

SECTION 2.3 - SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

2.3.5 Buffers and landscape requirements.

- A. *Buffers.* A lot zoned or used for a rental dwelling, office, institutional, commercial, industrial uses or occupied by a non 'For-Sale' residential use shall provide a fifty foot wide undisturbed buffer along all property lines adjoining property zoned for or used by 'For-Sale' residential purposes. Where commercial or industrial districts or developments abut R-10M zoning districts, the same buffer requirements apply. The undisturbed buffer shall be in addition to the required building setback line.

Except as otherwise provided, herein, buffer strips shall be preserved in their natural undisturbed state, except that sparsely planted buffers shall be enhanced with additional plant material. Enhancement plants must provide an opaque screen within two (2) years of planting and must meet the following standards: Plants must be a minimum of five (5) feet in height at time of installation; plant selection will consist of eighty (80) percent evergreen species and twenty (20) percent deciduous species; and plants will be spaced a maximum of eight (8) feet on center.

Undisturbed buffers shall not contain any surface parking or storm water, detention facilities, or any structures except that the Director may approve underground facilities within the buffer or the crossing of the buffer for the purpose of extending utilities.

Stream buffers must be replanted where disturbed for approved access, detention and utility crossing. Replacement plants must be approved by the arborist.

All buffer plantings are subject to the approval of the Director.

- B. *Parking Lot Screening.* Surface parking lots shall provide a minimum 200 square foot wide landscape island at the end of each parking bay, and a 200 square foot island located each 72 feet of single parking length. Each landscape island shall be planted with one shade tree. Alternate landscape configurations may be approved if the Community Development Director determines that the alternate design exceeds the standards above. An alternate configuration could include the preservation and enhancement of existing trees which are provided above and beyond other tree preservation requirements which are deemed of community value by the Director; and which would result in a minimum of 50% parking lot coverage within 15 years.

The required tree area shall be protected against compaction and shall provide sufficient area for tree growth. Utilities are not allowed within the minimum area. The trees shall be maintained in accordance with best management practices as defined by the International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, and shall not be removed or pruned without permission from the city arborists.

- C. *Landscape Strips.*

1. The City wants to promote tree lined streets therefore, a minimum of ten (10) feet wide landscape strip shall be provided along all public right-of-ways. Main streets which are listed below shall have twenty (20) foot landscape strips, except those located within the Historic Business District which shall have ten (10) feet wide landscape strips or landscaping as approved by the Director.

MAIN STREETS:

Highway 9

Mansell Road

Windward Parkway

Northpoint Parkway

Westside Parkway

Old Milton Parkway

Haynes Bridge Road

Kimball Bridge Road

2. No permanent structures other than signage are permitted within the landscape strip. This includes pavement, retaining walls, drainage structures, detention ponds, flumes, curbing, etc. Except that retaining walls built with decorative masonry and designed as a landscape feature may be located within the landscape strip subject to approval by the Director. All required plantings must be installed so as not to interfere with the structural integrity of the wall.
3. One (1) shade tree with a minimum 4 inch caliper shall be provided for every twenty-five (25) linear feet of landscape strip.

Shrubs shall be provided to screen paved areas and parking lots from the right-of-way. Shrubs shall be two (2) foot high at planting, two (2) rows deep and shall provide a screen within three (3) years of planting. Alternate screening methods such as fencing may be approved by the Director.

Shrubs and trees in quantities as specified above, shall be provided to screen all parking lots, utility areas, dumpsters and detention ponds.

4. A minimum five-foot (5') wide landscape strip shall be provided along all property lines which do not adjoin a public right-of-way. One (1) shade tree with a minimum four inch (4") caliper shall be provided for every fifty (50) linear feet of landscape strip.
- D. *Lighting.* Lighting fixtures shall be arranged so that the source of any light is screened from residential views.
- E. *General.* All required landscape areas shall be provided with a minimum of one (1) water spigot or other water source within one hundred fifty (150) feet.

A bond shall be required for up to 18 months to ensure the irrigation and maintenance of landscaping materials.

(Installation and maintenance requirements are found in Section 3.2 of this Ordinance.)

F. *Outdoor Dining Areas.* At-grade outdoor dining areas shall include perimeter landscaping and decorative detectable barriers in order to define the area. Detectable barriers shall include decorative planters, low walls or other improvement approved by the Community Development Director. Outdoor dining areas shall include one (1) shade tree per 750 square feet.

([Ord. No. 718](#), § 16, 12-14-2015)