that generated by the customary manner of operation of the uses in the District or as a degree injurious to the public health, safety, welfare, or convenience.

17.40.060 Site Plans.

Before a building permit will be issued in a C-1 District, the site plan review process as specified in Chapter 17.96 shall be followed.

17.40.070 Minimum Lot Requirements.

In a C-1 District, the minimum lot area is 6,000 square feet, and the minimum lot width is fifty feet.

17.40.080 Minimum Building Setback Requirements.

In a C-1 District, there are no minimum requirements for front, side, and rear building setbacks. Setback dimensions shall be determined as part of the site plan reviews of Chapter 17.96. Provided, however, that where a C-1 District abuts a residential district, the minimum yard shall be 30 feet, with a dense vegetative screen.

17.40.090 Maximum Coverage by all Buildings.

In a C-1 District, the maximum coverage is eighty percent.

17.40.100 Maximum Height of Structures.

In a C-1 District, all buildings shall have a maximum height of 16 feet, except as provided for under Section 17.62.

17.40.110 Parking and Loading Facilities.

In a C-1 District, parking on private property shall be provided in connection with any permitted or conditional use as specified in Section 17.72.

17.40.120 Performance Standards.

1. **Exterior Mechanical Devices:** Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened.
2. **Landscaping** is required and shall be installed in conformance with Chapter 17.78 by this Title and/or by conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this Title, such landscaping shall be maintained in a neat manner. In no event shall such landscaped areas be used for storage of materials or parking of vehicles.
3. **Outdoor Storage of Materials:** The outdoor storage of materials, including but not limited to lumber, auto parts, household appliances, pipe, drums, machinery or furniture is permitted as an incidental or accessory activity of a Permitted Use or the principal feature of a Conditional Use. Such storage shall be screened by a wall, fence, landscaping or structure from surrounding properties and streets.
4. **Outdoor Lighting:** Within one hundred feet of any residential zone or use, outdoor lighting and aerial mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. Said lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. (Temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from this requirement.)
5. **Trash Receptacles:** Trash receptacles shall be screened from view. Screening shall be complimentary to building design and materials.

## CHAPTER 17.46

### WATERFRONT RESIDENTIAL

#### SECTIONS

- 17.46.010 Intent
- 17.46.020 Permitted Uses
- 17.46.030 Conditional Uses
- 17.46.040 Development Standards
- 17.46.050 Site Plans
- 17.46.060 Maximum Height
- 17.46.070 Parking and Loading Requirements
- 17.46.080 Signs

#### 17.46.010 Intent

This district recognizes those areas of the shoreline that are characterized by single family residences. It is intended that development occur that is respectful of the shoreline and surrounding properties while permitting a limited mix of residential structure types.

#### 17.46.020 Permitted Uses.

- 1. Single Family and Duplex Dwellings
- 2. Accessory structures clearly incidental to the residential use of the lot
- 3. Public owned and operated parks and shoreline viewing facilities
- 4. Home Occupation
- 5. Family Day Care

#### 17.46.030 Conditional Uses.

Subject to the requirements, standards and procedures for conditional uses set forth in Section 17.64 of this Title, the following uses may be permitted in a waterfront residential district:

- 1. Public Facilities
- 2. Utilities

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3. Bed and Breakfast establishments.

17.46.040 Development Standards.

	Single Family	7,000 to	less than	Dwelling	Dwelling
Non-Res.					
1. Minimum lot area per building site in square feet	12,000 12,000	12,000			15,000
2. Minimum lot width	70' 70'	50'	50'	50'	70'
3. Minimum Front Yard Setback*	20' 20'	20'	20'	15'	20'
4. Minimum Rear Yard Setback if Tidelands not owned	30'	20'	20'	15'	20'
5. Minimum Rear and/or Side Yard Setback to owned abutting tidelands	0	0	0	0	0
6. Minimum Interior Side Yard Setback	10'	8'	5'	5'	8'
7. Minimum Street Side Yard Setback	10' 10'	10'		8'	10'
8. Maximum Impervious Coverage	50%	40%	45%	50%	45%
9. Minimum Street Frontage	20' 20'			20'	
10. An undersized lot shall qualify as a building site for a detached single family dwelling if the lot is of record at time this chapter became effective. Recognizing the existence of such parcels, the development standards are adjusted to grant relief as to minimum lot size only to the owners of smaller lots.					

- \* In the case of a corner lot, the owner of such lot may elect any property line abutting on a street as the front property line, provided such choice does not impair corner vision clearance for vehicles and shall not be detrimental to adjacent properties in the opinion of the Planning and Public Works Directors.

An undersized lot or parcel shall qualify as a building site if such lot is a lot of record.

17.46.050 Site Plans.

Before a building permit will be issued in this district, the site plan review process as specified in Chapter 17.96 shall be followed, except in the case of a building permit for a single or two-family dwelling.

17.46.060 Height.

Maximum building height is 16 feet, except as provided for under Section 17.62.

17.46.070 Parking/Loading.

Parking and loading facilities on private property shall be provided in connection with any permitted or conditional use as specified in Section 17.72

17.46.080 Signs.

Signs may be allowed in conjunction with any permitted or conditional use subject to the provisions of Section 17.80.

CHAPTER 17.50

WATERFRONT COMMERCIAL

SECTIONS

17.50.010 Intent

17.50.020 Permitted Uses

17.50.030 Conditional Uses

17.50.040 Development Standards

17.50.050 Site Plans

17.50.060 Maximum Height

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17.50.070 Parking and Loading Facilities

17.50.080 Signs

17.50.090 Performance Standards

17.50.010 Intent

It is the intent of this district to provide a wide range of uses and activities on the shorelines of Gig Harbor located within the area proximate to the downtown business district. Development should be water oriented and maintain the scale of existing structures. Highest priority will be accorded to those uses that are water dependent. Other uses that provide a high degree of physical access to the waterfront have the next priority. Those activities that are not water dependent but maintain or enhance views and the character of the area may also be permitted.

17.50.020 Permitted Uses

1. Marinas and boat launch facilities
2. Piers, docks, wharfs and associated buildings
3. Boat repair and sales facilities
4. Marine related sales and offices
5. Delicatessens
6. Public park and access facilities
7. Yacht clubs
8. Wholesale and retail sales of fisheries products for human consumption

17.50.030 Conditional Uses

1. Residential development - up to four plexes
2. Guest accommodations
3. Public facilities
4. Parking lots for related shoreline uses
5. Restaurants, taverns and lounges
6. Processing of fisheries products for off-premise human consumption
7. Boat construction

17.50.040 Development Standards

	Single Family	Multi-family (duplex-fourplex)	Non-Residential
1. Min. lot area	12,000	15,000-21,000	12,000

2. Min. lot width	70'	100'	100'
3. Min. front setback	20'	20'	20'
4. Min. rear setback if Tidelands not owned	15'	15'	15'
5. Min. rear and/or side yard setback to owned abutting Tidelands	0	0	0
6. Min. int. side setback	8'	8'	10'
7. Min. street side setback	10'	10'	10'
8. Max. Impervious coverage	50%	55%	60%
9. An undersized lot shall qualify as a building site if such lot is a lot of record at the time this chapter became effective. Recognizing the existence of such parcels, the development standards are adjusted to grant relief as to minimum lot size and minimum lot width only.			

17.50.050 Site Plans

Before a building permit will be issued in a WC zone, the site plan review process specified in Chapter 17.96 shall be followed. Residential projects containing three or fewer dwelling units are exempt from this provision.

17.50.060 Height

The maximum building height is 16 feet, except as provided for under Section 17.62.

17.50.070 Parking and Loading Facilities

Parking and loading facilities on private property shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of Section 17.72

17.50.080 Signs

All signs shall comply with the provisions of Section 17.80.

17.50.090 Performance Standards

1. Exterior Mechanical Devices: Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened.
2. Landscaping is required and shall be installed

in conformance with Chapter 17.78 by this Title and/or by conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this Title, such landscaping shall be maintained in a neat manner. In no event shall such landscaped areas be used for storage of materials or parking of vehicles.

3. **Outdoor Storage of Materials:** The outdoor storage of materials, including but not limited to lumber, auto parts, household appliances, pipe, drums, machinery or furniture is permitted as an incidental or accessory activity of a Permitted Use or the principal feature of a Conditional Use. Such storage shall be screened by a wall, fence, landscaping or structure from surrounding properties and streets.
4. **Outdoor Lighting:** Within one hundred feet of any residential zone or use, outdoor lighting and aerial mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. Said lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. (Temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from this requirement.)

## Chapter 17.60

### TRANSITIONAL USES

#### SECTIONS:

17.60.010 Intent

17.60.020 Permitted Uses

17.60.010 Intent. To provide for uses of land at the borderlines between residential and other districts,

which would not have an adverse effect on the uses in either district, but would serve as a more gradual transition to use changes.

17.60.020 Permitted Uses.

- A. In an R-1 zone, a lot which abuts upon or is located across the street or alley from property in a nonresidential zone, may be used for:
  1. Two-family dwellings, provided that such lot is at fourteen thousand (14,000) square feet in size;
  2. A parking lot for a business within one hundred (100) feet of the lot, solely for the customers and employees of the business to which it is accessory, for the use of automobiles only, and provided that the entrance to the parking lot is at least thirty (30) feet from the nearest residential lot and the lot is landscaped and screened.
- B. In R-2 zones, a lot adjacent to a nonresidential zone may be used for a parking lot for a business within one hundred (100) feet, if solely for cars for customers or employees, and provided that the parking lot entrance is at least thirty (30) feet from the nearest residential lot, and the lot is landscaped and provided with a dense vegetative screen.

CHAPTER 17.64

CONDITIONAL USES

SECTIONS

- 17.64.010 Intent
- 17.64.020 Procedure
- 17.64.030 Investigation
- 17.64.040 Granting or Denial
- 17.64.050 General Conditions

- 17.64.060 Review Criteria
- 17.64.070 Expiration
- 17.64.080 Transfer of Permit
- 17.64.090 Revocation of Permit
- 17.64.100 Appeal of Examiners Decision
- 17.64.110 General Criteria

17.64.010 Intent. Certain uses, because of their unusual size, infrequent occurrence, special requirements, possible safety hazards or detrimental effect on surrounding properties are classified as conditional uses. These uses may be allowed in certain use districts by a Conditional Use Permit granted by the Hearing Examiner, subject to the procedures established in Section 17.10.

17.64.020 Procedure. Any use that requires a conditional use permit shall be processed in accordance with the following procedures:

- A. Application. An application for a conditional use permit may be filed by the property owner, lessee of the property with more than a month-to-month tenancy, or authorized agent of the property owner. The application shall be submitted in writing and be accompanied by the required plans and data. These applications shall be submitted to the Planning Department for transmittal to the Hearing Examiner with analysis and recommendation.
- B. Investigation. The Planning Director shall make an investigation to determine whether a proposed conditional use would be in accordance with the comprehensive plan, and this chapter, whether the use would be injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare, and whether the use would be detrimental to other properties in the vicinity.
- C. Granting or Denial. The decision may include special restrictions or conditions deemed necessary or desirable in furthering the intent of the ordinance pertaining to the proposed development.

D. The conditions may:

1. Stipulate the exact location of uses or structures as a means of minimizing hazards or property damage.
2. Require special structural features, equipment or site treatment.
3. Increase requirements; standards or criteria over the minimum established by this title

17.64.030 General Conditions. In considering whether to grant conditional uses, the Hearing Examiner shall be satisfied that the minimum standards set for uses specified in this chapter will be met. In addition, the Examiner shall consider the criteria listed in this section and the standards as set forth in this chapter. The Examiner may require the applicant to submit whatever reasonable evidence may be needed and may stipulate additional conditions to protect the public interest. The burden of proof rests with the applicant.

17.64.040 Review Criteria. Each determination granting a conditional use permit shall be supported by written findings of fact showing specifically wherein all of the following conditions are met.

- A. That the use for which the conditional use permit is applied for is specified by this title as being conditionally permitted within, and is consistent with the description and purpose of the zone district in which the property is located.
- B. That the granting of such conditional use permit will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, comfort, convenience and general welfare; will not adversely affect the established character of the surrounding neighborhood, and will not be injurious to the property or improvements in such vicinity and/or zone in which the property is located;
- C. That the proposed use is properly located in relation to the other land uses and to transportation and service facilities in the vicinity; and, further, that the use can be adequately served by such public facilities and street capacities without placing an undue burden on such facilities and streets;

D. That the site is of sufficient size to accommodate the proposed use and all yards, open spaces, walls and fences, parking, loading, landscaping and other such features as are required by this title or as needed in the opinion of the Examiner.

17.64.050 Expiration. Any conditional use permit granted by the Hearing Examiner shall expire if not exercised within one (1) year of the date of approval. If a use or activity authorized by such permit is abandoned or discontinued for a continuous period of one (1) year, it may not be reestablished unless authorized in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. A request for extension of the one (1) year time limit may be considered by the Hearing Examiner, providing that the request is in writing and is received no less than 30 days prior to the expiration date. No additional extensions shall be granted. An extension shall be valid for a period not to exceed one year.

17.64.060 Transfer of a Conditional Use Permit. A conditional use permit shall be transferable provided that the transferee complies with the conditions of the permit. If at any time the conditional use no longer complies with the conditions of the permit, the owner shall be declared in violation of this title and shall be subject to its penalties

17.64.070 Revocation of a Conditional Use Permit. Following a public hearing by the Hearing Examiner, a conditional use permit may be revoked for one or more of the following reasons:

1. That the approval was obtained by fraud or that erroneous information was presented by the applicant.
2. That the use for which approval was granted has not been exercised.
3. That use is being exercised contrary to the conditions of approval, or in violation of any statute, ordinance, law or regulation.

17.64.080 Appeal of the Examiner's Decision on a Conditional Use Permit. Any aggrieved person may file a request for reconsideration or appeal in accordance with the procedures established pursuant to Section 17.10.150/.160.

**17.64.090 General Criteria.** Notwithstanding the development criteria contained in this section, the Hearing Examiner shall have the authority to impose conditions and safeguards deemed necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the surrounding area.

## CHAPTER 17.66

### VARIANCES, INTERPRETATIONS, APPEALS

#### SECTIONS

17.66.010 Intent

17.66.020 Variances

17.66.030 General Variances

17.66.040 Interpretations and Appeals

#### 17.66.010 Intent

This chapter is intended to provide review procedures and criteria for those special situations where the dimensional, bulk or spacing provisions of this title may be relaxed. Variances are not intended to be used as a means of circumventing individually inconvenient regulations.

#### 17.66.020 VARIANCES

##### A. Administrative Variances.

Upon the filing of a proper application, the Planning Director shall have the authority to grant, with conditions if necessary, an administrative variance from the following property development standards:

1. A decrease of not more than twenty percent (20%) of the required width of a side, front or rear yard or yard between buildings.
2. An increase of not more than ten percent (10%) of the permitted projection of cornices, sills, eave projection, unenclosed awnings, and unenclosed and uncovered decks into a required front, side or rear yard.

3. An increase of not more than ten percent (10%) in the maximum permitted height of buildings, fences or structures, or maximum permitted lot coverage.
4. A decrease of not more than ten percent (10%) in the number of required parking spaces.

**B. Required Findings To Grant.**

1. Each administrative variance granted shall be supported by written findings showing an affirmative determination of the variance review criteria contained in Section 17.66.

**C. Planning Director Action.**

Upon the filing of a properly completed application, the Director shall, within fifteen (15) working days, act to approve, modify or deny said application. If approved, the Director shall send notice of the decision to the owners of all adjacent properties. The decision shall become final fifteen (15) working days after taking an action on the application unless an appeal is filed with the Planning Department prior to the fifteenth (15) day. Any appeal of an administrative variance shall be considered by the Hearing Examiner.

**17.66.030 GENERAL VARIANCES**

- A. The Hearing Examiner shall have the authority to grant a variance from the requirements of this ordinance, except as identified in Section 17.66, Administrative Variances, after considering the matter at a public hearing.
- B. Before any variance can be granted, the Examiner shall make findings of fact setting forth and showing that the following circumstances exist:
  1. The proposed variance will not amount to a rezone nor authorize any use not allowed in the district.
  2. That special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the land such as size, shape, topography or location, not applicable to other land in the same district and that literal interpretation of the provisions of this ordinance would deprive the property owner of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties

3. similarly situated in the same district under the terms of this ordinance.
4. That the special conditions and circumstances do not result from the actions of the applicant.
5. That granting of the variance requested will not confer a special privilege that is denied other lands in the same district.
6. That the granting of the variance will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity and zone in which subject property is situated.
7. The Hearing Examiner shall further make a finding that the reasons set forth in the application justify the granting of the variance, and that the variance is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land.
7. The decision of the Hearing Examiner shall be final. Appeals of the Examiner's decision may be made to the City Council in accordance with the appeal procedures established under Section 17.10.160.

17.66.040 Time Limits

Any variance granted by the Hearing Examiner or Planning Director shall become null and void if not exercised within one year of the date of approval. Upon written request by a property owner, prior to the date of expiration, the Director may grant an extension of time up to but not exceeding one year. Any extension of time shall be based upon a finding that there has been no material change of circumstances applicable to the property since the granting of the variance.

17.66.050 INTERPRETATIONS AND APPEALS

Interpretation - Planning Director. The Planning Director shall review and determine any questions involving the proper interpretation or application of the provisions of this title that may be requested by any property owner, tenant, government officer, department, board, council or commission. The Planning Director's decision shall be in keeping with the spirit and intent of this title and of the Comprehensive Plan.

Recognizing that there may be uses not specifically

mentioned in this title, either because of advancing technology or any other reason, the Planning Director may permit such use to be established if it is clearly evident that the use is in conformity with the designated principal uses of the use district in which it is to be located. When there is doubt as to the proper classification of a use, the Hearing Examiner shall rule on the matter.

Appeals from Administrative Decision. Appeals may be taken to the Hearing Examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board, council or commission of the city affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title or any amendment thereto. Such appeals shall be filed in writing, in duplicate, with the Hearing Examiner with twenty (20) days of the date of the action being appealed.

Upon the filing of such an appeal, the Hearing Examiner shall set the time and place at which the matter will be considered. At least ten (10) days notice of such time and place shall be given to the adverse parties of record in the case and to the official whose decision is being appealed. The officer from whom the appeal is being taken shall forthwith transmit to the Hearing Examiner all of the records pertaining to the decision being appealed, together with such additional written report as he deems pertinent.

In exercising the powers granted herein, the Hearing Examiner may, in conformity with this chapter, reverse or affirm, wholly or in part, or may modify the order, requirements, decision or determination appealed from and may make such order, requirement, decision or determination as should be made, and, to that end, shall have all the powers of the officer from whom the appeal is being taken, insofar as the decision on the particular issue is concerned.

## CHAPTER 17.68

### NONCONFORMITIES

#### SECTIONS

17.68.010 Intent

- 17.68.020 Nonconforming Lots of Record
- 17.68.030 Nonconforming Uses of Land
- 17.68.040 Nonconforming Structures
- 17.68.050 Repairs and Maintenance
- 17.68.060 Uses Permitted Under Conditional Uses Provisions
- 17.68.070 Nonconforming Parking, Loading, Signs, and Other Characteristics of Use
- 17.68.080 Continuity of Prior Conditions and Variances

17.68.010 Intent. Within the zoning Districts established by this Title or any amendment that may later be adopted, there may exist lots, structures, uses of land and structures, and characteristics of use that were lawful before the effective date of the applicable regulations, but that would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the terms of Chapter 17.04 of this Title or a future amendment thereof. This Chapter 17.68 is intended to permit these nonconformities to continue until they are removed but not to encourage their perpetuation. It is further intended that nonconformities shall not be enlarged upon, expanded, extended, or be used as grounds for adding other structures or uses prohibited elsewhere in the same District.

Because nonconformities do not conform to the requirements of the regulations within their zoning Districts, they are declared by this Chapter to be incompatible with the permitted uses in the Districts involved. A nonconforming use of land in combination shall not be extended or enlarged after passage of this Chapter by the addition of other uses. To avoid undue hardship, nothing in this Chapter shall be deemed to require a change in the plans, construction, or designated use of any building for which application for a building permit was made prior to the effective date of the adoption or an amendment of this Title.

17.68.020 Nonconforming Lots of Record. In any District, notwithstanding limitations imposed by other provisions of Chapter 17.04, permitted principal uses

and structures and customary accessory buildings may be erected on any lot that is of record at the effective date of the adoption or of an amendment of the applicable regulations. This provisions shall apply, even though such lot fails to meet the requirements for area or width, or both, that are applicable in the District. Such permitted principal uses and structures and accessory buildings shall be erected on such a nonconforming lot so that all dimensional requirements of the Zoning Ordinance including minimum yard requirements, the maximum height of structures, and the maximum coverage by all buildings are complied with.

17.68.030 Nonconforming Uses of Land. When, before the effective date of the adoption or an amendment of the applicable regulations, a lawful use of land existed that would not be permitted by the regulations thereafter imposed by Chapter 17.04 or amendments thereof, the use may be continued so long as it remains otherwise lawful, and shall be deemed a nonconforming use, provided however, that

- A. No such nonconforming use shall be enlarged in size or increased in size or extended to occupy a greater area of land than was occupied at the effective date of the adoption or an amendment of such applicable regulations;
- B. No such nonconforming use shall be moved, in whole or in part, to any portion of the lot or parcel other than that occupied by such use at the effective date of the adoption or an amendment of such applicable regulations;
- C. If any such nonconforming use of land ceases for any reason for a period of more than one (1) year, any subsequent use of land shall conform to the regulations specified by this Title for the District in which such land is located;
- D. No additional structure not conforming to the requirements of this Title shall be erected in connection with such nonconforming use of land.

17.68.040 Nonconforming Structures. When a lawful structure existed at the effective date of the adoption or an amendment of the applicable regulations and could not be built under the terms of the current regulations set forth in Section 17 or amendments thereof by reason of the restrictions on area, lot size or dimension, coverage, height, yards, and the location on the lot or other requirements concerning the structure, such

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structure may be continued so long as it remains otherwise lawful and shall be subject to the following provisions:

- A. No such nonconforming structure may be altered in any way that increases its nonconformity or enlarges any of its dimensions, but any structure or portion thereof may be altered to decrease its nonconformity;
- B. Should such nonconforming structure or nonconforming portion of a structure be damaged by any means it may be replaced to its original dimensions, and this replacement must occur within one (1) year of the time of damage or not at all and shall comply with all applicable building codes in force at the time of replacement;
- C. If no structural alterations are made, any nonconforming use of a structure and premises may be changed to another nonconforming use, after approval by the Hearing Examiner, and provided that the Hearing Examiner finds that the proposed use is more appropriate for the District than the existing nonconforming use, and in permitting such a change, the Hearing Examiner may require appropriate conditions and safeguards, and these conditions and safeguards may be made without public hearing;
- D. Any structure and premises in or on which a nonconforming use is superceded by a permitted use shall thereafter conform to the use regulations for the District in which they are located, and the nonconforming use may not thereafter be resumed;
- E. When a nonconforming use of a structure and premises is discontinued or abandoned for one (1) year, the structure and premises shall not thereafter be used except in conformity with the regulations of the District in which it is located; and
- F. When a structure and premises have a nonconforming use status, the removal or destruction of the structure shall eliminate the nonconforming status, and destruction for the purposes of this subsection is defined as damage causing loss value greater than fifty percent (50%) of the replacement cost at the time of destruction.

**17.68.050 Repairs and Maintenance.** Repairs may be made to any nonconforming structure or any portion of a structure containing a nonconforming use, provided they are restricted to the repairs or replacement of structural elements, fixtures, wiring, and plumbing

required so as to protect occupants and public safety. The need for such repairs or replacements shall be confirmed by the Building Official.

Nothing in this Chapter shall be deemed to prevent the strengthening or restoration to a safe condition of any building or part thereof declared to be unsafe by any official charged with protecting the public safety and upon the order of such official.

17.68.060 Uses Permitted Under Conditional Use

Provisions. A use that existed before the effective date of the adoption or an amendment of the applicable regulations and that is permitted as a conditional use in the District in which it is located under the terms of this Title shall not be deemed a nonconforming use. Such a use shall be considered to exist as a conditional use. The scope of the conditional use shall be governed by the provisions of this Chapter unless modified by the Hearing Examiner in accordance with Chapter 17.64.

17.68.070 Nonconforming Parking, Loading, Signs, and Other Characteristics of Use. If the characteristics of a use such as signs, off-street parking, off-street loading, lighting, or other matters required by this Title in relation to specific uses of land, structures, or premises are not in accordance with the requirements of this Title, no change that increases the nonconformity with such requirements shall be made in such characteristics of use. Any change that decreases the nonconformity to the requirements of this Title shall be permitted.

17.68.080 Continuity of Prior Conditions and Variances. Any valid conditional use or variance granted prior to the enactment of this Title shall be permitted to continue in accordance with such use or variance.

CHAPTER 17.72

OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS.

SECTIONS

17.72.010 Intent

17.72.020 Off-Street Parking Design Standards

17.72.030 Parking Spaces Required

17.72.040 Off-Street Loading Design

17.72.050 Off-Street Loading Berth

17.72.010 Intent.

Off-street parking is parking on privately owned property. The regulations concerning off-street parking are intended to reduce the need for parking on streets and the traffic congestion and hazards caused thereby, and to provide for off-street parking adequate to each type of development, both in terms of amount and location. All parking space requirements set forth in this Section shall be met prior to the occupancy of buildings and shall be satisfactorily maintained for each use listed in this section.

To avoid damage to the streets and hazards to the pedestrians and congestion on the streets, it is required that spaces in the form of off-street loading berths be provided on the same lot as the building to be served by the delivery or loading of goods, and that such berths be adequate in size and number to provide the service needed without affecting adjacent properties, public streets or public rights-of-way.

17.72.020 Off-Street Parking Design Standards.

1. The off-street parking required for the uses specified herein shall be for use only by the automobiles of the residents, employees, and customers of the activity served by the off-street parking.
2. Off-street parking requirements shall be met on the same lot as the building served by the off-street parking or on a lot that is within one hundred (100) feet of the building or facility served by the off-street parking and is specially reserved for the service of such building. Notwithstanding the above, off-street parking facilities for independent and separate buildings and uses may be provided collectively on a common lot, if these facilities are not less than the total requirements of the independent and separate

uses, and if all other requirements are met.

3. All off-street parking spaces shall be at least nine (9) feet in width and at least nineteen (19) feet in length, both exclusive of access drives, yards, and ramps. Such spaces shall have a vertical clearance of at least seven (7) feet.
4. Off-street parking spaces may be located in any required yard unless otherwise indicated in Chapter 17.
5. All off-street parking spaces and access areas shall be surfaced with portland cement concrete or asphaltic concrete paving, to the standards established by the City of Gig Harbor.
6. All open parking area with four or more parking spaces shall be effectively screened by a wall, a fence, or landscaping from any institutional or public building and from any property in a residential district.

17.72.030 Number of Off-Street Parking Spaces Required.  
The following is the number of off-street parking spaces required:

1. For single-family dwellings, two off-street parking spaces for each dwelling unit;
2. For multiple-family dwellings, two (2) off-street parking spaces for each dwelling unit.
3. For medical care facilities, as follows:
  - a. For hospitals, one off-street parking space for every two beds based on maximum capacity;
  - b. For medical and dental clinics, one off-street parking space for every two hundred and fifty (250) square feet of floor area;
  - c. For sanitariums, nursing homes, convalescent homes, and similar institutions, one off-street parking space for every four (4) beds as based on maximum capacity; and
  - d. For facilities for the elderly, disabled, and handicapped, the area set aside for off-street parking shall be in compliance

with Paragraph C.3.c., above, provided that, if the facility is used exclusively for the housing of the elderly, disabled, or handicapped, the City Council may allow a portion of the area required for off-street parking to be reserved as a landscaped area, if the Council finds that the required off-street parking is not immediately required and is in the best interest of the neighborhood.

4. For libraries, art galleries, and museums, two (2) off-street parking spaces for every one thousand (1,000) square feet of floor area.
5. For business, professional, and governmental offices, one off-street parking space for every three hundred (300) square feet of floor area;
6. For auditoriums, houses of religious worship, dance halls, exhibition halls, community centers, skating rinks, theaters, and other places of public assembly, one (1) off-street parking space for every possible four (4) seats in the auditoriums and assembly rooms. The maximum seating capacity shall be determined under the provisions of the Uniform Building Code;
7. For schools, as follows:
  - a. For elementary and junior high schools, one (1) off-street parking space for every five (5) seats in the main auditorium or assembly room; and
  - b. For high schools, one (1) off-street parking space for every four (4) seats in the main auditorium or assembly room, or three (3) off-street parking spaces for every classroom plus one (1) additional off-street parking space for each staff member or employee, whichever is greater.
8. For private clubs and lodges, one (1) off-street parking space for every two (2) beds plus one (1) space for each four (4) persons of the building's maximum seating capacity as determined by the Uniform Building Code.
9. For gasoline service stations and repair

garages, four (4) off-street parking spaces for each service bay or one (1) off-street parking space for every two (2) full pumps if service bays are not provided.

10. For bowling alleys, five (5) off-street parking spaces for each alley;
11. For restaurants, bars, cafeterias, and other eating and drinking establishments, one (1) off-street parking space for every three (3) seats based upon the maximum seating capacity as determined by the provisions of the Uniform Building Code.
12. For furniture and appliance stores, establishments selling motor vehicles, wholesale stores, repair shops for household equipment, and establishments selling or repairing radios and televisions and machinery, one (1) off-street parking space for every four hundred (400) square feet of floor area.
13. For retail sales, stores, personal service establishments, shoe repair establishments, barber and beauty shops, etc., one (10) off-street parking space for every three hundred (300) square feet of floor area.
14. For hotels and motels, one and one-quarter (1-1/4) off-street parking spaces for each room to rent.
15. For establishments producing, manufacturing, cleaning, servicing, testing, or repairing materials or commodities and for warehousing or storage buildings, one (1) off-street parking space for every five hundred (500) square feet of building floor area.
16. For motor freight companies, one (1) off-street parking space for every four (4) employees plus one (1) additional space for each of the vehicles in use, at any time, in the conduct of the business.
17. For marinas, moorages, and docks:
  - a. Moorages/slips less than forty-five (45) feet - one space for every two (2) berths;

- b. Moorages/slips forty-five (45) feet or longer - one space for every berth;
- c. All moorage facilities shall provide a minimum of two (2) parking spaces;
- d. If commercial or residential development is to be combined with a watercraft usage requiring parking, the usage which generates the larger number of spaces shall satisfy the requirements of the other usage.

18. For home occupations, a minimum of one (1) additional off-street parking space shall be provided above those off-street spaces provided to accommodate the owner's or operator's parking space (s). If the occupation requires any customers or clients to visit the premises at any time, at least two (2) off-street parking spaces shall be provided in addition to the owner's or operator's parking space (s).
19. For any other use not specifically mentioned or provided for, the Planning Director shall determine the standards to be applied for parking using as a guide the uses listed above that most closely resemble the uses proposed.

17.72.040 Off-Street Loading Design Requirements.

1. Off-street loading berths shall be provided on the same lot as the use the berths serve and shall not occupy the front yard of the lot.
2. No loading berth shall be located closer than twenty-five (25) feet to a residential lot line unless screened by shrubbery or a fence or a combination thereof, any one of which must be approved by the Planning Director.
3. Each loading berth shall be designed with access to a street or alley in a manner that does not permit undue interference with traffic movement on the public street or alley.
4. Each required loading berth shall be at least ten (10) feet by twenty-five (25) feet in size and eighteen (18) feet in height and shall provide eighty-five (85) feet of direct access uninterrupted by any change in horizontal or vertical direction between the loading dock and the street.
5. Each loading berth surface and access area

shall be improved with portland cement concrete or asphaltic concrete paving to the standards established by the City of Gig Harbor Public Works Director.

6. Areas set aside for off-street loading berths shall not be considered as satisfying the requirements for off-street parking space and shall not be used for vehicle repairs or servicing.
7. No approach to loading docks shall exceed a seven percent (7%) slope.
8. All or part of the off-street loading requirements may be met by loading facilities within the buildings.

17.72.050 Off-Street Loading Berth Requirements.

Off-street loading berths for passengers and freight shall be provided as given below and shall be on the same lot as the activity served unless the nature of the activities allows several owners to share a common location:

1. Public Uses. One berth required for each twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet of building floor space;
2. Commercial Uses. One berth required for each ten thousand (10,000) square feet of wholesale commercial building floor space;
3. Professional Office Uses. One berth required for each twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet of building floor space;
4. Industrial Uses. One berth required for each ten thousand (10,000) square feet of building floor space;
5. Residential Activities. One berth required for any residential facility occupying more than fifty thousand (50,000) square feet.

CHAPTER 17.78

LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING

SECTIONS

17.78.010 Intent

17.78.020 Application

- 17.78.030 Landscape Plans
- 17.78.040 Overlapping Requirements
- 17.78.050 Preservation of Significant Trees
- 17.78.060 Requirements for Residential Landscaping
- 17.78.070 Requirements for Commercial Landscaping
- 17.78.080 Parking Lot Landscaping and Screening
- 17.78.090 Screening/Buffering from SR-16
- 17.78.100 Alternative Landscape Plans
- 17.78.110 Performance Assurance
- 17.78.120 Maintenance

17.78.010 Intent. The intent of this chapter is to establish standards for landscaping and screening; to maintain or replace existing vegetation, provide physical and visual buffers between differing land uses, lessen environmental and improve aesthetic impacts of development and to enhance the overall appearance of the city. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, trees and shrubs planted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be types and ultimate sizes at maturity that will not impair scenic vistas.

17.78.020 Applicability. The standards as required by this chapter shall apply to all non-residential and non-agricultural uses of land, and to the construction or location of any residential building or development in which more than two (2) attached dwelling units would be contained, and where practicable, to changes in the use of land or structures.

17.78.030 Landscape Plans. A plan of the proposed landscaping and screening shall be provided as an adjunct to or incorporated into plans submitted for site plan review or Hearing Examiner review. The plans shall be drawn to scale and contain the following:

- Identification of existing trees and tree canopies in the project.

- Significant trees and vegetation to remain.
- Parking and vehicle use areas, driveways and walkways.
- Buildings or structures (existing and proposed).
- Soil mix and amendments.
- New landscaping - location, species, diameter or size of materials using both botanical and common names. Drawings shall reflect the ultimate size of plant materials.
- Identification of tree protection techniques.

**17.78.040 Overlapping Requirements.** In the event of a conflict between the standards for individual uses and other general requirements of this chapter, the more stringent shall apply. Determination of the appropriate standards shall be made by the Planning Director.

**17.78.050 Preservation of Significant Trees.**

**A. Applicability.** In required perimeter landscaping area, applicants shall retain all significant trees. The city encourages retention of trees on the remaining portions of the project sites as well. Significant trees are those which possess one or more of the following characteristics:

1. Contribute to the character of the area and do not constitute a safety hazard, or
2. Form a continuous canopy or dense buffer.
3. If the grade level adjoining a tree to be retained is to be raised to a degree that would endanger the viability of a tree or trees, then the applicant shall construct a dry rock wall or rock well around the tree. The diameter of this wall or well must be capable of protecting the tree. Proof of professional design may be required.
4. The applicant may install impervious or compactable surface within the area defined by the drip line of any tree to be retained if it is demonstrated that such activities will not endanger the tree or trees.

Retention of other existing vegetation for landscaping is strongly encouraged, however, it must be equal to or better than available nursery stock.

17.78.060 Requirements for Residential Landscaping.

A. Perimeter Areas. Notwithstanding other regulations found in this chapter, perimeter areas not covered with buildings, driveways, and parking and loading areas shall be landscaped. The required width of perimeter areas to be landscaped shall be at least the depth of the required yard or setback area. Areas to be landscaped shall be covered with live plant materials which will ultimately cover seventy-five percent (75%) of the ground area, within three (3) years. One deciduous tree a minimum of two (2) inch caliper or one six (6) foot evergreen or three (3) shrubs which should attain a height of three and one-half (3-1/2) feet within three (3) years shall be provided for every five hundred (500) square feet of the area to be landscaped. A minimum of forty percent (40%) of the required plantings shall be evergreen trees a minimum of six (6) feet in height for properties located within the boundaries of the Height Overlay District referenced in City Ordinance #537, Section 17.62. Trees shall be of a species that will ultimately grow to the height of the planned building. In the selection of trees and shrubs, consideration should be given to overall aesthetic impacts at maturity.

B. Buffer Areas. Where a development subject to these standards is contiguous to a zoning district of less intensive land uses, then that required perimeter area shall have a dense vegetative screen which is opaque to a height of six (6) feet and broken to a height of twenty (20) feet. The screening may be achieved through any one or a combination of the following methods:

- A solid row of evergreen trees or shrubs.
- A solid row of evergreen trees and shrubs be planted on an earthen berm an average of three and one-half (3-1/2) feet high along its midline.
- A combination of trees or shrubs and fencing where the amount of fence does not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the lineal distance of the side to be buffered as well as other plant materials, planted so that the ground will be covered within three (3) years.

C. **Parking Areas.** Parking areas shall be landscaped subject to the standards for parking lots found in Section 17.72 of this chapter.

**17.78.070 Requirements for Commercial Uses.**

A. **Perimeter Areas.** Notwithstanding other regulations found in this chapter, perimeter areas not covered with buildings, driveways and parking and loading areas shall be landscaped. The required width of perimeter areas to be landscaped shall be the required yard or setback area. Areas to be landscaped shall be covered with live plant materials which will ultimately cover seventy-five percent (75%) of the ground area within three (3) years and provide one (1) deciduous tree of a minimum of two (2) inch caliper or one (1) six (6) foot high evergreen tree or three (3) shrubs which will attain a height of three and one-half (3-1/2) feet within three (3) years shall be provided for every three hundred (300) square feet of area to be landscaped.

A minimum of forty percent (40%) of the required plantings shall be evergreen trees a minimum of six feet in height for properties located within the boundaries of the Height Overlay District referenced in City Ordinance #537, Section 17.62. Trees shall be of a species that will ultimately grow to the height of the planned building.

B. **Buffer Areas.** Where a development subject to these standards is contiguous to a residential zoning district or areas of residential development, then that required perimeter area shall be landscaped the full width of the setback areas as follows:

- A solid screen of evergreen trees or shrubs.
- A solid screen of evergreen trees and shrubs be planted on an earthen berm an average of three (3) feet high along its midline.
- A combination of trees or shrubs and fencing where the amount of fence does not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the lineal distance of the side to be buffered as well as other plant materials, planted so that the ground will be covered within three (3) years.

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C. Areas Without Setbacks. In those areas where there is no required setback or where buildings are built to the property line, development subject to this chapter shall provide a street tree at an interval of one every twenty (20) feet or planter boxes at the same interval or some combination of trees and boxes, or an alternative.

Street trees shall be a minimum caliper of two (2) inches and be a species approved by the city and installed to city standards. Planter boxes shall be maintained by the property owners and shall be of a type approved by the city.

D. Parking Area. Parking areas shall be landscaped subject to the standards for parking lots found in Section 17.72 of this chapter.

17.78.080 Parking Lot Landscaping and Screening. The standards of this section shall apply to public and private parking lots, residential parking areas providing spaces for more than ten (10) cars and all non-residential uses of land and development.

A. Perimeter Landscaping. In order to soften the visual effects or separate one parking area from another, or from other uses, the following standards apply:

1. Adjacent to a street or road, the minimum width shall be equal to the required yard for the underlying land use or a strip ten (10) feet wide whichever is greater. On all other perimeters the depth shall be a minimum of five (5) feet.
2. Visual screening through one or any of a combination of the following methods:
  - a. Planting of living ground cover as well as shrubs or small trees which will form a solid vegetative screen at least three (3) feet in height. OR
  - b. Construction of a barrier fence or wall to a height of three (3) feet combined with low planting or wall clinging plant

materials. Materials should be complementary to building design. OR

- c. Earth mounding or berms having a minimum height of three (3) feet and covered with shrubs and trees.
3. Other Landscaping Required. In addition to the screening required above, deciduous trees shall be provided at intervals no greater than thirty (30) feet and shall be a minimum of two (2) inch caliper.

B. Buffer Areas. Where a development subject to these standards is contiguous to a residential zoning district or areas of residential development, then that required perimeter area shall be landscaped as follows:

- A solid screen of evergreen trees or shrubs.
- A solid screen of evergreen trees and shrubs be planted on an earthen berm an average of three (3) feet high along its midline.
- A combination of trees or shrubs and fencing where the amount of fence does not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the lineal distance of the side to be buffered as well as other plan materials, planted so that the ground will be covered within three (3) years.

C. Downtown Parking Lots. For parking lots located within the downtown area, the following standards apply:

1. Provision of a minimum of five (5) foot wide landscaping strip intended to screen and soften the visual impacts of parking lots. Screening may be accomplished through any of the methods described under Section "A.2" above. In addition to screening, street trees, a minimum of two (2) inch caliper shall be provided at twenty (20) foot intervals.
2. In those instances where parking areas are bordered by more than one street, the strip required in "1" above shall only apply to the longest side. All other sides must be screened with a wall, fence, vegetative buffer or combination of these elements at a minimum

height of three and one-half (3-1/2) feet. The street tree requirements will pertain.

3. In order to protect vision clearances, areas around driveways and other access points are not required to comply with the full screening height standards. The specific horizontal distance exempt from this standard shall be determined after consultation with the Public Works Department.
- D. Interior Parking Lot Landscaping. All parking lots that contain twenty (20) or more parking spaces or are larger than six thousand (6,000) square feet in area shall have interior lot landscaping as follows:
  1. Landscaped Area. Parking lots that contain twenty (20) or more parking stalls or are six thousand (6,000) to thirty thousand (30,000) square feet in area shall have five (5) square feet of landscaped area per one hundred (100) square feet of vehicle use area, or fraction thereof. Parking lots larger than thirty thousand (30,000) square feet shall have seven (7) square feet of landscaped area per one hundred (100) square feet of vehicle use area or fraction thereof. Vehicle use area shall include driveways.
  2. Minimum Area. The minimum area of required landscaping shall be sixty-four (64) square feet in order to provide a proper plant environment.
  3. Maximum Contiguous Area. To encourage the proper distribution of landscaping throughout parking areas, no required landscaped areas shall be larger than three hundred-fifty (350) square feet in parking lots that are less than thirty thousand (30,000) square feet in area; and one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet in larger lots. Larger landscaped areas may be provided when the excess over the minimum requirement exceeds the total area requirement for the entire lot. Interior lot landscaping may be peninsular or island in shape and may accent pedestrian ways.
  4. Trees Required. Trees are required at a ratio

of at least one (1) per sixty-four (64) square feet of landscaped area or fraction thereof. They shall have a clear trunk to a height of at least five (5) feet above the ground. Trees shall be planted no closer than four (4) feet from pavement edges where vehicles overhang planted areas.

5. Shrubs and Ground Cover. Required landscaped areas remaining after three planting shall be planted in shrubs and/or ground cover. The distribution of plants shall be adequate to ultimately achieve seventy-five percent (75%) ground coverage within three (3) years of plantings.
6. Vehicle Overhang. Parked vehicles may overhang landscaped areas up to two (2) feet by wheel stops or curbing.

17.78.090 Screening/Buffering from SR-16 and SR-16 Interchanges.

All development of properties adjacent to SR-16 and SR-16 Interchange ramps shall be required to leave a buffer between the property line and any development. This buffer shall be a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet in depth. Along SR-16 outside of the defined interchange areas, this buffer shall be adequate to totally screen development from views from SR-16. If existing vegetation is not adequate to accomplish this, then additional evergreen vegetation with a minimum height of four (4) to six (6) feet shall be planted.

Adjacent to SR-16 interchange ramps landscape buffering shall be done according to the standards for perimeter landscaping for residential and commercial areas in the height overlay district. The buffer area shall be covered with live plant materials which will ultimately cover seventy-five percent (75%) of two (2) inch caliper or one six (6) foot evergreen or three (3) shrubs which will attain a height of three and one-half (3-1/2) feet within three (3) years shall be provided for every five hundred (500) square feet of the area to be landscaped. Forty percent (40%) of the required planting shall be evergreen trees a minimum of six (6) feet in height and of a species that will grow to the height of the buildings in the development. If possible, evergreen trees shall be retained to meet this requirement.

**17.78.100 Alternative Landscaping Plans.** The Planning Director may authorize modification of the landscape requirements when alternative plans comply with the intent of this chapter and:

- A. The proposed landscaping represents a superior result than that which would be achieved by strictly following requirements of this section. OR
- B. Incorporates the increased retention of significant trees and naturally occurring undergrowth. OR
- C. Incorporates unique, historic or architectural features such as fountains, sculptures, structures and the like. OR
- D. The proposed landscaping provides additional waterview and/or harbor access opportunities in a WC zone

**17.78.110 Performance Assurance.**

- A. Landscaping required pursuant to an approved site plan shall be installed prior to the issuance of Certificate of Occupancy or final inspection, unless the property owner submits a performance assurance device committing to install the landscaping within one year.
- B. Performance Assurance devices shall take the form of one of the following.:
  - 1. A surety bond executed by a surety company authorized to transact business in the state in a form approved by the City Attorney.
  - 2. Cash.
  - 3. A letter of credit approved by the City Attorney from a financial institution stating that the money is held for the purpose of development of the landscaping.
  - 4. Assigned savings pursuant to an agreement approved by the City Attorney.
- C. If a performance assurance device is employed, the property owner shall provide the City with a non-revocable notarized agreement granting the City

and its agents the right to enter the property and perform any required work remaining undone at the expiration of the assurance device.

D. If the developer/property owner fails to carry out provisions of the agreement and the City has incurred costs or expenses resulting from such failure, the City shall call on the bond or cash deposit for reimbursement. If the amount of the bond or cash deposit is less than the cost and expense incurred by the city, the developer shall be liable to the city for the difference. If the amount of the bond or cash deposit exceeds the cost and expense incurred by the City, the remainder shall be released.

17.78.120 Maintenance. Whenever landscaping is required under the provisions of this Chapter, shrubs and trees in the landscaping and planting areas shall be maintained in a healthy growing condition. Planting beds shall not be located over impervious surfaces. All landscaped areas shall be provided with sprinkler systems or hose bibs within seventy-five (75) feet of plantings. Dead or dying trees or shrubs shall be replaced immediately, and the planting area shall be maintained reasonable free of noxious weeds and trash.

Similarly, if necessary, the trees or shrubs shall receive pruning or removal to avoid the creation of a safety hazard or nuisance through excessive shading, overhanging adjacent properties, or to preserve a view or scenic vista

CHAPTER 17.84

HOME OCCUPATIONS

SECTIONS

17.84.010 Intent  
17.84.020 Definition  
17.84.030 General Requirement

17.84.010 Intent.

It is the purpose of this section to:

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

17.84.020 Definition.

1. Home Occupation. Any activity conducted for financial gain or profit in a dwelling unit, and which activity is not generally or customarily characteristic of activities for which dwelling units are intended or designed.
2. Such activity is clearly incidental or secondary to the residential use of a dwelling unit, and is conducted only by persons residing in the dwelling unit plus no more than one (1) non-resident assistant or employee. Persons engaged in building trades or similar fields, using their dwelling unit or residential premises as an office for business activities carried on off the premises may have more employees than the limitation set forth in this section if they are not employed on the premises.
3. The occupation may include such uses as personal, business or professional services, offices and repair shops for household items; however, home occupations shall emit no noise, air pollutants, waste products or other effects detrimental to the environment or the neighborhood beyond those normally emanating from residential use.

17.84.030 General Requirements.

1. Home occupations shall occupy not more than

thirty percent (30%) of the total floor area of the residence.

2. The occupation shall be carried on entirely within a residence by the occupant thereof.
3. The occupation shall be conducted in such a manner as to give no outward appearance nor manifest any characteristics of a business, in the ordinary meaning of the term, that would infringe upon the right of the neighboring residents to enjoy a peaceful occupancy of their homes.
4. Retail sales are generally discouraged. Limited stock in trade may be sold or displayed within the structure on the premises, and no equipment or material shall be stored on any exterior portion of the premises.
5. Parking of customers' or clients' vehicles shall create no hazard or unusual congestion. The home occupation shall not generate traffic volumes greater than what would normally be expected in a residential neighborhood. Parking shall be provided in conformance with Chapter 17.72.
6. Any signs utilized in the home occupation shall be limited to one (1) flush-mounted sign on the main residential structure which shall not exceed two (2) square feet in area. Such sign shall be unlit and shall use nonflashing, nonreflective materials; and the legend shall show only the name of the occupant and type of occupation. Colors shall be subdued and consistent with residential character.
7. Home occupations shall comply with all other local, state or federal regulations pertinent to the activity pursued, and the requirements or permission granted or implied by this section shall not be construed as an exemption from such regulations.
8. A home occupation permit issued to one person shall not be transferable to any other person; nor shall a home occupation permit be valid at any address other than the one appearing on the

permit.

9. Any person engaging in a home occupation shall register as a business under Section 5 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code.

## CHAPTER 17.88

### PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE (PRD)

#### SECTIONS

- 17.88.010 Intent
- 17.88.020 Where Permitted
- 17.88.030 Permitted Uses
- 17.88.040 Who May Apply
- 17.88.050 Relationship of Chapter to Other Ordinances
- 17.88.060 Minimum Site Area
- 17.88.070 Procedure for Approval
- 17.88.080 Contents of Application
- 17.88.090 Development/Design Standards
- 17.88.100 Density Bonus
- 17.88.110 Open Space
- 17.88.120 Expiration/Extensions
- 17.88.130 Minor/Major Adjustments to Final Plan
- 17.88.140 Parties Bound

#### 17.88.010 Intent

The intent of the PRD zone is to provide for greater site design and flexibility and, thus, more creative and imaginative projects than generally possible under conventional zoning regulations. It is further intended

to preserve unique or sensitive physical features, such as steep slopes, views, retention of natural vegetation, and to provide more open space and recreational amenities than would be available under conventional land development practices. Additionally, it is intended to promote more economical and efficient use of land and a unified design concept for residential development.

17.88.020 Where Permitted.

Planned Residential Development may be permitted in the following zoning districts consistent with the development and design standards of this chapter.

1. All residential districts (R-1, R-2, R-3);
2. Waterfront residential.

17.88.030 Types of Uses Permitted.

1. All single family detached dwellings, as defined in Section 17.04 in R-1 Districts.
2. All single family and multifamily dwellings as defined in Section 17.04 in R-2 and R-3 Districts.
3. Accessory uses.
4. Uses that may be allowed by conditional use permits in the underlying zoning subject to the requirements of Section 17.64.

17.88.040 Who May Apply

An application for approval of a PRD may be filed by a person having a legal interest in the property to be included in the PRD.

17.88.050 Relationship of this Chapter to Other Ordinance Provisions.

1. The lot size, lot width, setbacks, building and development coverage, height limits and other dimensional requirements of the underlying use district may be superceded.

2. Platting Requirements.

When any parcel of land in a PRD is intended for sale or individual ownership, the platting requirements of the Gig Harbor Subdivision Ordinance and applicable state laws pertaining to subdivisions shall be followed.

Applications for plat approval should be submitted and processed concurrently with an application for PRD approval.

3. Public Hearing Required.

Prior to the approval of a PRD, the Hearing Examiner shall hold a public hearing in accordance with the procedures of Section 17.10 of the Gig Harbor Zoning Ordinance.

17.88.060 Minimum Site Area

The minimum site area for PRD shall be two (2) acres.

17.88.070 Procedure for Approval of a Planned Residential Development Projects

1. Approval of a PRD shall be considered an amendment to the official zoning map and except as provided by this chapter, shall be processed as any other amendment with respect to notice, hearing and appeals. Prior to making application, the proponent may meet with the city staff for an initial discussion of the proposal and applicable policies, ordinances and standards.
2. The preliminary development plan shall be reviewed by the Hearing Examiner. The action of the Examiner shall constitute a recommendation to the City Council. The Hearing Examiner shall not recommend approval of the PRD unless it is determined that said plan complies with the policies of the Comprehensive Plan, the requirements of the Gig Harbor Zoning Ordinance Title 17 and the intent and provisions of this Section. The Examiner may recommend terms and conditions of approval. The approved preliminary plan or subsequent revision thereto, shall be binding as to the general intent and layout of roads, buildings, use of land and open spaces.
3. Within three (3) years of the date of the preliminary development plan approval, the applicant shall submit a final development plan for the proposed development for approval by the City Council. After finding that the final development plan has been completed in accordance with the provisions of the approved

preliminary development plan, and that all required improvements have been completed or that arrangements or contracts have been entered into to guarantee that such required improvements will be completed, and that the interests of the City are fully protected, the City Council shall approve the final development plan, accepting the dedications and easements which are included thereon. The final development plan shall consist of a final plat, binding site plan, or any combination thereof.

4. If a proposed PRD is to be developed in phases, the entire project shall be portrayed on the preliminary development plan, and each phase shall individually receive final development plan review.

17.88.080 Preliminary Approval Contents of Application.  
Each application for preliminary development plan approval shall contain the following information:

1. An environmental checklist or impact statement, as may be applicable, pursuant to Title 18 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code.
2. The title and location of the proposed development, together with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the recorded owners of the land and the applicant, and if applicable, the name, address and telephone number of any architect, planner, designer or engineer responsible for the preparation of the plan, and of any authorized representative of the applicant.
3. A written description addressing the scope of the project, the nature and size in gross floor area of each use, and the total amount of square feet to be covered by impervious surfaces.
4. A vicinity map showing site boundaries and existing roads and accesses within and bounding the site.
5. A topographic map delineating contours, existing and proposed, at five (5) foot intervals and which locates existing streams, marshes, steep slopes and other natural features.
6. Site plans drawn to a scale no smaller than one

inch equals thirty (30) feet showing the location and size of proposed uses, buildings, buffer areas, yards, open spaces and landscaped areas.

7. A circulation plan drawn to a scale acceptable to the Public Works Director illustrating all access points for the site and the size and location of all driveways, streets and roads, parking and loading areas, and existing and proposed pedestrian circulation system.
8. A utility, drainage and stormwater runoff plan.
9. A plot plan of all proposed landscaping including the types of plants and screening to be used.
10. Any other information deemed pertinent by the City staff.

#### 17.88.090 Development and Design Standards

1. Lot area and width requirements may be reduced where the site plan is such that light, air and privacy are provided.
2. Building and development coverage of individual parcels may exceed the percentage permitted by the underlying zone, provided that overall coverage of the project does not exceed the percentage permitted by the underlying zone.
3. Building height may exceed the maximum permitted by ordinance, provided that the project design protects the views and privacy of properties inside and outside of the project but in no case shall the maximum height exceed 35 feet in R-1 and R-2 districts.
4. Structures located on the perimeter of the PRD shall be setback in accordance with front yard setbacks of the underlying zone.
5. For perimeter buildings exceeding the maximum height of the underlying zone, the distance between such buildings and the perimeter of the PRD shall not be less than the front yard setback of the underlying zone plus five (5) feet for each foot of excess height.

#### 17.88.100 Density Bonus

Increases in density over that permitted in the underlying zone are permitted as follows:

1. Provisions for open space, as identified in subsection K: Ten percent increase (+10%).

2. Preservation of a natural feature such as, but no limited to, a wetland, stream corridor, unique geological feature, substantial overstory vegetation, etc.: Ten percent increase (+10%)
3. Preservation of a scenic vista corridor (s) within and off-site: Ten percent increase (+10%).
4. Unique landscaping throughout the project site: Ten percent increase (+10%).
5. Additional open space: One percent (1%) increase in density for each one percent (1%) increase in open space over the minimum required.

The total, allowable maximum density increase shall not exceed 30%.

#### 17.88.110 Open Space

1. Common open space shall comprise at least thirty percent (30%) of the gross area of the PRD, and shall be used as a recreational, park or environmental amenity for collective enjoyment by occupants of the development. Common open space shall not include public or private streets, driveways, parking areas, or the required yards for buildings or structures; provided, however, that up to thirty percent (30%) of the required open space may be composed of open space on contiguous privately owned properties reserved by easement or covenant to assure that the open space will be permanent.
2. Common open space areas may not be computed to include any submerged.
3. At least fifty percent (50%) of the common open space area must be usable for active or passive recreation, and which is also not utilized as a utility improvement or structure.
4. Common open space may contain such structures and improvements as are necessary and appropriate for the out-of-doors enjoyment of the residents of the PRD.
5. The developer shall provide a bond or other financial assurance acceptable to the City Council that any improvements made in the common open space will be completed. The City shall release the bond or other assurance when

the improvements have been completed in accordance with the development plan.

6. Before approval of the final development plan may be granted, the developer shall submit to the city covenants, deeds and/or homeowners' association by-laws and other documents guaranteeing maintenance, construction and common fee ownership, if applicable, of open space, community facilities, private roads and drives, and all other commonly owned and operated property. These documents shall be reviewed and approved by the city attorney to insure that they comply with the requirements of this chapter prior to approval of the final development plan by the city. Such documents and conveyances shall be recorded, with the County Auditor as a condition of any final development plan approval.
7. All common open space shall be landscaped in accordance with the landscaping plan submitted by the applicant and approved by the city. Natural landscape features which are to be preserved, such as existing trees, drainage ways, etc., may be accepted as part of the landscaping plan.

17.88.120 Expiration and Extensions

1. If a final development plan is not approved within three (3) years of the date of preliminary development plan approval, and an extension of time has not been granted, the PRD approval shall expire.
2. Knowledge of the expiration date and initiation of a request for an extension of time is the responsibility of the applicant. Requests for an extension of time must be submitted to the Planning Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of PRD approval. The Planning Department shall schedule the request for extension for public hearing before the Hearing Examiner. One extension is the maximum to be granted and it shall be for no more than two (2) years and the PRD may be subject to any new or amended regulations, requirements, policies or standards which are adopted after the original date of approval, unless there has been substantial on site work completed.

17.88.130 Minor and Major Adjustment of the Final Plan

1. Minor adjustments may be made and approved when a building permit is issued. Any such alteration must be approved by the Planning Director. Minor adjustments are those which may affect the precise dimensions or siting of buildings (i.e., lot coverage, height, setbacks), but which do not affect the basic character or arrangement and number of buildings approved in the plan, nor the density of the development or the amount and quality of open space and landscaping. Such dimensional adjustments shall not vary more than ten percent (10%) from the original.
2. Major amendments are those which substantially change the character, basic design, density, open space or other requirements and conditions of the final plan. When a change constitutes a major amendment, no building or other permit shall be issued without prior review and recommendation by the Hearing Examiner, and approval by the City Council, of such amendment.

17.88.140 Parties Bound

Once the development plan is approved, all persons and parties, their successors, heirs or assigns, who own, have or will have, by virtue of purchase, inheritance or assignment, any interest in the real property within the proposed PRD, shall be bound by the conditions of approval of the development and these shall be recorded as a covenant to any deed with the land.

CHAPTER 17.90

PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT

SECTIONS

- 17.90.010 Intent
- 17.90.020 Approval (Council Action)
- 17.90.030 Parcel Characteristics

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17.90.040 Requirements

17.90.050 Findings

17.90.060 Approval

17.90.070 Application Available

17.90.080 Duration of Approval

17.90.010 Intent

The intent of Planned Unit Developments is to allow and make possible greater variety and diversification in the relationships between buildings, open spaces, and uses, and to encourage the conservation and retention of historical and natural topographic features, while meeting the purposes and objectives of the comprehensive plan. To accomplish this purpose the underlying district regulations such as, but not limited to, setback lines, density, uses, and height and bulk of buildings, may be varied. Provided, however, such variances shall not conflict with the comprehensive plan and existing uses, nor create adverse environmental affects. A planned unit development may be allowed in any district.

17.90.020 Approval of Planned Development

The City Council, after receiving recommendations from the Hearing Examiner, shall approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove proposed planned unit developments, subject to a public hearing and the provisions of this Chapter. Changes in a proposed planned unit development including use, expansion of continuation of site area, or alteration of structures shall not be allowed unless all regulations in this Chapter are complied with including this approval procedure.

17.90.030 Parcel Characteristics

No planned unit development application shall be made for an area of less than two (2) acres unless the City makes the following findings:

1. An unusual physical or topographical feature of importance, exists on the site or in the neighborhood, which can be conserved and still leave the applicant equivalent use of the land by the use of a planned unit development.

2. The property or its neighborhood has a historical character of importance to the community that will be protected by use of a planned unit development.
3. The property is adjacent to or across the street from property which has been developed or redeveloped under a planned unit development, and a planned unit development will contribute to the maintenance of the amenities and values of the neighboring planned unit development.

17.90.040 Requirements

The use of a planned unit development shall be as follows:

1. All private roads and drives and/or vehicle maneuvering area shall have an unobstructed width consistent with traffic loads and overall design of the planned unit development, and shall be constructed so that the roadway pavement structure meets City standards. The configuration and design of such facilities shall be approved by the Public Works Director.
2. All provisions for vehicle parking shall be in designated parking areas.
3. Uses at variance with the underlying district shall be compatible with, and no more detrimental than, those uses specifically listed for a district. Mixed uses may be allowed.
4. No open area may be accepted as common open space within a planned unit development, unless it meets the following requirements:
  - a. The location, shape, size, and character of the common open space is suitable for the planned unit development.
  - b. The common open space is for preservation of natural flora and fauna, amenity or recreational purposes, and the uses authorized are appropriate to the scale and character of the planned unit development, considering its size, density, expected

population, topography, and the number and type of dwelling provided.

- c. Common open space will be suitably improved for its intended use, except that common open space containing natural features worthy of preservation may be left unimproved. The buildings, structures and improvements to be permitted in the common open space are those appropriate to the uses which are authorized for the common open space.
- d. Land shown in the final development plan as common open space, and landscaping and/or planting contained therein, shall be permanently maintained by and conveyed to one of the following:
  - i. An association of owners shall be formed and continued for the purpose of maintaining the common open space. The association shall be created as an association of owners under the laws of the state and shall adopt and propose articles of incorporation or association and by-laws, and adopt and improve a declaration of covenants and restrictions on the common open space that are acceptable to the City, in providing for the continuing care of the space. No common open space may be put to a use not specified in the final development plan unless the final development plan is first amended to permit the use. No change of use may be considered as a waiver of any of the covenants limiting the use of common open space areas, and all rights to enforce these covenants against any use permitted are expressly reserved to the City as well as the owners.
  - ii. A public agency which agrees to maintain the common open space and any buildings, structures, or other improvements which have been placed on it.

17.90.050 Findings

In approving the preliminary development plans, conditionally or otherwise, the Hearing Examiner shall first find that all of the following conditions exist:

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1. That the site of the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate said use and all yards, spaces, walls and fences, parking loading, landscaping, and other features necessary to ensure compatibility with and not inconsistent with the underlying district.
2. That the site for the proposed use relates to streets, adequate in width and pavement type to carry the quantity and kind of traffic generated by the proposed uses and that adequate public utilities are available to serve the proposal.
3. That the proposed use will have no significant adverse effect on existing uses or permitted uses.
4. That the establishment maintenance and/or conducting of the uses for which the development plan review is sought will not, under the circumstances of the particular case be detrimental to the public welfare, injurious to the environment, nor shall the use be inconsistent with or injurious to the character of the neighborhood or contrary to its orderly development.

17.90.060 Approval

1. The following information shall be submitted for Hearing Examiner and City Council review of the preliminary development plans:
  - a. A copy of the site plan drawn to scale, showing the proposed layout.
  - b. A landscape plan drawn to scale, showing the location of landscape areas.
  - c. A written statement by the landowner or his agent setting forth the reasons why this planned unit development would be consistent with the goals and policies of the comprehensive plan.
2. The following information shall be submitted for Hearing Examiner and City Council review and approval of the final development plan:
  - a. Environmental checklist or environmental impact statement, if required.
  - b. Seven copies of a site plan drawn to scale and dimensioned, showing the existing topography at five (5) foot contour intervals, the proposed layout of structures, off-street parking and loading

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areas, landscape areas, pedestrian walks, driveways, ornamental lighting, screening, fences, and walls.

- c. Seven copies of a landscape plan, drawn to scale and dimensioned, showing the location of proposed landscape areas, together with varieties and size of plant materials to be used, together with the method of maintenance, also, other landscape features such as screening, fences, lighting, and signing shall be indicated.
- d. Copies of architectural drawings or sketches, drawn to scale, including floor plan and elevation indicating types of materials and colors to be used may be required.
- e. A schedule showing the proposed time and sequence within which the applications for final approval of all sections of the planned unit development are intended to be filed.

3. Within 3 years following the approval of the development plan, the applicant shall file with the City Council a final development plan containing in final form the information required in the preliminary plan. The City Council may extend the period up to a maximum of one year. If the City Council finds that the final development plan is consistent with the preliminary development plan approval, and that all conditions of the preliminary development plan approval have been satisfied, it may approve the final development plan in total, or in phases.

4. In granting any planned unit development, the City Council may require adequate guarantees of compliance with the final development plan. Such guarantee may be a performance bond or other form of security in an amount sufficient to assure compliance, and may provide that such security be reduced as stages of construction are completed. Alternatively, or in addition to the security, conditions may be imposed requiring other adequate assurances that the structures and improvements will be completed, subject to review and approval as to form by the City Attorney, or that the City may, in the event of the applicant's failure to comply, take the steps necessary to assure compliance,

including performing the construction or maintenance itself, and levy a lien for all costs thereof against the property.

17.90.070 Application to be Available for Public Inspection. From the time of the filing of the application until the time of final action by the City Council, the application together with all plans and data submitted shall be available for public inspection in the office of the Planning Director.

17.90.080 Duration of Approval. Construction on the project must commence within twelve (12) months from the date of final Council action; otherwise, the approval of the application becomes null and void.

## CHAPTER 17.96

### SITE PLANS

#### SECTIONS

- 17.96.010 Intent
- 17.96.020 Applicability
- 17.96.030 Site Plans and Review
- 17.96.040 Preliminary Site Plan Conference
- 17.96.050 Contents of Application
- 17.96.060 Application Open for Public Inspection
- 17.96.070 Duration of Approval
- 17.96.840 Amendments to a Site Plan

17.96.010 Intent. This Chapter is intended to provide procedures for the review of site plan applications. Site plan review is intended to insure that development projects carried out in given zoning districts are executed in a manner consistent with existing ordinances concerning public utilities, traffic, facilities, and services and provide unified site design, access,

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landscaping, screening, building placement, and parking lot layout. The site plan review process is not intended to review and determine the appropriateness of a given use on a given site. It is intended to insure that development of a site will provide the features necessary to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Gig Harbor.

**17.96.020 Applicability.** Site plan review and approval shall be required prior to issuance of a building permit when provided under this section.

- A. Site plan review and approval shall be required for all non-residential uses, or for the location of any building or multi-family development in which more than two (2) dwelling units would be contained, and shall apply throughout the City of Gig Harbor.. Planned unit developments and divisions of land of four (4) lots or less are exempted from review.
- B. The expansion of a building or development exceeding twenty percent (20%) of the existing floor or site area, or any one thousand (1,000) square foot addition, thereto, whichever is the lesser.
- C. The change of use or occupancy of any existing building or development, as defined per the Uniform Building Code.

**17.96.030 Site Plans and Review.** Any use that is subject to the requirements for a site plan review prior to issuance of building permits shall be processed in accordance with the following procedures:

- A. **Application.** An application for site plan approval may be filed by the property owner, lessee of the property with more than a month-to-month tenancy, or authorized agent of the property owner. These shall be submitted to the Planning Director for transmittal to the Hearing Examiner with Analysis and recommendation.
- B. **Hearing Examiner Review.** The Planning Director shall assign a date no earlier than two (2) weeks after the date of application for a public hearing before the Hearing Examiner. The site plans will be forwarded to the Examiner who shall consider the approval of the site plans with specific attention to the following:

1. Compatibility with the City's Comprehensive Plan;
2. Compatibility with the surrounding buildings' occupancy and use factors; and
3. All relevant statutory codes, regulations, ordinance, and compliance with the same.

The review and decision of the Examiner shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 17.10.

**17.96.040 Preliminary Site Plan Conference.** Prior to applying for site plan review, a developer may present to city staff, a preliminary site plan, which shall contain a rough and approximate manner all of the information required on the site plan application. The purpose of the conference is to enable the developer to obtain the advice of city staff as to the intent, standards and provisions of this chapter with regard to the proposed plan. Information presented for preliminary site plan discussion shall be considered confidential.

**17.96.050 Contents of Application.** Each application for site plan review shall contain the following information:

- A. An environmental checklist when required.
- B. The title and location of the proposed development, together with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the recorded owners of the land and the applicant, and if applicable, the name, address and telephone number of any architect, planner, designer or engineer responsible for the preparation of the plan, and of any authorized representative of the applicant.
- C. A written description addressing the scope of the project, the nature and size in gross floor area of each use, and the total amount of square feet to be covered by impervious surfaces.
- D. A vicinity map showing site boundaries and existing roads and accesses within and bounding the site.
- E. A topographic map delineating contours, existing and proposed, at five (5) foot intervals and which locates existing streams, marshes and other natural

features.

- F. Site plans drawn to a scale no smaller than one inch equals thirty (30) feet showing location and size of uses, buffer areas, yards, open spaces and landscaped areas and any existing structures, easements and utilities.
- G. A circulation plan drawn to a scale acceptable to the Public Works Director illustrating all access points for the site, the size and location of all driveways, streets and roads with proposed width and outside turning radius, the location, size and design of parking and loading areas, and existing and proposed pedestrian circulation system.
- H. A drainage and storm water runoff plan.
- I. A utility plan.
- J. A plot plan of all proposed landscaping including the treatment and materials used for open spaces, and the types of plants and screening to be used.
- K. Typical building elevation and architectural style.
- L. Any other information deemed pertinent by the city staff.

17.96.060 Application Open for Public Inspection. From the time of the filing of the application until the time of final action by the City, the application together with all plans and data submitted shall be available for public inspection at the Planning Department.

17.96.070 Duration of Approval. Construction on the project must commence within twenty-four (24) months from the date of final council action; otherwise, the approval of the project becomes null and void.

17.96.840 Amendments to a Site Plan.

- A. Minor adjustments may be made and approved when a building permit is issued. Any such alteration must be approved by both the Planning Director and the Public Works Director. Minor adjustments are those which may affect the precise dimensions or siting of building (i.e., lot coverage, height, setbacks), but which do not affect the basic character or

arrangement and number of buildings approved in the plan, nor the density of the development or the amount and quality of open space and landscaping. Such dimensional adjustments shall not vary more than ten percent (10%) from the original, but shall not exceed the standards of the applicable district.

B. Major amendments are those which substantially change the character, basic design, density, open space or other requirements and conditions of the site plan. When a change constitutes a major amendment, no building or other permit shall be issued without prior review and recommendation by the Hearing Examiner, and approval by the City Council, of such amendment.

## CHAPTER 17.100

### AMENDMENTS

#### SECTIONS

- 17.100.010 Authority to Amend
- 17.100.020 Manner of Initiation
- 17.100.030 Report to the City Council
- 17.100.040 Hearing Prior to Amendment
- 17.100.050 Amendment Determination
- 17.100.060 Amendment Recording
- 17.100.070 Amendment Procedure

17.100.010 Authority to Amend. Whenever the public health, safety, general welfare, modifications to the Comprehensive Plan, or good zoning practice requires, the City Council may amend, supplement, modify, repeal, or otherwise change these regulations and the boundaries of the Districts in conformity with the provisions of this Chapter and in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.

17.100.020 Manner of Initiation. Changes in this Title

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may be initiated in the following manner:

A. Source.

1. The City Council upon its own motion may initiate changes in this title.
2. The Planning Commission upon its own motion may initiate changes in this Title.
3. Any individual, corporation, or agency other than those listed above may initiate changes in this Title subject to the following:
  - a. For a zoning map amendment, the initiating individual, corporation, or agency must be the owners or owner of a majority of the land in the petition area; and
  - b. For an amendment to the text of this Title, the initiating individual, corporation, or agency must be an owner of real property within the City of Gig Harbor.

B. Form. An application for a change in the boundary of a District or the text of this section shall be filed with the Planning Department and shall be accompanied by such data and information as are necessary to assure the fullest practicable presentation of the facts. It shall set forth reasons and justification for proposing a change.

C. Minimum Area. Except for the extension of existing District boundaries, no change in any use District, classification, or official zoning map shall be considered, if it contains fewer than two (2) acres as measured without including streets or alley rights-of-way.

D. The City Council shall not consider any proposed amendment to the zoning map that is substantially the same as any other proposed amendment submitted within the previous twelve (12) months which was disapproved.

17.100.030 Public Hearing and Notification. Public hearings and notifications related thereto shall be accomplished in accordance with the procedures and requirements established pursuant to Section 17.01.080, except that for amendments to the text of the Title, a public hearing shall be conducted by the Planning

Commission. The Planning Commission's action shall be a recommendation to the City Council.

17.100.040 Report to the City Council. The City Council shall consider the report and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner or Planning Commission on any proposed change or amendment regardless of the manner in which such change is initiated. Such report shall base its conclusion on the following criteria:

- A. That the request for reclassification furthers the goals, policies, and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.
- B. That there has been a change in conditions upon which the existing zoning classification is based, sufficient to demonstrate that the current classification does not meet the public's interest. A changed condition constitutes a substantial and material change which was not anticipated nor foreseen since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan or the last area zoning.
- C. That the requested classification will further the public's health, safety, and general welfare.

17.100.050 Amendment Determination. The City Council shall consider a recommendation for change in the boundary of a District or any other recommendation proposing a change in this Title together with the report of the Planning Director and the Hearing Examiner or Planning Commission at the City Council's next regular meeting after the receipt of such report, and if, from the facts presented by the findings of the report, it is determined that the public health, safety, and general welfare would be preserved, and change or amendment is in keeping with the spirit and intent of the Comprehensive Plan, the City Council, by ordinance, shall approve such amendment, supplemental change, or reclassification.

17.100.060 Amendment Recording. All changes of the District boundaries shall be filed within the office of the City Clerk and shall be noted on the appropriate official zoning map.

17.100.070 Amendment Procedure. Amendments to this Title or District boundaries shall comply with the requirements of Title 1, Chapter 1.08 Ordinance Passing Procedure, of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code.

Section 3. The following chapter of the Gig Harbor Municipal

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Code is hereby modified as follows:

17.60.020 Permitted Uses.

- A. In an R-1 zone, a lot which abuts upon or is located across the street or alley from property in a nonresidential zone, may be used for:
  1. Two-family dwellings, provided that such lot is at least ~~fifteen~~ fourteen thousand square feet in size;...

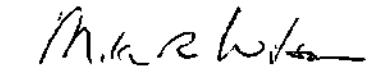
Section 4. If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance, or the statutes adopted herein by reference, should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after publication of an approved summary.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington, and approved by its Mayor at a regular meeting of the council held on this 26th day of February, 1990.

  
Gretchen A. Wilbert, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Michael R. Wilson  
City Administrator/Clerk

Filed with city clerk: 12/12/89  
Passed by city council: 2/26/90  
Date published: 3/28/90  
Date effective: 4/2/90