

Objective Development Standards FAQs

Q: What are Objective Development Standards?

A: The City's Zoning Code contains development regulations applicable throughout the City. Examples of development standards include maximum building height, minimum building setbacks, and parking requirements.

Objective development standards are those which involve no personal or subjective judgement. They are independently and uniformly verifiable. The purpose of objective development standards is to make regulations more predictable and easier to interpret and implement for all involved.

For more information, access [HCD's Toolkit](#) entitled, "Approaches and Considerations for Objective Design Standards."

Q: Why is the City adopting Objective Development Standards?

A: Recent State legislation, including Senate Bills 35 and 330 passed in 2017, mandate that Cities may only apply objective standards when reviewing multi-family residential projects. While many of the development standards in the City's Zoning Code are objective, the City has initiated this project to ensure that the development standards support high quality multi-family and mixed-use development in a manner which is enforceable under current State law.

Q: Where will the Objective Development Standards apply?

A: The new Mixed-Use zoning and Workforce Housing Overlay created to accommodate the Housing Element Sites Inventory. Additionally, a new Zoning Code Section will be implemented to address objective development standards applicable to all multi-family and mixed-use development. Once adopted, the Objective Development Standards will also apply to multi-family residential projects in the Residential High Density (RH) Zoning District.

Q: How can I participate?

A: Additional information will be posted on the Housing Element Rezoning Project webpage throughout the process to notify the public of engagement opportunities. The Planning Commission and City Council will hold public hearings before making any final decisions.