

INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS CODE ORDINANCE NO. XX-XXX

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 16-9 OF CHAPTER 16, REPEALING CHAPTER 16, ARTICLE X, SIGNS, IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER 16, ARTICLE X, SIGNS OF THE LOS ALAMOS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, the Incorporated County of Los Alamos ("County") is an incorporated home rule county as authorized by N.M. Constitution, Article X, Section 6; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Legislature, pursuant to Chapters 3, 4, and 5 of the New Mexico Statutes Annotated (*see generally* NMSA 1978, § 3-18-1 *et seq.*) has given municipalities and counties the power to regulate land use within their territorial limits; and

WHEREAS, such authority, NMSA 1978, Section 3-18-17, includes the power to regulate private and public property and nuisances; and

WHEREAS, the County, in Chapter 16 of the Los Alamos County Code of Ordinances ("Code") has enacted ordinances regulating the zoning, planning, and use of land within its borders; and

WHEREAS, the County Council, in Article X of Chapter 16 of the Code, has enacted ordinances to provide for the regulation of signage within the County ("Sign Code"); and

WHEREAS, the County Council wishes to encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication and way-finding; and

WHEREAS, the County Council wishes to maintain and enhance the unique character and natural aesthetics of the environment and State and federally recognized historical areas of the County and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the County Council wishes to continue ensuring the safety for all modes of transportation, including pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular as impacted by signage; and

WHEREAS, the County Council wishes to establish a balance between effective visual communication and an excess of visual information; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2015, the United State Supreme Court, in *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*, 135 S. Ct. 2218, reaffirmed, among other issues, that local government regulation of signs must be content neutral; and

WHEREAS, the Court in *Reed* reasoned in general, where a local public body must look to the sign to determine which time, place, and manner rules and regulations applied were presumptively violative of established 1st Amendment Speech principals as made applicable to State actions by the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the County Council has determined that the repeal of the current County Sign Code and adoption of a new Sign Code is in the best interests of the citizens of the County; and

WHEREAS, the continued regulation of signage will protect the aesthetic beauty and natural history of the County's natural and built environment; and

WHEREAS, the continued regulation of signage will protect property values, the local economy, and the quality of life by preserving and enhancing the aesthetic appearance of the land and streetscape of the County; and

WHEREAS, the continued regulation of signage will provide an improved visual environment for the citizens of and visitors to the County and protect prominent view sheds within the community.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS as follows:

Section 1. Article X, Signs, of the Code of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, Sections 16-401 through 16-420 are hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. Section 16-9 of the Los Alamos County Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 16-9. - Definitions and rules.

(a) *Rules.* The following rules apply to definitions listed in this chapter:

- (1) *Usage.* Any numbers, abbreviations, terms or words defined in this section shall be used and interpreted, only as defined in this chapter. All other numbers, abbreviations, terms and words shall have their generally accepted meaning.
- (2) *Word forms.* Unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary, words used in the present tense include the future tense and words used in the future tense include the present tense; words used in the plural number include the singular and words used in the singular include the plural.
- (3) *Interpretation of specific terms.* The words "shall" and "will" are mandatory. The word "may" is permissive. The word "structure" includes a "building"; the word "building" or "structure" includes any part thereof. The word "person" includes an individual, a partnership, a corporation, an incorporated association of persons such as a club, and a public entity.
- (4) *Definitions listed in the Building Code.* Words not defined in this chapter but which are defined in the New Mexico Building Code as adopted by the county are to be construed as defined therein.

(b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandoned structure means a structure that has not been used for a use authorized by this chapter for a period of three consecutive months and for which the owner has received, by registered mail, a notice of violation of the building code.

Abut means next to, touching; to share a common property line.

Access and accessway means the place, means of or ingress and egress to a property or use.

Accessory apartment means separate living quarters on the same lot as, and used in conjunction with, a main dwelling, and rented as a separate dwelling.

Accessory building means a building, the use of which is incidental to the use of the main building on a lot. A building attached by wall or roof to the main building is not an accessory building, but is a part of the main building.

Accessory use means a use incidental and subordinate to the permitted or special use of the premises.

Adjacent means next to; sharing a common boundary. For example, an industrial district across the street from a residential district is adjacent to that district.

Agent means legally authorized designee of an owner or applicant. Also see "Owner."

Aggrieved party means any person who:

- (1) Is required to be served with notice by mail under this chapter; or
- (2) Has an immediate, pecuniary and substantial interest, with respect to any final action taken pursuant to this chapter.

Alley means a public way which is owned by the public and is a secondary means of vehicular access to abutting properties. Alleys shall not be permitted in any district.

Apartment, hotel or motel means a building or group of buildings operated as one enterprise, containing rooms or suites of rooms (with or without a kitchen) to be occupied by transient or permanent tenants.

Apartment house means a multiple-family dwelling structure.

Applicant means any person or his legally authorized agent authorized by this chapter to make application to initiate any action provided in this chapter.

Application means a formal request made by an applicant and/or agent to initiate any action as provided in this chapter, using forms provided by the community development department for this purpose.

Area, floor, means the area of all floors, including a basement, in a building, exclusive of exterior courts, garages and carports. All horizontal dimensions are taken from the exterior faces of walls, including enclosed porches.

Area, gross, means the area of a horizontal plane within the property lines of a lot before the area of public streets, easements or other land to be designated for public use is deducted.

Area, net building site, means the area of a horizontal plane within the property lines of a lot, less the area of all land designated for public use and less the area of all required yards.

Automobile service station means a retail place of business engaged solely or primarily in the sale of motor fuels, goods or services generally required in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles and in the fulfilling of the motorist's needs. Major automobile repair activities such as body painting, body and fender repair, major mechanical repair, tire recapping, or the rental of equipment and the sale or rental of other merchandise are not uses included in the uses of a service station, although they may be performed at the same location.

Balcony means an open platform projected from a wall of a building or structure above the first floor level, and totally unsupported by any additional means by or to the ground.

~~*Banner* means any sign of lightweight fabric or similar material that is temporarily or permanently mounted to a pole, structure or a building. National flags, state or municipal flags, or the official flag of any institution or business shall not be considered~~

Bar. See "cocktail lounge or bar."

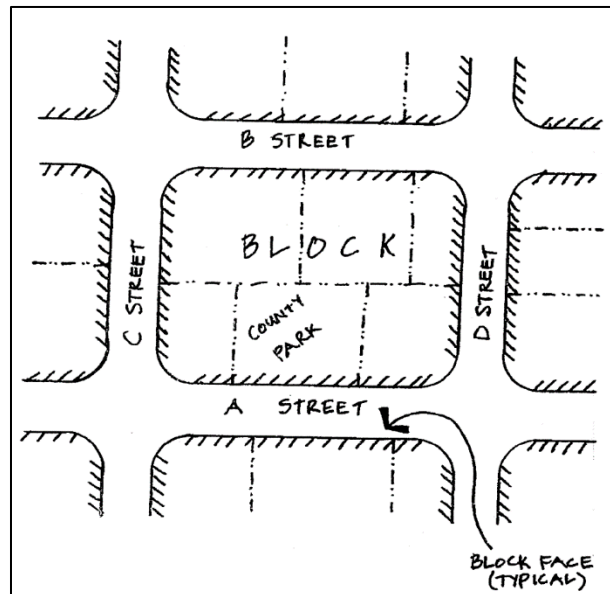
Baseline data means information on the current usage of a public facility compared with its capacity including, but not limited to, streets, sewers, water lines, drainageways, etc.

Bed and breakfast means an owner-occupied dwelling unit that contains no more than five guestrooms where lodging, with or without meals, is provided for compensation.

Benchmark means a mark on a permanent monument indicating elevation and serving as a reference in topographical surveys.

Block means a unit of land bounded by streets or by a combination of streets and public land or any other barrier to the continuity of development. See figure "block and block-face".

Block-face means abutting properties on one side of a street and lying between the two nearest intersecting streets or an intersecting street and unsubdivided land or county owned property. See figure "block and block-face".



Boardinghouse means a building where lodging is provided with meals for compensation; it does not mean rest homes or homes for the aged.

Board of adjustment means the board appointed by the county council to hear applications for waivers as specified in this chapter.

Bond means any form of security including a cash deposit, surety bond, collateral, property or instrument of credit in an amount and form satisfactory to the county attorney and the county council. All bonds shall be approved by the county engineer wherever a bond is required by this chapter.

Boundary monument means a permanent object indicating a corner in the boundary of a lot.

Breezeway means a roofed, open-sided passageway which provides direct access between buildings.

Buffer area means a strip of land designed to separate portions of a subdivision or development from adjacent arterial or collector streets or from uses located on adjacent properties.

Building means any structure built and maintained for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals, chattels or property of any kind.

Building, main, means a building within which is conducted one or more permitted or special uses. There may be more than one main building on a lot depending on the district designation.

Building marker means any sign indicating the name of a building and date and incidental information about its construction, which sign is cut into a masonry surface or made of bronze or other permanent material.

Business park means a building or assembly of buildings on a single lot adaptable to a combination of office, light storage, distribution, and showroom uses, where a minimum of 25 percent of the floor area is used for office space and where common parking, access and maneuvering is provided.

Caliper means the diameter of the main stem of a tree or shrub measured eight inches above the ground.

Campground means an open area where temporary overnight residency is available for tent, trailer, truck campers and/or recreational vehicles.

Caretaker means the individual who takes care of property.

Caretaker's unit means the dwelling unit of the caretaker. Caretaker's units shall allow for spouses and dependent children. The dwelling unit may be within one of the structures located on the lot; it does not mean a dwelling unit used by others than the caretaker.

Carport means a permanent roofed structure with not more than two enclosed sides used or intended to be used for automobile storage.

Carwash means:

(1) An "automatic carwash" means a building or portion thereof containing facilities for washing automobiles using production line methods with a chain conveyer, blower, steam cleaning device or other mechanical devices.

(2) A "self-service carwash" means a building or portion thereof containing facilities for washing automobiles wherein the customer parks the vehicle in a bay and washes the vehicle using equipment provided.

Child care center means a home or business which provides care, service and supervision for more than 12 children at one time for less than 24 hours per day; provided, however, that such center is licensed by the county and state and is conducted in accordance with county and state requirements.

Church means a permanent building used primarily for religious worship, fully enclosed with walls, including windows and doors, and having a permanent roof.

Club, private, means an association of persons, whether or not incorporated, for social or recreational purposes and for purposes and activities generally not for personal gain and not elsewhere defined as a commercial or professional purpose or activity; it does not mean a group organized solely or primarily to render a service as a business for profit.

Cocktail lounge or bar means premises where alcoholic beverages are sold to the public for consumption on the premises.

Commerce or *commercial* means the purchase, sale or other financial transaction involving the handling or disposition of any article, substance or commodity; or the management of office buildings, offices, recreational or amusement enterprises; or the maintenance and use of offices, structures and premises by professions and trades rendering services; by for profit or not-for-profit uses.

Commercial center means a building or assembly of buildings on one lot that may contain retail, offices, restaurants, lodging, theaters, automobile services, or other uses permitted by the zoning district, and that provide common parking and access.

Communication transmission tower means a self-supporting and freestanding elevated structure designed to provide a place used for transmitting information by radio, television, microwave or other electromagnetic energy signals.

Complex means a combination of two or more uses located on the same lot and sharing common facilities. Included in this definition are multiple building complexes.

Comprehensive plan means the plan adopted by the county to guide overall growth and development and capital improvement planning in the county, and includes amendments to that plan, which may be made from time to time.

Condominium means an estate in real property consisting of an individual interest in common in a parcel of real property, together with separate ownership of space within such real property. A condominium is not a cooperative.

Consolidation plat means a plat showing the combining of two recorded lots into one lot.

Construction plans means the maps or drawings submitted prior to a final subdivision plat showing the specific location and design of improvements to be installed in a subdivision including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, utilities and drainage facilities.

Convalescent home means a public or private facility which provides bed and ambulatory care, not at the level of a hospital, for patients and for persons who are unable to care for themselves; it does not mean a facility which provides care or treatment of alcoholics, drug addicts or persons with mental diseases or afflictions.

Cooperative means a development that is collectively owned by members and operated for their mutual benefit. Each member is an owner and has an individual interest in the entire development. Each member in a residential cooperative has a lease for his own apartment, space or site but does not own the apartment, space or site. A cooperative is not a condominium.

Correction plat means the correction of an error, other than a lot line adjustment, after approval and recording of a plat.

County means the incorporated county of Los Alamos, New Mexico.

County attorney means the county attorney for the County of Los Alamos.

County clerk means the elected clerk of the County of Los Alamos or his agent.

County community development director or *community development director* means the director of the county of Los Alamos Community Development Department or its successor, or the community development director's designee.

County council means the county council for the County of Los Alamos.

County engineer means the county engineer for the County of Los Alamos or his agent.

County manager means the county manager for the County of Los Alamos.

County public works director means the public works director for the county or his agent.

County surveyor means the surveyor of the county or his agent.

County utilities manager means the utilities manager for the county or his agent.

Court and *courtyard* mean an open, structurally unoccupied space, other than an open yard, on the same lot with a main building, and bounded on two or more sides by such building or exterior walls or fences.

Crosswalk means that portion of a pedestrian walkway which intersects and crosses a street.

Cul-de-sac means a street with one end open for vehicular and pedestrian access and the other end terminating in a vehicular turnaround.

Day care center. See "*day care facility*."

Day care facility means a home or business which provides care, service and supervision for at least four but not more than 12 children at one time for less than 24 hours per day; provided, however, that such facility is licensed by the county and state and conducted in accordance with county and state requirements.

Day care home means a residence which provides care, services and supervision for not more than four children at one time who do not normally reside in the home, for less than 24 hours per day; provided, however, that such center is licensed by the county and conducted in accordance with county requirements.

Debris means the remains of past construction, hobbies and other activities, which have not been removed for over a year.

Decision-making authority means the community development director, the board of adjustment, the planning and zoning commission, or the county council, as appropriate, given the authority to take the action in question under this County of Los Alamos Development Code.

Dedicated land means land transferred by a subdivider to the county, in fee simple ownership, for public use.

Density means the total number of dwelling units permitted on an acre of land.

Developer means the legal or beneficial owners of a lot or parcel of any land proposed for inclusion in a development, including an agent and/or the holder of an option or contract to purchase.

Development means the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation or enlargement of any buildings, any use or change in use of any buildings or land, any extension of any use of land or any clearing, grading or movement of land, for which permission is required pursuant to this chapter.

Development code means this chapter.

Development plan means the master schematic layout prepared as part of a special plan (SP) district submittal for an individual site or subdivision which summarizes the general project concept, allowable land uses, densities and development standards, and which shows developable and undevelopable areas, major streets, utilities, drainage ways, recreation and open space areas, buffers to adjacent land uses, and proposed general development areas.

Dormitory means a building used principally for sleeping accommodations, related to an educational or research institution.

Drainage means:

(1) Surface water runoff;

(2) The removal of surface water or groundwater from land by drains, grading or other means which include runoff controls to minimize erosion, flooding and sedimentation during and after construction or development.

Drainage system means natural swales and/or manmade improvements designed to accommodate drainage on a parcel.

Drive-in or drive-through facility means that portion of a commercial establishment which is designed and operated for the purpose of serving a motorist in a vehicle.

Driveway means a vehicular accessway to an off-street parking facility.

Dry-cleaning, coin-operated, means the use of single-batch, automatic cleaning machines, activated by the insertion of a coin.

Duplex. See "dwelling, two-family."

Dwelling means a building containing one or more dwelling units.

Dwelling, group, means a combination or arrangement of dwellings on one lot.

Dwelling, loft, means any type of dwelling located in a building that has no dwellings on the ground floor.

Dwelling, multiple-family, means a dwelling containing three or more dwelling units on one lot.

Dwelling, single-family, means a dwelling containing only one dwelling unit; it does not mean a mobile home.

Dwelling, single-family attached, means a dwelling containing only one dwelling unit and joined on one or more sides by a common wall without openings to another or other single-family dwellings on separate lots.

Dwelling, single-family detached, means a dwelling containing only one dwelling unit, surrounded by open space.

Dwelling, two-family, means a structure containing two dwelling units on one lot.

Dwelling unit means one or more rooms designed for or used as a residence by one family and constituting a separate and independent housekeeping unit, with a single kitchen; it does not mean quarters for transients in a club, hotel or motel.

Easement means a grant of use of land for a specific purpose, by the owner of the property to another person.

Equestrian trail means a trail or pathway intended for use by persons on horseback, or pedestrians.

Escrow means a sum of money deposited with the county to ensure completion of subdivision improvements to county standards.

Escrow agreement means a signed contract approved by the county attorney between a developer and the county that ensures completion of subdivision improvements in compliance with the standards of this chapter.

Excavation means removal or recovery by any means whatsoever of soil, rock, minerals, mineral substances or organic substance other than vegetation, from water or land on or beneath the surface thereof, or beneath the land surface, whether exposed or submerged.

Family means an individual living alone; two or more persons related by blood or marriage, or between whom there is a legally recognized relationship, occupying the same dwelling unit; or a group of not more than five unrelated persons, excluding servants, occupying the same dwelling unit.

Fence means any structural device forming a physical barrier between two open areas. It may be made of wire mesh, steel mesh, chainlink, louver, stake, masonry, lumber or other similar materials or any combination thereof.

Fence height means the vertical distance measured from the ground level to the highest adjacent board, rail, post, or wire, including retaining walls. See section 16-271, for the use and location of barbed wire.

Findings means a written statement of the reasons supporting a decision made by any reviewing body in the land development review process.

~~*Flag* means any fabric, banner or bunting containing distinctive colors, patterns or symbols, used as a symbol of a government, political subdivision or other entity.~~

Floor area, gross, means the sum of the total horizontal areas of the several floors of all structures on a lot, measured from the outside faces of exterior walls. Basements, elevator shafts, hallways and stairwells at each story, floor space used for mechanical equipment with structural headroom of six feet, six inches or more, penthouses, attic space whether or not a floor has actually been laid that provides structural headroom of six feet, six inches or more, interior balconies, and mezzanines are all included.

Floor area, net usable, means the sum of the total horizontal areas of all floors in a building, including basement, that are designed for tenant occupancy and exclusive use and measured to the inside faces of exterior walls. Garages, carports, unoccupied exterior courts, enclosed porches, mezzanines, hallways, mechanical rooms, closets, service areas and similar areas, as measured from the inside faces of exterior walls, are all excluded.

Front means that side of a building or property serving as the principal entrance.

Frontage means that side of a lot abutting on a public right-of-way; regarded as the front of the lot.

Garage, private, means a portion of a main building or a detached accessory building, having a roof and enclosed by walls on not less than three sides, and designed or used for the housing of vehicles of the occupants of the main building.

Garage, public, means a building used for the care, repair, equipping, hire, sale or storage of motor vehicles.

Gate means an opening of sufficient size as part of a wall or fence that permits ingress and egress.

Government uses means those uses that result from the exercise of local, state or federal government powers and duties.

Grade means the average elevation of the finished ground surfaces surrounding a building. When applying to a street or other area, the term "grade" means the slope in percentage terms.

Grading permit means a permit issued by the county as required by this chapter and chapter 70, U.B.C. 1985 edition, or the latest adopted edition of the New Mexico Building Code.

Grading plan means the plan that describes existing contours and the finish grade for the site upon completion of all construction operations.

Greenhouse means a building or structure constructed chiefly of glass, plastic or translucent material, cloth or lath which is devoted to the protection or cultivation of flowers or other tender plants.

Gross acre means an area measurement of a total site or parcel in units of 43,560 square feet prior to dedication of streets, easements, open space, utility and institutional sites or other reservations of nondevelopable land.

Ground cover means any landscaping material other than permanent hard surfaces (i.e., sidewalks, driveways, structures) which covers the natural earth. The definition includes living matter (plants) and nonliving materials (rock outcroppings).

Group home means any congregate residence, maternity shelter, or building for persons which provides and whose primary purpose is to provide room and board to the residents within the facility, and to provide either directly or through contract services at least one of the following: programmatic services, assistance with the activities of daily living in accordance with the program directive, or general supervision of up to eight individuals who have difficulty living independently or managing their own affairs, or who are handicapped within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 3602 (h)(1) of the Fair Housing Amendments Act (1988). Group home does not include facilities for persons currently in custody of or recently released by correctional authorities that are designed to offer an alternative to imprisonment and/or to facilitate ex-offender reintegration into community life, nor does it include facilities for persons who require such services by reason of the effects of current alcohol or drug abuse. Group home includes facilities for recovering alcohol or drug abusers who require group home services.

Guest means a social visitor or any person hiring or occupying a room for living or sleeping purposes.

Guesthouse means a dwelling unit within an accessory building for use by guests of the occupant of the main building; it does not mean a dwelling that is rented or otherwise used as a separate main building.

Guestroom means a room, having no kitchen facilities, for the occupation by one or more guests.

Hedge means a plant or series of plants or other landscape material so arranged as to form a physical barrier or enclosure.

Height of structure means the vertical distance between the highest point of any part of the structure and the natural grade or finish cut grade directly below that point, whichever is greater. If a structure is placed on fill, the depth of the fill is included in the height of the structure. If the natural grade is lowered in a cut, the depth of the cut is included in the height of the structure.

Home-aged, convalescent, nursing, physically handicapped. See "convalescent home."

Home business means a home occupation that employs more than one nonfamily member.

Home occupation means a business, profession or service conducted and/or operated in a residential zoning district and is clearly incidental and secondary to the dwelling purpose and does not change the character thereof.

Hospital means an acute care, short-term general hospital.

Hospital, animal. See "veterinary service facility."

Hotel means a building or group of integrated structures in which there are six or more guestrooms where lodgings for transients are provided for compensation, and where no provision is made for cooking in any individual room or suite.

Housing means residences of any kind as further described in this chapter.

Impact reports means studies to identify the potential adverse effects of the proposed development on public infrastructure and land as well as adjoining private properties. Reports required, see section 16-571, may include: traffic generation report; stormwater drainage report; utility capacity analysis report; and soils report.

Improvement means an addition made on property and intended to enhance its value, utility or beauty, or to adapt it to new or further uses.

Industrial use means the manufacture, fabrication, processing, reduction or destruction of any article, substance or commodity, or any other treatment thereof in such a manner as to change the form, character or appearance thereof, and including storage, warehousing and wholesaling.

Inn means an owner-occupied building that contains up to 15 units, plus the owner's dwelling unit. Any or all of the units may contain a kitchen. Meal service by the owner is limited to breakfast.

Inoperable vehicle means any motor vehicle or vital component parts thereof which are either:

- (1) Unusable or inoperable because of lack of, or defects in vital component parts;
- (2) Unusable or inoperable because of damage from collision, deterioration, alteration or other factors;
- (3) Beyond repair; or
- (4) Without a current vehicle registration.

For the purposes of this definition, the term "vital component parts" shall mean those parts of a motor vehicle that are essential to the mechanical functioning of the vehicle including, but not limited to, the motor, drive train and wheels. Also see section 16-281.

Institution means a facility for the treatment of alcoholism, drug addiction, or mental or emotional problems.

Interdepartmental review committee means a technical advisory committee composed of the county engineer, traffic engineer, utilities manager, parks division manager, police chief, fire chief and the community development director, or as appointed by the county manager. The purpose of the committee is to review development applications and to advise the planning and zoning commission, other boards and commissions and the county council.

Junk means used machinery, electronic/electrical components, scrap iron, steel or other ferrous and nonferrous metals, tools, implements or portions thereof, glass, plastic, cordage, building materials, or other waste that has been discontinued from its original use and may be used again in its present form or in a new form.

Junkyard and *salvage yard* mean an open area where junk, including dismantled or wrecked automobiles, is bought, sold, exchanged, stored, baled, packed, disassembled or handled. A junkyard includes an automobile wrecking yard.

Laboratory, research means a facility for scientific laboratory research in technology-intensive fields. Examples include biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, genetics, plastics, polymers, resins, coatings, fibers, fabrics, films, heat transfer, and radiation research facilities.

Laboratory, support means a facility for scientific laboratory analysis of natural resources, medical resources, and manufactured materials. The scientific analysis is generally performed for an outside customer, to support the work of that customer. This category includes environmental laboratories for the analysis of air, water, and soil; medical or veterinary laboratories for the analysis of blood, tissue, or other human medical or animal products. Forensic laboratories for

analysis of evidence in support of law enforcement agencies would also be included in this category.

Landscape plan, conceptual means a plan graphically showing the landscaping of property and including the areas to be landscaped and types of landscaping materials.

Landscape plan, final means a plan graphically showing the landscaping of property, including the areas to be landscaped, types of landscaping materials, irrigation, the final design of all landscaping areas, and long-term maintenance.

Landscaping means the planting and maintenance of various forms of vegetation and/or the use of architectural materials to enhance aesthetically and complement structures and the sites on which they are located.

Legal holiday means a holiday granted to regular employees of the county pursuant to the personnel rules and regulations of the county.

Loft. See "dwelling, loft."

Lot means a parcel of land, the description of which is of record.

Lot area means the area of a horizontal plane bounded by a vertical projection of the property lines of a lot.

Lot, corner, means a lot located at the intersection or interception of two or more streets at an angle of not more than 135 degrees. If the included angle is greater than 135 degrees, the lot is an interior lot.

Lot coverage means the percentage of the lot area covered by structures, including accessory buildings, main buildings and detached buildings as defined elsewhere in this chapter. Lot coverage includes all aboveground structures.

Lot, double frontage or through, means any lot having frontage on two parallel or approximately parallel streets.

Lot, front, means that part of the lot which abuts the street, or that part which is designated the front of a corner lot, reverse corner lot, double frontage lot, or a lot with three or more sides abutting a street.

Lot, interior, means any lot other than a corner lot, a reverse corner lot or a double frontage lot.

Lot line means any line bounding a lot.

Lot line adjustment means a replat of the recorded lot lines of two adjacent lots with no additional lots created.

Lot line, front, means the property line in the front yard.

Lot line, rear, means the lot line which is opposite and most distant from the front lot line, or in the case of an irregular lot, a line a minimum of ten feet in length within the lot and farthest removed from the front lot line, and at or near right angles to the line comprising the depth of such lot.

Lot line, side, means those lot lines of a lot which are not the front or rear lot lines.

Lot, nonconforming, means a lot which does not conform to the provisions of this chapter.

Lot, rear, means that part of a lot opposite the front of the lot.

Lot, reverse corner, means a corner lot, the rear yard of which abuts a side yard of another lot.

Lot split means the subdivision of one recorded lot into two lots.

Luminance means the light that is emitted by or reflected from a surface, measured in units of luminous intensity (candelas) per unit area. Expressed in English units as foot lamberts and in SI units as cd/m². Also referred to as "nits." ~~Means the brightness of an object expressed in terms of foot lamberts, determined~~ Measured from a point five feet above grade on another premises or the public right-of-way, but no closer than 20 horizontal feet from the object measured.

Mobile home means a portable housing structure larger than 40 feet in body length, eight feet in width or 11 feet overall height, designed for and occupied by no more than one family for living and sleeping purposes. It does not include structures built to the standards of the New Mexico Building Code and National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act.

Mobile home development means a parcel of land designed and/or intended for the placement of mobile homes and accessory structures on mobile home sites that can be owned in fee simple, as part of a condominium, a cooperative or a land lease rental community.

Mobile home park means a parcel of land under single ownership on which two or more mobile homes are located. It includes land-lease rental communities where individual lots are rented, but not owned. It also includes limited equity cooperatives but prohibits condominiums.

Mobile home site means the portion of a mobile home park development that is designated as the location for a mobile home and accessory structures for the exclusive use of the occupant of the mobile home.

Mobile home subdivision means a subdivision designed and/or intended for the sale of individual lots for siting mobile homes. It can also include a condominium.

Motel means a building or group of buildings containing sleeping units or guestrooms, where lodging with or without provision of meals is provided for compensation. Motels are designed to temporarily accommodate the automobile tourist or transient with parking facilities located near each unit or room. The term includes tourist, motor and automobile courts and motor lodges.

Motor freight terminal means a building or area in which freight brought by motor truck is assembled or stored for local delivery or intrastate and interstate shipment by motor truck.

Multiple tenant building means a single structure housing two or more retail, office, commercial or industrial uses.

Nonconforming use means a use of a building or land, existing on the date of adoption of this chapter which does not conform to the uses permitted in the district in which it is located.

Noxious matter means material which is capable of causing injury to living organisms by chemical reaction or is capable of causing detrimental effects upon the physical or economic well-being of individuals.

Official zoning map means the map adopted by the county council in conjunction with this chapter showing the location of the various zoning districts within the county, and may be amended from time to time.

Off-site means any place not within the boundary of the property to be developed, subdivided or improved, whether or not in the ownership of the developer or subdivider.

One-hundred year flood or 100-year frequency rainstorm means:

(1) One-hundred year flood means the flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year and as defined elsewhere in this chapter; and

(2) One-hundred year frequency rainstorm means that total accumulation of 5.24 inches of rain at the end of a one-hour period.

Open space, private, means that part of a lot, including courts or yards, which is open and unobstructed from its lower level to the sky and is accessible to and usable by all persons occupying a dwelling unit on the lot.

Open sun screen means a latticed or louvered assemblage, open on at least two sides, used for partial shade, providing no weather protection and not influencing ventilation or the amount of impervious cover of a lot.

Overlay district means a set of zoning requirements that are described in the text of this chapter that are mapped, and are imposed in addition to those of the underlying district. Development within the overlay districts must conform to the requirements of both zoning districts or to the more restrictive of the two. The wilderness (W-1 and W-2), special plan (SP), and the historic (H) districts are overlay districts. Also see sections 16-533, 16-534 and 16-577.

Owner means any person, group of persons, firms, corporations, public agency or any other legal entity having legal chapter or equitable interest to the land sought to be subdivided or otherwise subject to this chapter. Also see "Agent."

Parking area, private, means an open area, other than a street, used for the parking of motor vehicles and restricted from general public use.

Parking area, public, means an area other than a private parking area or street used for the parking of motor vehicles and available for public use either free or for remuneration.

Parking facility means any space on the streets or off the streets used for the purpose of parking motor vehicles, including buildings erected above or below the surface of the ground.

Parking, off-street, means the area used for public or private parking required by this chapter for temporary vehicular parking.

Parking space, automobile, means space exclusive of driveways, ramps, columns, loading areas, office or work areas within a building, or an open parking area, for the parking of one automobile.

Park land means public open space that is designed to serve public needs for recreation, and areas that serve to satisfy public needs for visual and/or psychologically pleasing spaces.

Park roadway means a private road within a mobile home park, providing access to the mobile home sites from the street.

Parkways means the public right-of-way of a dedicated street located on either side of the actual street roadway improvements (curb, gutter and pavement). Parkway areas may or may not contain sidewalks and/or utilities.

Patio means roofed or unroofed space on a lot; if roofed, with at least 50 percent of the side surface unscreened or unenclosed with a solid material.

Pedestrian walkway means an accessway generally located between lots for pedestrian use and either publicly or privately owned, which may or may not be improved.

Percent of slope means the relation of the vertical rise from or to the contour line at horizontal intervals of not more than 50 feet and calculated as follows:

S	=	$H - L / D \times 100$
H	=	The highest elevation of the portion of the tract measured.
L	=	The lowest elevation on the portion of the tract measured.
D	=	The horizontal distance between H and L.

Percent of slope is used to measure grade.

Permitted use means the specific, primary use of a lot. A lot may be put to more than one use at a time.

Pet training or breeding or kennels, commercial means the boarding, breeding, raising, grooming or training of two or more dogs, cats, or other household pets of any age whether or not owned by the owner or occupant of the premises.

Planning and zoning commission means the planning and zoning commission of the county and as further described in this chapter and in article IX of chapter 8.

Plat means a map, drawing or chart on which the subdivider's plan of the subdivision is presented and which he submits for approval, and intends in final form to record. The county requires the submittal of three types of plats in any subdivision proposal. These are defined as follows:

- (1) Sketch plan: a plat showing the initial concept of the proposed subdivision including a layout of lots, streets, open areas, etc.
- (2) Preliminary plat: a much more detailed plat than the sketch plan, representing the final design of the subdivision. Detailed construction plans for all improvements associated with the subdivision are submitted subsequent to approval of the preliminary plat.
- (3) Final plat: a plat representing the final design which incorporates all improvement and legal requirements required by the planning and zoning commission at the preliminary plat stage. Once approved, this plat is the plat which will be filed and recorded in the county clerk's office.

Porch or deck means an open platform above ground level typically attached to the wall or foundation of a building or structure and primarily supported in some structural manner from the ground; it may be roofed or unroofed.

Professional engineer means an engineer registered by the state board of registered engineers and surveyors.

Public improvement means any drainage ditch, roadway, parkway, sidewalk, street, pedestrian way, tree, lawn, off-street parking area, lot improvement or other facility for which the

county may ultimately assume the responsibility for maintenance and operation, or which may affect an improvement for which county responsibility is established.

Public right-of-way means the total area of land deeded, reserved by plat or otherwise acquired or occupied, used or intended to be used by the county or state, primarily for the public movement of people, goods and vehicles. Public right-of-way may be used for other public purposes pursuant to this chapter.

Radio and TV towers and antennae means a structure situated on a non-residential site that is intended for transmitting or receiving television, radio or telephone communications, excluding those used exclusively for dispatch communications.

Ramp means a sloping roadway or passage used to join two different levels of streets, structures or buildings, or a driveway leading to parking aisles.

Real property means land and generally whatever is erected or growing upon or affixed to land.

Recreation equipment means equipment whose primary function or design is for recreational purposes, whether originally so designed or subsequently modified, and is not capable of being self-propelled on land, and shall include the following or similar types of equipment: boats, boat trailers, camper when dismounted from a truck bed or chassis, horse trailer, houseboats, house trailers, rafts, tent trailers, travel trailers and utility trailers when converted to recreational purposes.

Recreational vehicle means a vehicle which is composed of a chassis, or a frame with wheels, which either has its own motive power or is drawn by another vehicle, and a camping body primarily designed or converted for use as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping or travel activities.

Recycling station means a use within a permissible zoning district where recyclable solid waste materials, including aluminum, glass, paper, metal and similar materials are purchased or procured and temporarily stored and occupying an area not greater than 1,000 square feet. Recycling stations shall be operated and maintained in a safe, healthful and convenient manner and shall not be operated so as to become offensive, noxious, hurtful, injurious or dangerous to persons or adjoining properties. Recycling stations should not be directly accessed from the public right-of-way and should be situated and designed so as not to create traffic and/or pedestrian circulation problems on existing properties.

Replat means the relocation or realignment of lot lines in a recorded subdivision where two or more original lots are involved, and where no additional lots are created.

Research and development means uses for carrying on investigation in the natural, physical or social sciences, or engineering and development as an extension of the investigations with the objective of creating end products; and a research and development use may include pilot plant operations.

Residence means a building used, designed or intended to be used as a home or dwelling, by one or more families or lodgers. When located in a mobile home park, mobile home subdivision or mobile home development, a mobile home is a residence.

Residential zone means any zoning district in which residential uses are allowed, except that the downtown district-neighborhood center and downtown district—Town center overlay zones are not residential zoning districts.

Restaurant, drive-in or takeout means a business establishment that serves prepared food or beverages primarily for the consumption by customers within motor vehicles either on or off the premises.

Restaurant, enclosed, means a business establishment that serves prepared food or beverages primarily to persons seated within the building. This includes businesses which may provide an area for food consumption outdoors in addition to indoor dining.

Retail means the sale of goods to the ultimate consumer for direct consumption and not for resale.

Reversion to acreage means the vacation of all or a portion of an originally recorded subdivision, so that the vacated area becomes a single parcel of land.

Right-of-way. See "public right-of-way."

Room means an unsubdivided portion of the interior of a building; it does not mean a bathroom, closet, hallway or service porch.

Rubbish means waste or rejected material: anything worthless or valueless in its present form; trash.

Ruins means building material which has already been used, or buildings in a state of disrepair and falling down.

Runoff means the water from natural precipitation which flows over the surface of the land and does not percolate into the soil.

Sanitariums. See "institution."

Satellite dish antenna means a device incorporating a reflective surface that is solid, open mesh, or bar configured, and is in the shape of a shallow dish, cone, horn or cornucopia and is greater than 24 inches in diameter. Such device shall be used to transmit and/or receive radio or electromagnetic waves between terrestrially and/or orbitally based units. This definition includes, but is not limited to, satellite earth stations, television-reception-only satellite dish antennas (TVROs) and satellite microwave antennas.

Schools, private or parochial, means a school, academy or institution, which conducts academic instruction at kindergarten, elementary, secondary or collegiate levels; it does not mean a commercial or trade school.

Schools, public, means schools under the jurisdiction of the county school board or, in the case of a post high school institution, under the jurisdiction of a board of regents established by the state.

Schools, trade or commercial, means private schools offering preponderant instruction in the technical, commercial, or trade skills, such as real estate schools, business colleges, electronics schools, automotive and aircraft technician schools, and similar commercial establishments, and which are operated for a profit.

Self-service storage facility means any real property designed and used for the purpose of renting or leasing individual storage spaces to tenants who are to have access to such spaces for the purpose of storing and removing personal property.

Senior citizen multiple-family residential development means a residential development providing dwelling units specifically designed for the need of ambulatory elderly persons, with residents of such development being a minimum of 60 years of age (except that in the case of married couples only one person needs to be 60 years of age) and with such developments consisting of apartments or condominiums, or a combination of both dwelling types, but consisting of a minimum of 30 dwelling units within the project.

Setback means the least horizontal distance between a lot line and a building or structure exclusive of projections.

Setback line means a line parallel to or concentric with the lot line at the setback.

Setback, minimum structural, means the distance from the lot line to any setback or the main building setback, as required by this chapter.

Sidewalk means a publicly owned pedestrian way with permanent surfacing.

~~*Sign* means any written, printed, electronic or symbolic device capable of visual communication or attraction, including any announcement, declaration, demonstration, display, illustration, insignia, structure or symbol, or architectural feature which serves no other purpose than communication, used to advertise or promote the interest of any person or to communicate any information. Works of art such as painting, murals and sculptures are not considered to be signs. See Article X. of this chapter for additional definitions of signs, including Sign Areas and different types of signs.~~

~~*Sign Area* means an approach to sign regulation that recognizes the need for context based standards. "Sign Areas" are geographical boundaries that differentiate allowable sign size, placement, and type based on factors such as road speeds, land uses, and proximity to residential, commercial, or industrial areas.~~

~~*Sign* means:~~

- ~~(1) Any written, printed or symbolic device capable of visual communication or attraction, including any announcement, declaration, demonstration, display, illustration, insignia, structure or symbol, or architectural feature which serves no other purpose than communication, used to advertise or promote the interest of any person; or~~
- ~~(2) Any official notice issued by any court or public body or officer, or directional, warning or information signs or structures required by or authorized by law or by federal, state or county authority.~~

~~*Sign area* means the square foot area of all the sign facing on which the advertising message is located, including only that portion of the supporting structure or trim which carries any wording, symbols or pictures. In the case of wall signs, the sign area is the area of the sign structure~~

containing the advertising message; in the case of cutout or painted signs, the area of a simple geometric figure completely enclosing the letters, message or symbols is the sign area.

~~Sign, canopy~~, means any sign that is a part of or attached to an awning, canopy, or other fabric, plastic, or structural protective cover over a door, entrance, window or outdoor service area. A marquee is not a canopy.

~~Sign, electric~~, means an advertising structure lighted by electricity.

~~Sign, flashing~~, means any illuminated sign on which the artificial light is not maintained stationary or constant in intensity and color at all times when such sign is in use.

~~Sign, freestanding~~, means a permanent sign supported on a pole, poles or similar structure, placed into the ground and detached from a building, and with air space between the sign structure and the ground.

~~Sign, ground-based~~, means any sign supported by a solid structure of stone, metal, masonry, wood, or other such material, anchored in the ground and not attached to any building, and with no air space between the sign structure and the ground.

~~Sign, hanging~~, means a sign which is located under a portal. Also see "Sign, wall."

~~Sign, incidental~~, means a sign, generally informational, that has a purpose secondary to the use of the zone lot on which it is located, such as "no parking," "entrance," "loading only," "telephone" and other similar directives. No sign with a commercial message legible from a position off the zone lot on which the sign is located shall be considered incidental.

~~Sign, information~~, means a nonadvertising sign designed and worded to inform about a specific facility on a site.

~~Sign, marquee~~, means a sign designed for changeable advertising copy. Also see "Sign, wall."

~~Sign, multiface~~, means a sign having more than one advertising surface, including spheres or pyramids.

~~Sign, portable~~, means a ground-based sign designed to be moved from place to place, and having no permanent attachment to the ground on which it stands.

~~Sign, portal~~, means a sign affixed to a portal and which does not extend above the roofline. Also see "Sign, wall."

~~Sign, projecting~~, means any sign affixed or attached to, and supported solely by a building, wall or other structure attached to the building and extending more than 12 inches beyond the building wall or structure.

~~Sign, residential~~, means any sign located in a district zoned for residential uses that contains no commercial message except advertising for goods or services legally offered on the premises where the sign is located, if offering such services at such location conforms with all requirements of the zoning ordinance.

~~Sign, roof~~, means any sign erected and constructed wholly on and over the roof of a building, supported by the roof structure, and extended vertically above the highest portion of the roof.

~~Sign, roof integral~~, means any sign erected or constructed as an integral or essentially integral part of normal roof structure of any design, such that no part of the sign extends vertically above the highest portion of the roof and such that no part of the sign is separated from the rest of the roof by a space of more than six inches.

~~*Sign structure* means a structure supporting a sign except for those signs which are official notices issued by any court or public body or officer, notices posted by any public officer in performance of a public duty, or by any person in giving legal notice, or directional, warning or information required by or authorized by law or by federal, state or county authority.~~

~~*Sign, suspended*, means a sign that is suspended from the underside of a horizontal plane surface and is supported by such surface.~~

~~*Sign, temporary*, means any sign, banner, pennant, valence or advertising displayed for a limited period of time.~~

~~*Sign, wall*, means a sign attached, hanging or painted on the wall, canopy, portal or marquee of a structure.~~

Slope, building site, means the difference between the highest natural elevation on the building footprint and the lowest natural elevation of the building footprint divided by 100.

Slope, parcel, means that for any and all 100-foot horizontal distances on a parcel that can be legally subdivided, the maximum difference between the natural elevations at each end of the 100-foot horizontal difference are divided by 100.

Solar energy collection system, active, means a mechanical system for heating or cooling a structure by collecting, storing and transporting solar energy.

Solar energy collection system, passive, means a system that employs siting and orientation, structural materials and landscaping to take advantage of solar energy for structural heating.

Special use means a use which has been determined to be compatible with the purposes of the district, but which has one or more characteristics that could make it incompatible with other uses in the district; and as further described by this chapter.

Special use permit means a permit for a use classified as a special use, as detailed elsewhere in this chapter.

Spot zoning means rezoning of a lot or parcel of land to benefit an owner for a use incompatible with surrounding uses and not for the purpose or effect of furthering the comprehensive plan.

Storage means an area or space, either indoors or outdoors, where something is kept, housed or located for future use.

Storage, contractor's yard, means an area where heavy equipment, materials, machinery, aggregates, and other objects used for the development of land or structures are stored.

Storm drainage plan means a detailed plan showing the location and proposed topography of streets, lots and other areas within a development, along with any proposed storm sewer facilities and easements for surface drainage, intended to satisfy the storm drainage performance standards of this chapter. It is further meant to include any drainage calculations requested by the county engineer.

Story means that portion of a building included between the upper surface of any floor and the upper surface of the floor next above, except that the topmost story shall be that portion of a building included between the upper surface of the topmost floor and the ceiling or above. If the finished floor level directly above a usable or unused underfloor space is more than six feet above grade for more than 50 percent of the total perimeter or is more than 12 feet above grade at any point, such usable or unused underfloor space shall be considered as a story.

Stream means a low point on the natural topography where runoff collects and stormwaters flow on a periodic basis or a continuously running waterway.

Street means a strip of land or way subject to vehicular traffic (as well as pedestrian traffic) that provides direct or indirect access to property.

Street, arterial, means a street which is or will, because of its design, location, or intensity of use with reference to other streets and other sources of traffic, be used primarily for larger volumes of traffic.

Street, centerline, means the center of a street or right-of-way as established by official surveys and shall normally be the midpoint of a street cross section.

Street frontage means the distance for which a lot line of a lot adjoins a public street, from one lot line intersecting such street to the furthest distant lot line intersecting the same street.

Street, private, means a street as defined elsewhere in this chapter but differing in that it is not accepted by the county as a public improvement.

Street, public, means a street as defined elsewhere in this chapter.

Strip zoning means the rezoning of a parcel of land along a street to allow uses different from those along the same street.

Structural alterations means a change in the location of the outside walls or roof of a structure.

Structure means anything constructed or built which requires location on or in the ground or is attached to something having a location on or in the ground. Underground storage tanks, patio slabs, paved areas, walks, tennis courts and similar facilities, the tops of which are not more than 30 inches above ground, are not structures.

Structure, nonconforming, means a structure lawfully existing on the date of adoption of this chapter, which was designed, erected or structurally altered for a use which is not a permitted use in the district in which it is located, or which is not in compliance with the site development requirements of the district in which it is located. A nonconforming structure does not mean a structure that was developed between January 31, 1977, and January 31, 1991, in violation of this chapter.

Structure, original, means a structure as it existed at the date of adoption of this chapter.

Subdivider means an owner, or an owner's authorized agent, who undertakes the subdivision of land as set forth in this chapter.

Subdivision means the division of any tract of land into two or more lots as provided in this chapter. This also includes any two-lot subdivision in the P-L (public lands) zoning district.

Summary plat means a plat which subdivides a lot into no more than two lots in any zoning district or for adjustment of a lot line, consolidation of no more than two lots, or a technical surveying correction.

Summary procedure means the process whereby the community development director may review and act upon a summary plat.

Temporary use means a use established for a fixed period of time, with the intent to discontinue such use upon the expiration of a period of time as defined in Section 16-278, that does not involve the construction or alteration of any permanent structure.

Tenant means any person who occupies any land or building who is not the owner but is granted the right of use by the owner.

Traffic engineer means the county employee responsible for the administration and enforcement of county traffic-control regulations as set forth in this chapter.

Trailer means any vehicle without motive power, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle.

Trailer sales lot means an automobile and trailer sales lot.

Use means the purpose to which land is put, a building or structure is put, designed or intended, or for which land and a building or structure is or may be occupied or maintained.

Use index means the use index included in this County of Los Alamos Development Code, setting out for each zoning district permitted uses, uses for which a special use permit is required, accessory uses, and uses that are not permitted.

Vacation means:

- (1) Reversion of all or a portion of a recorded subdivision to a single lot; or
- (2) The elimination of an easement or right-of-way in a part of a recorded subdivision.

Veterinary service facility means an enclosed structure in which animals are given medical or surgical treatment or temporary housing as an accessory use to the veterinary service facility.

Waiver means an adjustment of the application of one or more dimensional requirements, parking regulations, or design standards contained in this chapter for a particular piece of property. Waivers shall not apply to regulations controlling density or land use.

Walkway means a cleared way for pedestrians which may or may not be paved.

Wall means a vertical structure that separates properties, portions of properties or portions of a building.

Warehousing means the use of a building with more than 500 square feet of storage space for the storage of goods of any type.

Wholesaling means the selling of any type of goods for purpose of resale.

Wreckage means broken, disrupted, disordered mechanical or automotive parts, machinery or vehicles.

Yard means any open space, other than a court, on the same lot with a building, which space is open from the ground to the sky, except for projections and accessory buildings.

Yard, front, means an open area extending across the full width of the lot, the depth of which is measured in the least horizontal distance from the front lot line to the main building setback.

Yard, rear, means an open area extending across the full width of the lot, the depth of which is measured in the least horizontal distance from the rear lot line to the main building setback.

Yard, required, means the portions of a lot lying between the lot lines and the minimum structural setback lines.

Yard, side, means an open area extending along the length of the lot between the front and rear yard setback, the width of which is measured in the least horizontal distance from the side lot line to the main building setback. On a reverse corner lot, the side yard abutting the street extends to the rear lot line.

Zoning means the laws and regulations governing the use of specific real estate for a specific purpose, including the types of activities that can be accommodated on a given piece of land, the amount of space devoted to those activities and the ways that buildings may be placed and shaped in conformance with section 16-6.

Section 3. Chapter 16, Article X is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced with the following Article and Sections:

ARTICLE X. Signs.

Sec. 16-401. Title; Purpose; Severability.

(a) Title. This Article shall be known as the County "Sign Code."

(b) Purpose. The purpose of these sign standards are to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the public in the County and to regulate the size, color, illumination, movement, materials, location, height, and condition of signs displayed for exterior observation and in order to allow and promote sign communication in such a manner that:

1. Safety. To promote the safety of persons and property by providing signs that:
 - A. Do not create a hazard due to collapse, fire, collision, decay or abandonment;
 - B. Do not obstruct firefighting or police activities; and
 - C. Do not create traffic hazards by confusing or distracting motorists, or by impairing the driver's ability to see pedestrians, obstacles, or other vehicles, or to read traffic signs.
2. Communication efficiency. To promote the efficient transfer of information in sign messages by providing that:
 - A. Those signs which provide messages and information most needed and sought by the public are given priorities;
 - B. Businesses and services may identify themselves;
 - C. Customers and other persons may locate a business or service;
 - D. No person or group is arbitrarily denied the use of the sight lines from the public right-of-way for communication purposes; and
 - E. Persons exposed to signs are not overwhelmed by the number of messages presented and are able to exercise freedom of choice to observe or ignore said messages, according to the observer's purpose.
3. Landscape quality and preservation. To protect the public welfare and to enhance the appearance and economic value of the environment, by providing that signs:
 - A. Do not interfere with natural and scenic views;
 - B. Do not create a nuisance in or interfere with the use of the public right-of-way;
 - C. Do not create a nuisance to occupancy of adjacent and contiguous property by their brightness, size, height or movement; and
 - D. Are not detrimental to land or property values.

(c) Severability. Any provision of this Article that is found to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction shall be severed while preserving the remaining parts and sections.

Sec. 16-402. Administration; Enforcement; Waivers.

(a) Administration. Unless otherwise directed by the County Manager or Council, the Director, will administer this Article. The Director may develop and implement necessary rules, procedures, forms, and written policies for administering and enforcing the provisions of this Article.

1. The Director will use the literal readings of this Article. The provisions of this Article are no more or less strict than provided. Where the requirements of this Article do not provide a basis for concluding that a sign is allowed, it is prohibited. Where there is a conflict

between the provisions this Article and the provisions of any other Chapter, Article, section, statute, or ordinance, the most specific applies.

2. Sign types that are different but similar to the types identified in this Article shall be regulated as those of similar use.
3. Any decision of the Director may be appealed as provided in Chapter 16, Article II, Division 2.

(c) Enforcement.

1. Any violation or attempted violation of this Article or of any conditions or requirements adopted pursuant hereto shall be a violation of the County Code.
2. Penalties for signs on public property that are placed illegally. Any sign installed or placed on public property, except in conformance with the requirements of this Article, and any sign left in place after the expiration of authorized time or after the date of its permit shall be a violation of this Article and subject to confiscation and destruction.
3. The Director may inspect all signs regulated by this Article.
4. The Director shall have the right to enter the any private property and at reasonable times, for the inspection, measurement, and testing of signs. This authority to enter shall not include the interiors of private parties, dwellings or living quarters, or the portions of commercial premises used as dwellings, or the non-public portions of commercial premises, except upon obtaining a search warrant, or permission of the occupant thereof, or permission of the party responsible therefor in the event the premises are unoccupied. The provisions of this subsection do not apply in the event of explosion, fire, or like emergency.

(d) An applicant can request a waiver of the requirements of this Article, by submitting a waiver application pursuant to Article III of this Chapter. The following additional review requirements are applicable:

1. Criteria for the granting of a sign waiver. In addition to the general waiver criteria listed in section 16-157, the Board of Adjustment or Planning and Zoning Commission may issue a sign waiver when, by reason of topography, road location or elevation, or other exceptional difficulties or unique circumstance, the sign would not be visible or serve its intended purpose if the provisions of the sign code were strictly applied.
2. Nothing herein shall be construed as authorizing waivers from any sign regulations governed by the Building Code.

Sec. 16-403. Applicability; Non-Conforming Signs, Abandoned Signs.

(a) Applicability. This Article applies to all signs within the County, including any sign currently in use, planned, or hereafter installed or structurally altered, except for:

- (1) Any sign, signal, or legal notice posted or erected by any city, county, state, federal or other governmental entity.
- (2) Any vehicle sign, as defined in this Article.
- (3) Any sign inside a structure not attached to the window.
- (4) Address numbering placed pursuant to the County Code.

(5) Exterior works of art such as, but not limited to, paintings, murals, and sculptures conveying no commercial message.

(b) Nonconforming and abandoned signs. Any sign lawfully existing at the effective date of this Article that does not conform with the provisions herein will be a nonconforming sign and may continue in existence at its current location, subject to the following restrictions:

1. No structural component, face, or panel of a nonconforming sign may be altered in any manner that would increase the extent of nonconformity.
2. Any sign (including nonconforming) that has been abandoned for more than 60 days shall be replaced with a new sign in conformance with the current provisions of this Article by the new owner or tenant.

Sec. 16-404. Prohibited signs.

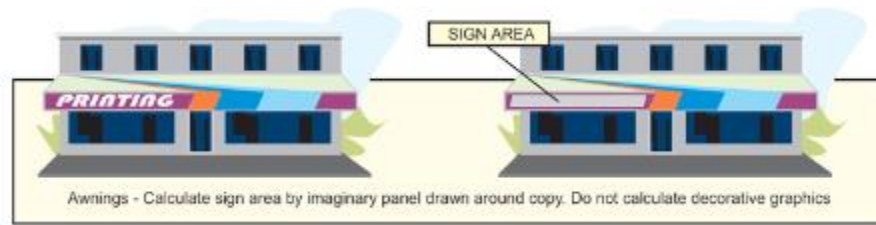
The following sign types and manners of display of signs are prohibited in the County:

- (a) Billboards;
- (b) Off-premises signs, including public right-of-way (ROW), except as specifically authorized in this Article;
- (c) Animated and flashing lights, except as specifically authorized herein;
- (d) Roof-mounted signs;
- (e) Any beacons, pennants, strings of lights attached to temporary and permanent signs and inflatable signs and tethered balloon signs;
- (f) Any sign maintained in conjunction with a use, event, service or activity that is not lawful;
- (g) Any sign located so as to conflict with the clear and open view of devices placed by a public agency for controlling traffic, bicyclists, or pedestrians;
- (h) A sign which obstructs a driver's or pedestrian's clear view of an intersecting road, alley or major driveways; and
- (i) A sign located on or project over the public right-of-way, except as allowed under this Article.

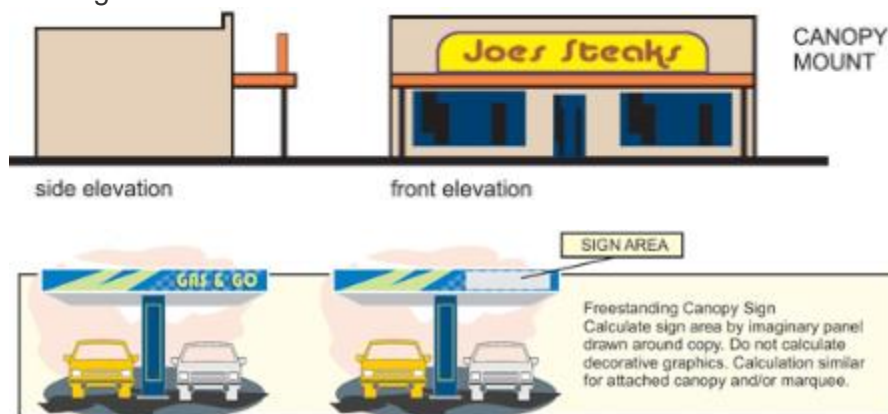
Sec. 16-405. Definitions

Unless otherwise provided, the following definitions apply to this Article:

- (a) **ABANDONED SIGN** - Any sign which for a period of at least 60 consecutive days or longer no longer advertises or identifies a legal business establishment, product, or activity.
- (b) **ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTION** - A projection, not including a sign as defined in this Article, that extends beyond the face of a building's exterior wall.
- (c) **ATTACHED SIGN** - A permanent sign directly affixed to or primarily supported by a building or structure. Includes, but is not limited to, awning signs, canopy signs, projecting signs, and wall signs.
- (d) **AWNING SIGN** - An attached sign on a fixed or retractable architectural projection made of rigid or nonrigid materials that is anchored to and supported by a building, which may be illuminated by means of internal or external sources of light. See illustration below.

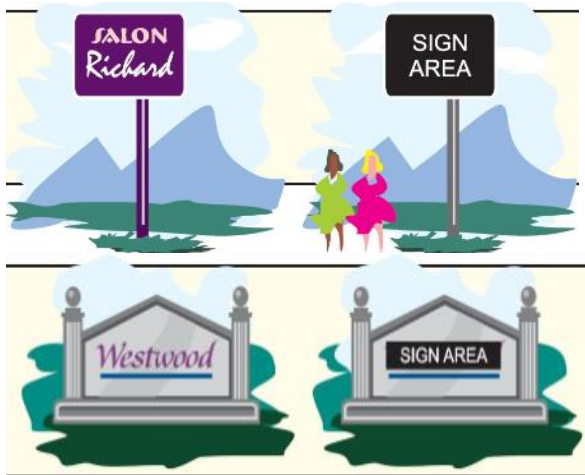


- (e) **BANNER** - A temporary sign constructed of fabric, pliable plastic or other nonrigid material of any shape, in which more than one edge or surface is secured to another structure or support to prevent movement.
- (f) **CANOPY SIGN** - An attached sign on a freestanding architectural projection that is anchored by columns or cantilevers, and that may be illuminated by means of internal or external sources of light. See illustrations below.



- (g) **CONFORMING SIGN** - A sign that is in compliance with all prevailing jurisdictional laws and ordinances.
- (h) **DIRECTOR** - is the Community Development Director, or designee.
- (i) **DISSOLVE or FADE** - A mode of message transition on an electronic message center sign in which the first message gradually appears to dissipate and lose legibility with the gradual appearance and legibility of the second message.
- (j) **DYNAMIC FRAME EFFECT** - A visual effect on a frame in which the illusion of motion and/or animation is used on an electronic message center sign or a digital multiple message sign.
- (k) **ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER SIGN or EMC** - An on-premises permanent sign on which the message is changed by electronic process. Messages displayed include, but are not limited to, copy, art, graphics, time and temperature, public service announcements, and advertising of products or services.
- (l) **FACADE** - That portion of any exterior elevation of a building extending vertically from normal grade to the top of a parapet wall or eaves, and horizontally across the entire width of the building elevation.

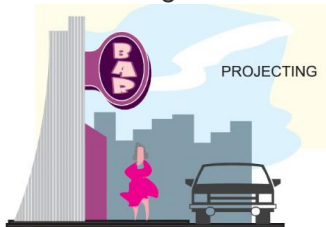
- (m) **FLAG** - A sign, constructed of fabric, pliable plastic or other nonrigid material and typically oblong or rectangular in shape, which is attached by one edge to a mast arm, staff or vertical pole. All flags are considered signs.
- (n) **FOOTCANDLE** - A measure of illuminance in which # 0.1 footcandle equals one lumen per square foot.
- (o) **FRAME** - A complete, static display screen on an electronic message center sign.
- (p) **FREESTANDING SIGN** - A sign supported by a structure but not attached to a building. Also referred to as "ground sign," "monument sign," "pole sign" or "pylon sign." The following are examples of freestanding pole and monument signs.



- (q) **ILLUMINANCE** - The amount of light falling upon a real or imaginary surface. Expressed in English units as footcandles and in SI (metric) units as lux. Also referred to as "light level" or "illumination."
- (r) **ILLUMINATED SIGN** - A sign characterized by the use of artificial light, including:
 - (1) Externally or indirectly illuminated sign: emits light from a source(s) located outside of the actual sign.
 - (2) Internally or directly illuminated sign: emits artificial light directly through any transparent or translucent material from a source located within or on the sign. This includes electronic message center signs.
- (s) **LUMINANCE** - Luminance means the light that is emitted by or reflected from a surface, measured in units of luminous intensity (candelas) per unit area. Expressed in English units as foot lamberts and in SI units as cd/m². Also referred to as "nits." Measured from a point five feet above grade on another premises or the public right-of-way, but no closer than 20 horizontal feet from the object measured.
- (t) **LUX** - The SI unit for illuminance, in which one lux equals 0.093 footcandle.
- (u) **MURAL** - A picture or work of art on an exterior surface of a structure and which covers all or a major portion of a wall, building or structure. A mural is a sign if it is related by language,

logo, or pictorial depiction to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any business.

- (v) **NONCONFORMING SIGN** - A sign that was legally installed under all County sign regulations and ordinances in effect at that time, but which may no longer comply with subsequently enacted regulations and ordinances having jurisdiction over the sign.
- (w) **NORMAL GRADE** - A measure of the ground elevation of a lot, being the lower of the existing grade prior to construction or the newly established grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, landscaping or mounding done solely for the purpose of installing a sign structure.
- (x) **OFF-PREMISES SIGN** - Any sign used for promoting an event, message, business, individual, product, or service on a premise where the sign is not located.
- (y) **ON-PREMISES SIGN** - Any sign used for promoting an event, message, business, individual, product, or service on the premises where the sign is located.
- (z) **PARAPET** - The portion of a building facade that extends vertically above the structural roofline.
- (aa) **PERMANENT SIGN** - An attached or freestanding sign in a fixed place over its useful life. Permanent signs are designed and constructed to receive snow loads and withstand wind pressures as required in Chapter 10 of the County Code or other regulations, and are constructed of durable materials capable of withstanding year-round exposure to the outdoor environment.
- (bb) **PROJECTING SIGN** - An attached sign that projects more than 18 inches from the facade of a wall or building. See illustration below.



- (cc) **PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY or ROW** -Public right-of-way means a dedicated road, street, or highway including the easements for that road or street.
- (dd) **READER BOARD** - A sign on which the message is manually changed on a display surface.
- (ee) **ROOF SIGN** - An attached sign mounted on, or extending above the uppermost edge of, a wall or parapet of a building.
- (ff) **SCROLL** - A mode of message transition on an electronic message center sign in which the message appears to move vertically across the display surface.
- (gg) **SIGN** - Any device used to attract attention on or beyond the boundaries of a lot on which it is located and to convey a message or to represent any person, entity, or thing by means of lettering, numerals, words, figures, emblems, devices, structures, designs, trade names, trademarks or other alphabetic or pictorial imagery and shall include all parts, portions, units,

and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof. A sign shall not include any architectural or landscape features that may also attract attention.

- (hh) **SIGN AREA** - The size of a sign, calculated as the entire area within the periphery of a regular geometric form or combinations of regular geometric forms on which all elements of a message(s) are displayed. In the case of double-face signs, where both faces advertise a single facility, product, or service, only one face is used to calculate sign area.
- (ii) **SIGN DISTRICTS** – Those districts defining what type and size of signs can be placed based on land use and prevailing zoning district classifications.
- (jj) **SIGN FACE** - The surface of a sign upon or through which the copy of the sign is displayed exclusive of the supporting structure.
- (kk) **SIGN HEIGHT** - A measure of the vertical distance from normal grade to the highest attached component of the sign structure, calculated as follows:
 - (1) The height of an attached sign is the vertical distance measured from the base of the facade of a wall or building at normal grade to the highest point of any sign face.
 - (2) The height of a freestanding sign on a lot with an elevation equal to or higher than the center line of the street it abuts is calculated as the distance from the base of the sign at normal grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign structure.
 - (3) The height of a freestanding sign on a lot with an elevation lower than the center line of the street it abuts is calculated as being equal to the distance from the street center line elevation (at a point perpendicular to the sign) to the top of the highest attached component of the sign structure.
- (ll) **SIGN STRUCTURE** - The area of all sign faces, structural supports, decorative trim, and architectural features of the complete sign.
- (mm) **TEMPORARY SIGN** - A sign temporarily placed either in or on the ground, structure, or building, and which is not intended to be a permanent sign. Temporary signs include signs affixed to the ground by a temporary anchoring system such as, but not limited to, stakes or ballast, or footing for large temporary freestanding signs.
- (nn) **VEHICLE SIGN** - A sign painted or affixed on the surface of a licensed, motorized vehicle or trailer.
- (oo) **WALL SIGN** - A sign attached parallel to and extending less than 18 inches from the facade of a wall, building or architectural projection. See illustration below.



- (pp) **WINDOW SIGN** - A sign affixed to or etched on the interior or exterior side of any building window that displays a message.

Sec. 16-406. General sign regulations.

All signs shall be designed, constructed, installed, and maintained in accordance with the following minimum standards:

(a) Permit procedures and fees.

1. Permits. No person shall erect, construct, relocate, alter, or repair a sign without first having obtained a permit, except as may be otherwise provided in this Article. As provided in this Article, permits are required for all permanent signs. Temporary signs allowed by this Article do not require a permit but must meet all other applicable requirements of this Article.
2. Application. Application for a permit shall include a drawing to scale of the proposed sign and all existing signs maintained on the premises and visible from the right-of-way, a drawing of the lot plan or building facade indicating the proposed location of the sign, and the sign specifications.
3. Fees. Every applicant, before being granted a permit, shall pay the applicable fee established by the County Council.
4. Expiration of Permit. A permit for a sign, shall expire if the work is not commenced within 180 days from the date of issuance of such permit, or if work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned at any time after work is commenced for a period of 180 days.

(b) Construction and maintenance.

1. Material; Attachment. All signs, other than temporary signs, shall be constructed of permanent materials and shall be permanently attached to the ground, a building, or other structure by direct attachment to a rigid wall, frame or structure. All attachment of signs must comply with County Building Code permitting and approvals requirements.
2. Concealment. All sign supports and elements such as angle irons, chains, wires, and electrical service must be concealed from public view to the maximum extent possible.
3. Freestanding Attachment and Supports. Supports and foundations used in construction and placement of all signs and sign structures must be located outside of any public land or rights-of-way, unless otherwise permitted by this Article, Chapter, or Code.
4. Setback. All permanent signs shall meet all applicable setback requirements of this Chapter or Chapter 10.
5. Maintenance. All signs and all components thereof, including, without limitation, foundations, supports, braces, and anchors, shall be kept in a state of good repair, and in compliance with all currently adopted Building or Electrical Codes, and in conformance with this Article and Chapter at all times. Unless required by Chapter 10, routine maintenance activities do not require a permit. For the purposes of this provision, routine maintenance includes, but is not limited to, painting, cleaning, or repainting sign copy or sign faces within their existing framework, and recladding.

(c) **Sign Heights Limitations.** No sign shall exceed the following height in the respective Sign Districts:

1. Residential Sign Districts maximum sign height is 4 feet.

2. Commercial Sign Districts maximum sign height is 25 feet, but no sign shall extend above the façade.
3. Industrial Sign District maximum sign height is 25 feet, but no sign shall extend above the façade.
4. Governmental Sign District maximum sign height is 25 feet, but no sign shall extend above the façade.

(d) **Computation of sign height.** The height of a sign shall be computed as the distance from the base of the sign at normal grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign. Normal grade shall be construed to be the lower of:

- A. Existing grade prior to construction; or
- B. The newly established grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding or excavating solely for the purposes of locating the sign.
- C. In cases where the normal grade cannot be reasonably determined, sign height shall be computed on the assumption that the elevation of the normal grade at the base of the sign is equal to the elevation of the nearest point of the crown of the public street or the grade of the land, at the principal entrance to the principal structure on the same lot, whichever is lower.
- D. The Director shall have the discretion to approve minor height variations along the top of the sign amounting to 12 inches or less when determining sign height.

(e) **Electronic Message Centers.** Electronic message center signs are allowed as follows:

1. Signs displaying only time and/or temperature.
2. All EMCs must comply with the following:
 - A. This EMC allowance shall only apply to permanent signs.
 - B. No EMCs are allowed in residentially zoned areas, except as may be otherwise allowed.
 - C. Only one EMC sign is permitted per land parcel and shall count towards the total permanent sign allowance.
 - D. An EMC may only be a part of the total allowed permanent signage allowance and which contains at least 50 percent non-EMC type signage.
 - E. An EMC shall not exceed 50 percent of the total allowed signage.
 - F. Each public school may have one EMC sign per school location. The sign will count towards the allowable permanent sign area for industrial c and shall also not exceed 50 percent of the area of the permanent sign allowance.
 - G. An EMC shall not be located within 100 feet of a road intersection.
 - H. The EMC message or copy must not change more than once every eight seconds.
 - I. Dynamic frame effect EMC signs are not permitted. No sounds are permitted from EMC signs.
 - J. Transitions between displayed messages shall use fade, dissolve, or similar, but may not use scrolling, travel, or similar transition which creates a sense of motion.
 - K. No EMC shall have the appearance of flashing.
 - L. All EMCs are required to have automatic dimming capability that adjusts the brightness to the ambient light at all times of the day and night.

- M. To the extent possible, an EMC shall be placed so that the message or copy is oriented away from areas or buildings used for residential purposes.
- N. Setbacks. All EMC signs shall be set back from any adjacent property lines a minimum of five feet except that signs adjacent to a common line shared by a residentially zoned district (not including a mixed-use zone) shall be set back from that lot line by a distance at least equal to the height of the sign.

Sec. 16-407. Sign Districts; Location of Signs.

(a) Sign Districts. Four sign districts are hereby created based on the type of land use in the designated area. The following are the designated County Sign Districts as follows:

1. Residential Sign District are those areas used for, or is intended for use as, residential purposes and include zoning districts RA, R-E, R-1-5, R-1-8, R-1-10, R-1-12, R-M, R-3-L, R-3-H, R-3-H-40, R-4, R-5, R-6, R-M-NC, R-3-L-NC*, and M-U*, PD-2.0, PD-3.5, PD-5.0, PD-7.0, PD-12.0, PD-20.0.
2. Commercial Sign District are those areas used, or is intended for, business purposes, as defined in Chapter 12, and includes zoning districts P-O, C-1, C-2, C-3, R&D, R-3-L-NC*, M-U*, DT-CPO, DT-NGO, DT-NCO, and DT-TCO.
3. Industrial Sign District are those areas whose primary use is intended for industrial purposes, such as, but not limited to, manufacturing, production, and assembly and include zoning districts M-1 and M-2.
4. Governmental Sign District are those areas that are owned by the County, State, federal government, or other governmental agency, body, or commission. Schools under the authority of the State Public Education Department are governmental bodies. This sign area includes zoning districts P-L, F-L, DT-CPO.
5. Notations to Types of Sign Districts. Those sign districts with a single asterisk (*) requires the Director's determination that the primary use of individual structure determines the applicable sign requirements.

(b) Signs in Open Space Overlay Zoning Districts W-1 and W-2.

1. Generally. This part sets forth regulations governing signs that are to be located on parcels designated as W-1 and W-2 in the official zoning map. For temporary signs on County land with overlay designation of W-1 and W-2, section 16-415 requirements apply.
2. Prohibition on commercial messages. To help maintain the natural and recreational ambiance of lands designated as W-1 and W-2 on the official zoning map, no sign shall contain a commercial message.
3. Illumination and EMCs. No sign on lands designated as W-1 and W-2 on the official zoning map shall be illuminated. No EMCs are allowed in the open space zoning districts.

Sec. 16-408. Sign Types.

(a) Two types of signs are allowed in the County, including:

1. Temporary signs; and

2. Permanent signs.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Director, or designee, to determine whether a sign is temporary or permanent sign.

(c) Temporary Message on Permanent Signs. Any sign that contains temporary message within or on a permanent sign shall be considered a permanent sign.

Sec. 16-409. Authorized Signs.

Pursuant to the provisions of this Article and Chapter, the following are the authorized sign types and sign areas allowed for each sign district:

(a) Each parcel in a Residential Sign District is permitted 4 square feet of permanent signs and 10 square feet of temporary signs for Single Family Dwellings, and 2 square feet of permanent signs and 5 square feet of temporary signs for residential multi-family units (e.g., apartments, duplexes, or quadraplexes). No multi-family residential dwellings shall have more than 8 square feet of permanent signage and no more than 20 square feet of temporary signage. Lots or parcels with an approved special use permit in Residential Sign Districts shall be permitted to follow Commercial Sign District requirements so long as the approved special use is maintained.

(b) Each parcel in a Commercial Sign District is permitted 10 square feet of permanent signs and 30 square feet of temporary signs per lineal foot of building frontage. No commercial signage shall exceed 100 square feet of permanent signage, and 100 square feet of temporary signage.

(c) Each parcel in an Industrial Sign District is permitted 20 square feet of permanent signs and 10 square feet of temporary signs. No commercial signage shall exceed 100 square feet of permanent signage, and 100 square feet of temporary signage.

(d) Signs in Governmental Sign Districts shall comply with the requirements of section 16-415.

Table 16-400. Signs allowed per Sign Type and Sign Area.

The following table shows the allowed sign type in total square feet, whether a permit is required, by the type of sign area.

Sign District	Maximum Sign Area Allowed by Sign District			
	Permanent	Permit Required?	Temporary	Permit Required?
Residential	Single Family Dwelling at any time - 4 sq. ft; 2 sq. ft. for each multi-family unit with total unit max. of 8 sq. ft.; no illuminated signs	Yes.	Single Family Dwelling at any time - 10 sq. ft; 5 sq. ft. for each multi-family unit with total unit max. of 20 sq. ft.; no illuminated signs	No.
Commercial	At any time 10 sq. feet per lineal feet of building frontage; max 100 sq. ft.	Yes.	At any time 30 sq. feet per lineal feet of building frontage; max. 100 sq. ft.	No.
Industrial	At any time 20 sq. feet per lineal feet of	Yes.	At any time 10 sq. feet per lineal feet of	No.

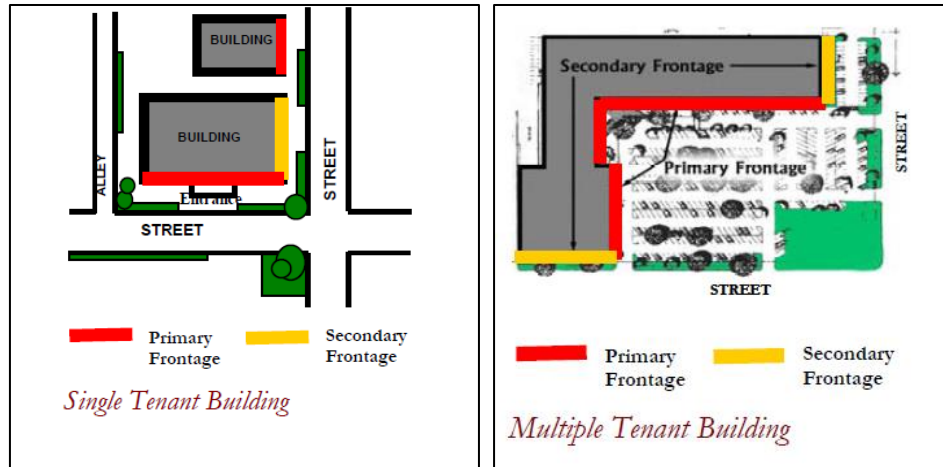
	building frontage; max. 100 sq. ft.		building frontage; max. 100 sq. ft.	
Governmental/ Public Lands Except W-1 and W-2	See Sec. 16-415	See Sec. 16-415	See Sec. 16-415	See Sec. 16-415

Sec. 16-411. Building Frontages and Frontage Lengths.

(a) BUILDING FRONTAGE. The following are the processes to determine building frontage and lengths.

1. **Single Tenant Building Frontage.** For single tenant buildings the building frontage is the lineal distance of the building measured along a straight line parallel to the street. Where said building is not parallel to the street, the building frontage shall be measured along the exterior front wall of the building.
2. **Multi-Tenant Building Frontage.** For an individual business located within a multi-tenant building, the building frontage shall be the length of the space occupied by said business measured in a straight line along the exterior front wall of the building, except for an individual business with minimal exterior frontage occupying the interior corner space of an "L" shaped multi-tenant building, in which case the building frontage may be determined by the length of the space occupied by the individual business measured in a straight line parallel to the nearest street. See Figure 16-411 below.
3. **Primary and Secondary Frontage Allocations.**
 - A. Each building or structure gets signage per building primary and secondary frontage.
 - B. The primary building frontage shall be the portion of any frontage containing the primary public entrance to the building or structure.
 - C. The secondary frontage shall be frontages containing secondary public entrances to the building or access and walls facing a public street or primary parking area that are not designated as the primary building frontage.
 - D. For buildings with two or more frontages, the length and allowable sign area shall be calculated separately for each building frontage. Primary and secondary building frontage allowed sign area cannot be combined and is not cumulative.
 - E. The Director may exclude any frontage not related to the frontage criteria.
 - F. For multi-tenant buildings, the building frontage for each tenant shall be measured from the centerline of the party walls defining the occupied space.

FIGURE 16-411. Determination of primary and secondary building frontage.



Sec. 16-412. Sign size; dimensional computations.

The following shall subsections and figures, in See Figures 16-412-1a, 16-412-1b and 16-412-1c, govern the method to compute individual and total sign area of a sign:


(a) Computation of the area of individual sign faces. The area of a sign face shall be computed as follows:

1. Where the messages and images are mounted on a board or similar flat surface which is attached to a wall, the sign face shall be the area of the board or surface.
2. Where the messages and images are mounted on a board or similar flat surface which is attached to a frame or other supporting structure, the sign face shall be the area of the board or surface exclusive of the frame or supporting structure.
3. Where individual letters, words, or images are mounted directly on a wall or other existing surface, the sign face shall be computed by measuring the area of the smallest rectangle, triangle, circle, or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the message or images.

(b) Multi-faced signs and objects. The sign face area for a sign with more than two sides or a sign that is a three-dimensional object shall be computed by adding together the maximum areas of all faces or portions of the object that are simultaneously visible from a single point of view.

FIGURE 16-412-1a. Area of Geometric Shapes

Even the most complex sign backgrounds are combinations of various geometric shapes. Included here are the formulae to determine the areas of common sign shapes. The use of the Greek letter *pi* is designated as the symbol π . The approximate numerical value of π is 3.1416.

	CIRCLE
	<p>The AREA of a circle is found by multiplying the square of its radius (radius is the distance from the center to the outer edge or circumference) by π (3.1416). Area=πr^2</p>



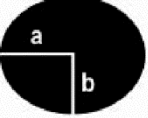
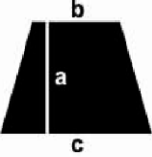
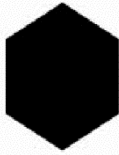
	<p>SQUARE, RECTANGLE, PARALLELOGRAM</p> <p>The AREA of a square, rectangle, or parallelogram (all four-sided figures with two pair of parallel sides) is found by multiplying the length by the width. Area = L×W</p>
	<p>TRIANGLE</p> <p>The AREA of a triangle (three-sided figure) is found by multiplying one-half of the base times the height. Area = ½(b×h)</p>
	<p>ELLIPSE</p> <p>The AREA of an ellipse is found by multiplying half the length of the major axis by half the length of the minor axis, then multiplying the result by π (3.1416). Area = π(AXB)</p>
	<p>TRAPEZOID</p> <p>A four-sided figure with only one pair of parallel sides. The AREA equals one-half the product of its attitude (a) multiplied by the sum of its bases (the bases are the two parallel sides - b and c). Area = ½a(b+c)</p>
	<p>REGULAR POLYGONS</p> <p>Polygons are figures bounded by straight lines called sides. The AREA of a polygon equals the number of triangles within it times the area of each triangle. See formula for triangle. Area = ½(b×h)×number of triangles</p>

FIGURE 16-412-1b Area of Geometric Shapes in Various Freestanding Sign Shapes.

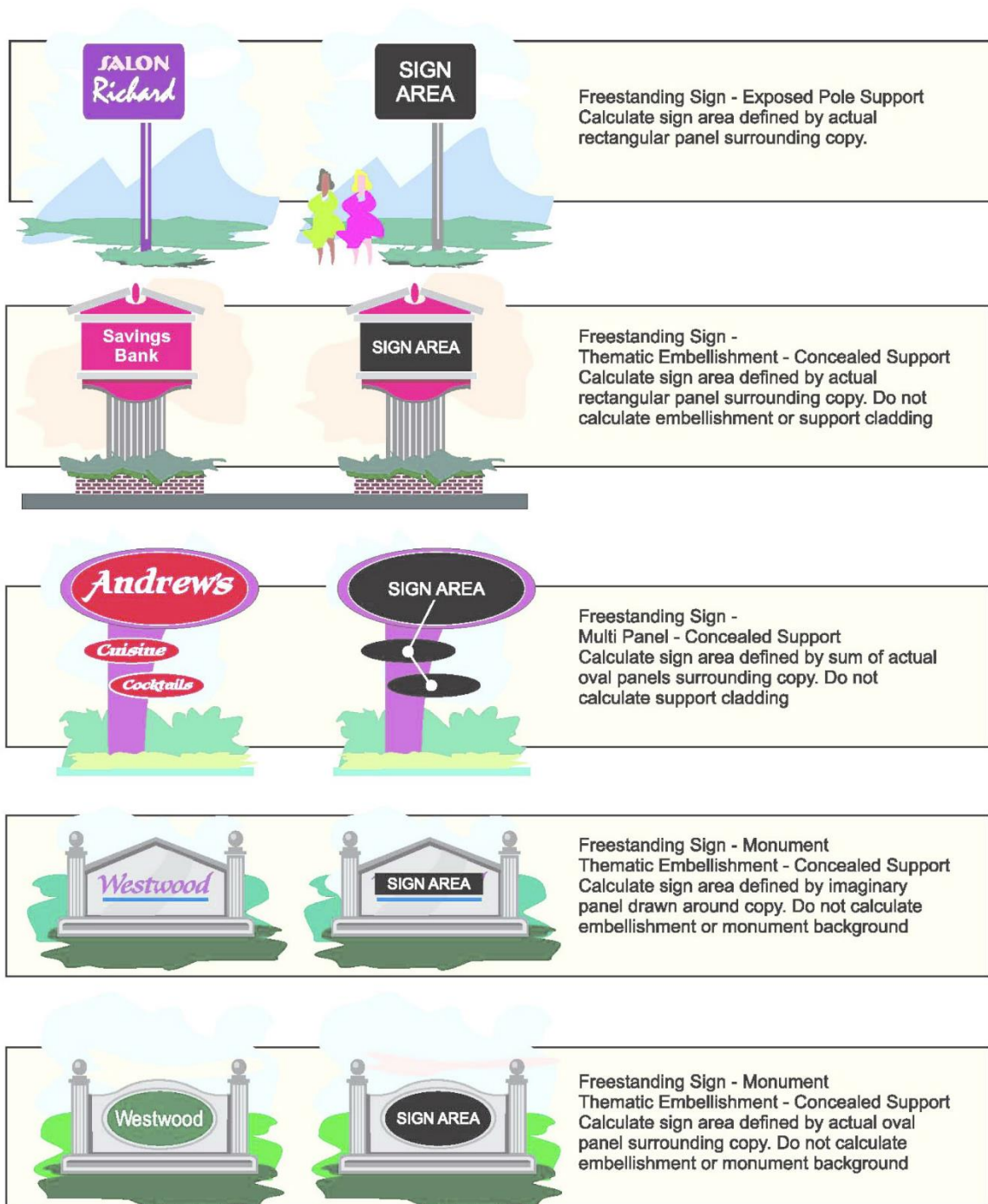
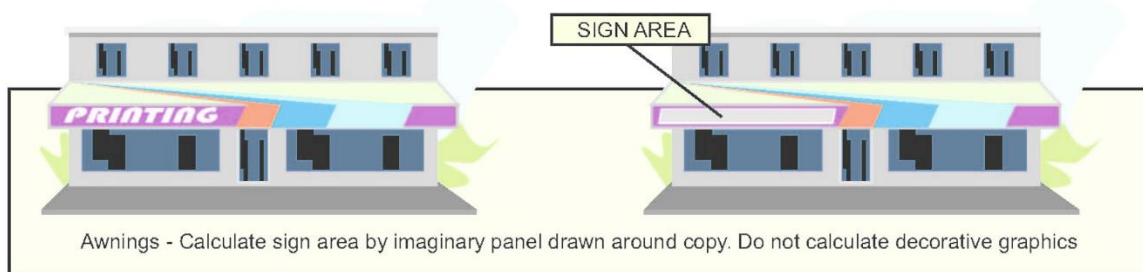
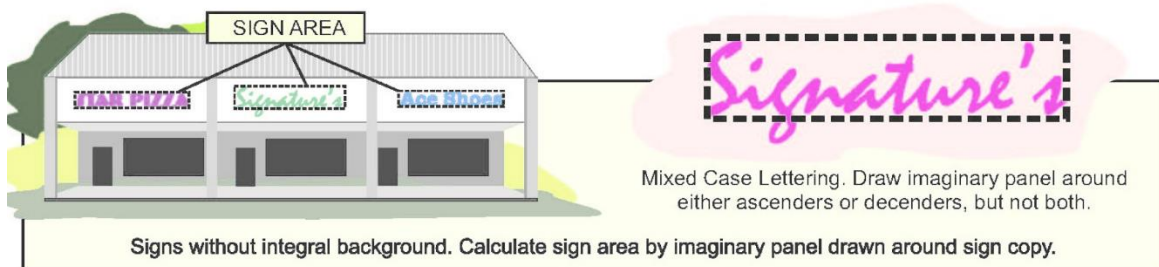


FIGURE 16-412-1c Additional Sign Area Calculations.



Wall / Fascia Signs



Sec. 16-413. Sign Illumination.

(a) Internally illuminated signs are prohibited in Residential Sign Districts.

(b) For illuminated permanent signs in Commercial and Industrial Districts, external illumination of signs is limited to the face of the sign. All external sign light sources shall be shielded and

aimed only at the sign. No direct source of light shall be visible from any public right-of-way or from any location off the site on which the sign is located.

(c) Sign lighting may not blink, fluctuate, or otherwise give indication of movement except as permitted for electronic messaging centers as provided in this Article and Chapter.

(d) All sign lighting shall also be in conformance with the outdoor lighting requirements of this Chapter and Code.

(e) Unless for the purpose of public safety, as determined by the County, temporary signs shall not be illuminated.

(f) Signs that are permitted to be illuminated shall not exceed 0.3 foot candles above ambient lighting as measured horizontally six (6) feet from the center of the face of the sign, six (6) feet above grade at the edge of the property where the sign is located. Illumination can be measure in foot candles, lux, luminance, or footcandle.

Sec. 16-414. - Line-of-sight-obstructions.

To maintain line-of-sight safety for pedestrians and vehicles, the following criteria are to be used to determine the maximum sign sight-line encroachments for non-traffic signs at intersections:

(a) At the intersection of two or more streets, or a street and any driveway or alley controlled by a stop sign or a requirement to stop, no sign shall be located within the sight triangle unless either the top of the sign face is three feet or less above curb level, or the bottom of the sign face is seven feet or more above curb level. A sight triangle is that defined in this Chapter and Code.

(b) The traffic engineer may deny the placement of any sign so as to conflict with the clear and open view of devices placed by a public agency for controlling traffic, or a sign which obstructs a driver's or pedestrian's clear view of an intersecting road, alley or major driveway.

Sec. 16-415. Signs in Governmental District, County Property, and Rights-of-Ways.

The following are the requirements for placement of signs in Governmental Sign Districts and on County owned property, structures, land, public lands, and public rights-of-ways:

(a) Permanent Signs on County buildings and property. Any permanent sign on County buildings, structures, or properties shall require the approval of the County Manager, or Utilities Manager for utility infrastructure. Each sign shall conform to the same requirements of similar commercial buildings.

(b) Temporary signs on public buildings and property.

1. The County may place temporary signs on its own property for any duration.
2. Placement of temporary signs on County owned property, structures, or buildings by any other person shall require pre-approval and review by the Community Development Department and County Manager or Utility Manager.

(c) Temporary signs in the County's designated areas. In those areas designated as Special Temporary Sign Areas, as may be designated by the Council from time to time, any person may place a temporary sign of up to 8 square feet for up 90 days. Any sign placed in the designated special temporary sign area shall include in clear visible permeant text the owners name, address,

telephone number, email, date that the sign placed and the date that the sign will be removed. Failure to include or maintain the required information on each sign shall cause the sign to be an illegal sign and shall be subject to immediate removal and destruction.

(d) Signs in the Right-of-Way.

1. No person, except the County, shall place a permanent sign in any County or public right-of-way. Temporary signs are permitted in all Sign Districts and shall be not greater than **8 square feet** and shall only be authorized for no longer than **30 days** per year.
2. All temporary signs placed shall meet the design requirements for temporary signs as provided herein and shall have be marked in clear visible permeant text the owners name, address, telephone number, email, date that the sign placed and the date that the sign will be removed. A temporary sign in the public right-of-way that fails to include the required information, or remove the sign within the prescribed limits constitutes an illegal sign that may be removed by the County at the expense of the sign owner.
3. No temporary sign in the right-of-way shall be placed on a sidewalk or in such a manner to block, impede, or limit the use of American with Disabilities Act access points, nor shall any temporary sign in the right-of-way extend over or into any street, alley, sidewalk or other public thoroughfare nor shall it be erected so as to prevent free ingress to or egress from any door, window or fire escape.
4. No temporary sign in the right-of-way shall be illuminated except where required by the Director for public safety purposes.

(e) Signs in areas zoned as Public Land (P-L) in the Governmental Sign District not County Land. All schools and institutions located on public lands zoned as P-L, shall meet the Industrial Sign District requirements herein.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after notice is published following its adoption.

Section 5. Severability. Should any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this ordinance, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

Section 6. Repealer. All ordinances or resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance or resolution, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2019.

**COUNCIL OF THE INCORPORATED COUNTY
OF LOS ALAMOS**

SARAH SCOTT
Council Chair

ATTEST: (Seal)

Naomi D. Maestas
Los Alamos County Clerk