

1. 3:00 P.M. Planning Commission Regular Meeting & Public Hearing

Documents:

[2022-09-20 Planning Commission Agenda.pdf](#)

2. Meeting Materials

Documents:

[Proposed Fences Walls And Hedges.pdf](#)  
[Yachats Draft Code Amendments.9.13.22.Pdf](#)  
[YMC-Revisions-Dickinson-For-09-20-2022.Pdf](#)  
[JT Cmts On Fence, Hedge, Wall Amdmts.pdf](#)  
[Featherkile - Input For Public Hearing.pdf](#)



CITY OF YACHATS  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
Yachats OR  
Tuesday September 20, 2022, at 3:00 pm  
Public Meeting via ZOOM Meeting

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**Regular Meeting**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Announcements and Correspondence
- III. Citizen Concerns
- IV. Public Hearing
  - a. Proposed Yachats Municipal Code Amendment – Chapter 5.08 and Title 9 Fences, Walls and Hedges
- V. New Business
  - a. None
- VI. Old Business
  - a. Wetlands inventory status - Theilacker
  - b. Code Enforcement hiring update
  - c. Definition Code Changes moved from Work Session
- VII. City Planner
  - a. Planner's Monthly Report
- VIII. Other Business
  - a. From the Commission
  - b. From staff

This meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are invited to attend the ZOOM Meetings. This meeting will be audio taped. All items to be considered by the Commission must be submitted to City Hall no later than one week prior to the meeting. The minutes of this meeting is the Audio Tape which will added to the packet after the meeting within 24 hours. In accordance with ORS 192.630, City of Yachats will make a good faith effort to provide accommodations for any person desiring to attend a public meeting, if the request is made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting time; a sign language or foreign language interpreter may be available, with advance notice. Call City Hall at 541- 547-3565 or Oregon Relay 1- 800-735-2900 (TDD) two days in advance. POSTED 9/7/22

## Section 5.08.060 Maintenance of property—Nuisances.

C. To allow a construction site where there has been no noticeable progress toward completion for a period of six (6) months or more to become unsightly with construction debris, mud, standing water, overgrown vegetation, open ditches, or uneven bare ground;

To keep or maintain a structure in such condition that it would be considered a “dangerous building” under the following definitions:

1. A structure which, for the want of proper repairs or by reason of age and dilapidated condition or by reason of poorly installed electrical wiring or equipment, defective chimney, defective gas connection, defective heating apparatus, or for any other cause or reason, is especially susceptible to fire and which is so situated or occupied as to endanger any other building or property or human life; Every fence shall be maintained in a condition of reasonable repair, and not be allowed become or remain in a condition of disrepair including noticeable leaning or missing sections, broken supports, non-uniform height, and growing or noxious vegetation.

## Section 5.08.090 Fences.

~~\_\_\_\_\_ A. \_\_\_\_\_ Barbed Wire. No owner or person in charge of property shall construct or maintain a barbed wire fence, or permit barbed wire to remain as part of a fence, along a sidewalk or other public way; except such wire may be placed above the top of other fencing not less than six (6) feet, six (6) inches high.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ B. \_\_\_\_\_ Electric Fence. No owner or person in charge of property shall construct, maintain or operate an electric fence along a sidewalk or other public way or along the adjoining property line of another person. (Ord. 474 § 18, 1995)~~

\_\_\_\_\_ A. \_\_\_\_\_ Every fence shall be maintained in a condition of reasonable repair, and not be allowed become or remain in a condition of disrepair including noticeable leaning or missing sections, broken supports, non-uniform height, and growing or noxious vegetation. Residential fences must be constructed of material specifically designed and manufactured for fencing purposes except they cannot contain any material which will do bodily harm, such as electric or barbed wire, upturned barbed selvage, broken glass, spikes, or any other hazardous or dangerous materials. (refer to 9.04.030 of YMC for definition of “Selvage”)

## Section 9.04.030 Definitions.

\_\_\_\_\_ “Clear-Vision Area”: The triangles at the junction of streets, alleys, and driveways as defined in YMC section 9.64.010

\_\_\_\_\_ “Hedge”: An evergreen planting which is grown as a Sight-Obscuring barrier between two properties.

\_\_\_\_\_ “Required Yard”: The area of a lot within the building setbacks. The size of the Required Yard varies with the zoning of the property.

\_\_\_\_\_ “Screening Buffer”: A fence, hedge, or wall that blocks at least 70% of the view between uses. The buffer shall be not less than 5 feet in height, nor more than 8 feet in height, except in a ClearVision Area.

“Selvage”: Chain-link fence has two types of selvages: knuckle and twist (barb). Knuckle is more round and much safer because it has no sharp points to catch on clothing or people. However, twisted or barbed have sharp ends for high security. Knuckle selvage is allowed for residential chainlink fence systems, while barbed-selvage is allowed for commercial or high-security fence systems.

“Sight-Obscuring Fence” (or: “Sight-Obscuring Screen”): Consists of either a continuous fence, wall, evergreen planting, or combination thereof, constructed and/or planted so as to effectively screen the particular use from view.

## 9.12.040

B7 : Where a residential use abuts another residential zone a fence, wall, or sight-obscuring fence may be constructed/grown and maintained immediately adjacent to the abutting property line so long as it is not greater than 6 feet in height(except where clear vision would be impaired (as defined in YMC section 9.64.010), or up to 8 feet in height with approval by the Planning Commission through a public hearing in accordance with Chapter 9.80. When such a fence is placed above a retaining wall immediately adjacent to a property line, the combined height of the retaining wall and fence cannot exceed 8 feet.

## 9.16.040

B7 : Where a residential use abuts another residential zone a fence, wall, or sight-obscuring fence may be constructed/grown and maintained immediately adjacent to the abutting property line so long as it is not greater than 6 feet in height(except where clear vision would be impaired (as defined in YMC section 9.64.010), or up to 8 feet in height with approval by the Planning Commission through a public hearing in accordance with Chapter 9.80. When such a fence is placed above a retaining wall immediately adjacent to a property line, the combined height of the retaining wall and fence cannot exceed 8 feet.

## 9.20.040

B7 : Where a residential use abuts another residential zone a fence, wall, or sight-obscuring fence may be constructed/grown and maintained immediately adjacent to the abutting property line so long as it is not greater than 6 feet in height(except where clear vision would be impaired (as defined in YMC section 9.64.010), or up to 8 feet in height with approval by the Planning Commission through a public hearing in accordance with Chapter 9.80. When such a fence is placed above a retaining wall immediately adjacent to a property line, the combined height of the retaining wall and fence cannot exceed 8 feet.

## 9.24.040

B7 : Where a residential use abuts another residential zone a fence, wall, or sight-obscuring fence may be constructed/grown and maintained immediately adjacent to the abutting property line so long as it is not greater than 6 feet in height(except where clear vision would be impaired (as defined in YMC section 9.64.010), or up to 8 feet in height with approval by the Planning Commission through a public hearing in accordance with Chapter 9.80. When such a fence is placed above a retaining wall immediately adjacent to a property line, the combined height of the retaining wall and fence cannot exceed 8 feet.

## Section 9.48.010 General requirements.

G. Except for parking to serve dwelling uses, parking and loading areas adjacent to or within residential zones or adjacent to residential uses shall be designed to minimize disturbance of residents by the erection between the uses of a sight-obscuring fence of not less than five (5) feet in height ~~where vision clearance is required and not to exceed eight (8) feet except in Clear-Vision Areas as defined in YMC section 9.64.010.~~

## Section 9.64.010 Design standards.

9.64.010A2 :No temporary or permanent obstruction (e.g., structure, fence, or shrub vegetation) ~~between greater than~~ three (3) feet and eight (8) feet in height shall be placed in clear-vision areas on streets, driveways, or alleys, as shown in the Clear-Vision ~~Area-Diagram figure~~ below. Trees exceeding this height may be located in this area provided all branches and foliage are removed to a height of eight (8) feet above grade.

9.64.010B :Fences, Hedges and Walls. Fences, ~~hedges-Hedges~~ and ~~walls-Walls~~ may be located within required yards, but shall not exceed three (3) feet in height ~~in any required yard which abuts and runs parallel to a street other than an alley within the Clear-Vision Area diagram below.~~ Hedges that front Highway 101 are exempt from this height requirement as long as the height does not interfere with ~~clear-Clear vision-Vision~~ requirements in Section 9.64.010(A)(3).

## Chapter 9.68 - Manufactured Dwellings, Manufactured Dwelling Parks and Recreational Vehicles

9.68.030 C15 : Buffering or screening, if required by the Planning Commission, shall ~~be sight-obscuring fence, wall, evergreen or other suitable planting at least six feet high, or higher.~~ "Screening Buffer" (see definition in [YMC Section 9.04.030](#));

## -Section 9.72.050 Standards and procedures governing conditional uses.

9.72.050 G3 : Outdoor storage shall be on the side or rear of the building, and shall be screened with a ~~sight-obscuring fence, hedge or wall~~ "Screening Buffer" (see definition in [YMC Section 9.04.030](#)).

## Planning Commission Discussion of Possible City of Yachats Municipal Code Amendments

*[Note: Incorporates Planning Commission input through August 9th work session up to “Impervious Surface”.]*

### Title 9 – Zoning and Land Use

#### **Section 9.04.020 Purpose.**

*The Planning Commission reached consensus on substituting the following for the existing Purpose text:*

“The purpose of this title is to establish a set of zoning, subdivision, and land development regulations for the City designed to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, advance the position of Yachats as a small, coastal community, and achieve the following objectives:

1. Fulfill the goals of the City of Yachats Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
2. Ensure that land uses complement the natural beauty of Yachats’ location and its environment, which has led to Yachats’ long-standing reputation as “The Gem of the Oregon Coast”.
3. Guide the establishment of public, commercial, professional and residential uses, including their siting, design materials, and landscaping, within reasonable variation, so that they shall enhance rather than detract from the quiet coastal ambiance of the City.
4. Ensure that sufficient vacant and redevelopable buildable land shall be zoned for residential uses to accommodate the projected increases in year-round and part-time populations and to provide a choice of housing location, type and price, to meet the needs of the Yachats community.
5. Ensure that new businesses shall be of an appropriate scale to retain and enhance the small-town, ocean side character of the Yachats community.

6. Protect residential, commercial, and public areas from the intrusion of incompatible uses, and insure preservation of adequate space for commercial, professional and other activities necessary for a healthy economy.
7. Promote safe and efficient movement of people and goods without sacrifice to the quality of Yachats' environment, and to provide for adequate off-street parking.
8. Encourage new development to use energy-efficient design, siting, and construction materials and methods.
9. Protect and enhance the City's natural, historic, and scenic resources, including the Yachats River estuary, City shorelands, and City water supply.
10. Regulate activities within geologic hazard areas of the City and limit development that may affect the integrity of steep slopes or impact fire hazards."

#### **Section 9.04.030 Definitions**

*The Planning Commission reached consensus on the following new or revised definitions:*

##### **"Dwelling, Accessory"**

"Means an accessory structure specifically designed and permitted as an additional dwelling, which is incidental, appropriate, and subordinate to a primary dwelling on a property."

##### **"Bed and Breakfast Facility"**

"Means any single-family dwelling containing rooms for rent in accordance with Section 9.72.050, excluding any dwelling that meets the definition of Vacation Rental.

##### **"Building Code"**

"Means building, fire, safety, and other codes adopted by state, county and municipal agencies."

##### **"Building Coverage"**

"Means the portion of the lot area that is covered by buildings. The area of the buildings shall be measured at their exterior perimeter. Buildings include dwellings, accessory structures, garages and carports."

##### **"Clear Vision Area"**

“Means a triangle defined on two (2) sides by a minimum distance along vehicle pathways from the intersection of the curb line or, where no curb exists, the edge of the street, alley, or driveway surface edge, and on the third side by the line across the corner of the non-intersecting ends of the two (2) other sides. See the regulations of Section 9.64.010.A of this Title.”

**“Deck”**

“Means an unenclosed structure or platform, constructed outdoors, that may either be independent or attached to a building and is intended for the purpose of outdoor dining, lounging, and other similar accessory residential use.”

**“Dwelling”**

“Means a building or portion thereof which is occupied in whole or in part as a residence, either permanently or temporarily, by one or more families, but excluding hotels, motels, and resorts, with permanent provision for living, sleeping, eating, food preparation, and sanitation. Dwellings include both buildings constructed on-site and manufactured homes.”

**“Dwelling, Vacation Rental”**

“Means a single-family dwelling, duplex, or multi-family dwelling which is rented, or held out as available for rent, for periods of less than thirty (30) days, such as by the day or week, excluding any facility that meets the definition of “bed and breakfast facility”. The dwelling may consist of individual units or be in a contiguous form to be considered a vacation rental dwelling; however each individual unit is to be considered separately for licensing and regulation purposes in accordance with Chapter 4.08 of YMC. A dwelling that is listed with an agent as a vacation rental, advertised, available by referral, word of mouth, commendation or reputation are some of, but not limited to, the ways of identifying a vacation rental.”

**“Hotel/Motel”**

“Means any building or group of buildings used for transient residential purposes, containing six (6) or more guest units.”

*The Planning Commission reached consensus on deleting the term “apartment” and its definition.*

*The Planning Commission reached consensus to strike “Porch” from the existing term “Deck/Porch” and define each separately.*



The Planning Commission deferred a decision on “Height of Building” to permit further research and thought.

Discussion of selected definitions ended at this point for the August 9<sup>th</sup> work session

### **“Height of Building”**

Existing: “Means the vertical distance from the average finished grade to the highest point of the building plus any fill above the natural grade. To determine building height, calculate the average building height, then divide the two (2) building heights by two (2). Add together the average height for each side and divide by the number of sides.”

Sample alternatives:

“Means the vertical distance measured from the average between the highest to lowest natural/existing or proposed lot grades around the perimeter of the structure to the highest point of the roof. When determining whether to utilize existing or proposed grade, whichever is most restrictive and results in the lowest allowed building height.” (Jac.)

“Means the vertical distance from the average finished grade at the front of a building to the highest point of the coping of a flat roof or to the deck line of a mansard roof or the peak height of the highest gable of a pitch, shed, or hip roof.” (City of Florence)

“Means the vertical distance above a referenced datum measured to the highest point of the coping of a flat roof, to the deck line of a mansard roof, or to the average height of the gables of a pitched or hipped roof. For the purpose of residential zones, building height shall be the vertical distance above a referenced datum measured to the highest point of the roof. The referenced datum shall be whichever of the following two measurements results in the greater building height:

- (A) The referenced datum is the lowest grade when the highest ground surface within a five-foot horizontal distance of the exterior wall of the building is not more than ten (10) feet above the lowest grade.
- (B) The referenced datum is ten (10) feet higher than the lowest grade when the highest ground surface described in item (A) above is ten (10) feet or more above the lowest grade.” (City of Eugene)

*(Note: Samples of building height definitions typically included an illustration to help explain the method for determining building height. I did not include them here.)*

### **“Impervious surface”**

Existing: (Not currently defined)

Sample definition:

“Means a surface that has been compacted or covered with a layer of material so that it prevents or is resistant to the infiltration of water, including, but not limited to, structures such as roofs, buildings, storage sheds; other solid, paved, or concrete areas such as streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, patios, tennis or other paved courts; or athletic playfields comprised of synthetic turf materials.” (PA municipality)

### “Impervious surface ratio”

Existing: (Not currently defined)

Sample definition:

“Means a measure of the intensity of the use of a piece of land. It is measured by dividing the total area of all impervious surfaces within a site by the gross lot area.” (PA Municipality)

*(Note: “Impervious surface ratio” could be substituted for the term “lot coverage”, and serve as a standard for all base zoning districts. For example, for the R-1 District:*

*“Maximum impervious surface ratio” – 30%*

### “Lot coverage”

Existing: (Not currently defined, although the term “lot coverage”, as a standard within all base zoning districts, is limited to buildings, porches and decks.)

Sample alternatives:

“Means that portion of a lot which, when viewed directly from above, would be covered by buildings, access ways, parking spaces and surfaced areas.” (City of Florence)

“Means the percentage of the gross lot area that is fully covered by impervious surfaces.” (PA municipality)

“Lot coverage means the portion of the lot area that is covered with the following improvements:

- (1) The area of the exterior perimeter of all buildings, including dwellings, accessory buildings, garages, and car ports; and

- (2) The area of all structures that are thirty (30) inches in height above the existing grade, including porches, decks, stairways; and
- (3) Paved or graveled areas designated for off-street parking; and
- (4) That portion of the area of decks, less than thirty (30) inches in height above the existing grade, patios, courtyards, and graveled and paved areas, other than designated off-street parking, which exceeds twenty-five (25) percent of the allowable lot coverage; and
- (5) Fifty (50) percent of areas covered with a defined pattern of void spaces to accommodate soil, live vegetation, and drainage between the structural elements, such as Grasscrete or similar treatments.

The following improvements shall not be included in the calculation of lot coverage:

- a. Projections from buildings such as eaves, overhangs, and bay windows which meet the requirements of Section \_\_\_\_\_; projections into required yards;
- b. Arbors not exceeding one hundred twenty-five (125) square feet in area; and
- c. Decks, less than thirty (30) inches in height above the existing grade, patios, courtyards, and graveled and paved areas, other than designated off-street parking, whose total area does not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the allowable lot coverage.” (City of Cannon Beach)

**“Lot line, street side”**

Existing: (Not currently defined)

Proposed definition:

“Means the side lot line at abutting street.” (Loren)

**“Patio”**

Existing: (Not currently defined)

Sample definitions:

“Means a paved outdoor area adjoining a house.” (Jac.)

“Means an area consisting of natural or man-made material constructed at or near grade level, intended for use as an outdoor living area, and not enclosed by a permanent roof or awning.” (Jac.)

**“Parking space, off-street”**

Existing: Means a parking space located outside of a public right of way with minimum dimensions of eighteen (18) feet long and nine (9) feet wide. Off-street parking spaces shall have surfaces such as gravel, pavement, tile, brick, or concrete suitable for parking a vehicle. Required off-street parking spaces shall not be located in a required yard that abuts a street.”

Sample alternative:

“Means a parking space located outside of a public right of way with minimum dimensions of eighteen (18) feet long and nine (9) feet wide. Off-street parking spaces shall have surfaces such as gravel, pavement, tile, brick, or concrete suitable for parking a vehicle.”

*(Note: The text which is proposed to be deleted from the existing paragraph above is a regulation, and would most appropriately be added to Section 9.48.010 of Title 9.)*

### **“Parking space, accessible”**

Existing: (Not currently defined)

Sample definition:

“Means an off-street parking space for handicap access to or from a vehicle, designed in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The accessible parking space shall be at least nine (9) feet wide with an adjacent access aisle at least six (6) feet wide. The access aisle shall be at least eight (8) feet wide for an accessible parking space designated as “van-accessible” or reserved for wheelchair users only.” (Oregon Transportation Commission, edited)

### **“Porch”**

Existing: “Means an outside walking area, the floor of which is elevated more than eight (8) inches from the ground.”

Sample alternative:

“Means an open structure that has breathable walls, but protection above it, usually, a covered shelter projecting in front of the entrance of the building.” (Jac.)

### **“Yard”**

Existing: Means a space other than a court on the same lot with a building open to the ground.”

Sample alternatives:

“Means an open space on the same lot with a building, unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except as otherwise provided herein.” (City of Florence)

“Means a required space on the same lot with a building, unoccupied, and unobstructed from a point 30 inches above grade upward, except as otherwise provided herein.” (City of Eugene)

### **“Yard, Front”**

Existing: Means a yard extending across the full width of the lot, the depth of which is the minimum horizontal distance between the front lot line and a line parallel thereto at the nearest point of the foundation of the main building.

Sample alternative:

“Means an area lying between the side lot lines, the depth of which is a specified horizontal distance between the street line and a line parallel thereto on the lot.” (City of Florence)

### **“Yard, Rear”**

Existing: Means a yard extending across the full width of the lot between the most rear main building and the rear lot line; but for determining the depth of the required rear yard it shall be measured horizontally from the nearest point of the rear lot line; or, if the rear lot line adjoins an alley, then from the center line of the alley, toward the nearest part of the foundation of the main building.

Sample alternative:

“Means an area lying between side lot lines, the depth of which is a specified horizontal distance between the rear property line and a line parallel thereto on the lot.” (City of Florence)

### **“Yard, Street Side”**

Existing: (Not currently defined)

Sample definition:

“Means a yard extending across the full length of a corner lot, the depth of which is the minimum horizontal distance between the lot line abutting the street and a line parallel thereto at the nearest point of the foundation of the main building. The minimum depth for a street side yard is the same as that required for the front yard of a corner lot.” (John T.)

“Means a yard on a corner lot that is adjacent to a street between the front yard and the rear lot line measured horizontally and at right angles from the side lot line to the nearest point of a building.” (Lincoln County) *(Check for compatibility with definition of “lot, corner”)*

*(Note: Most zoning ordinances don’t include the term “street side yard” because a corner lot is typically regulated as having two required front yards, one required side yard, and one required rear yard.)*

## **PROPOSED YMC REVISIONS**

### **CHANGES TO DEFINITIONS & RELATED REVISIONS**

#### **DICKINSON – Version 8-26-2022**

For 9-20-2022 Regular Session

Add language in **red**.

Consider adding requirements in **blue**.

### **HOTEL – MOTEL**

The Commission decided in the August 9<sup>th</sup> Working session that the terms “hotel” and “motel” were synonymous, with the following definition:

*Hotel / Motel “Means any building or group of buildings used for transient residential purposes, containing six (6) or more guest units.”*

I have a concern that these terms are not well-enough defined. The term “transient residential” is not within the current Definitions. **Add “Transient Residential” to Definitions or change Hotel / Motel definition language.**

Furthermore, elsewhere in Title 9 it refers to hotel, motel or resort as being “with accessory commercial uses”, which also is not defined. As in R4 9.24.020.K (Permitted Uses) and 9.24.030. P (Conditional Uses), by reference does this not infer that “**accessory commercial uses**” are required in order to be acceptable? I believe the term **should either be deleted or defined**, and if deemed to be required added to the definition of Hotel / Motel as follows:

*Hotel / Motel “Means any building or group of buildings used for transient residential purposes, containing six (6) or more guest units, **and with accessory commercial uses.**”*

A final question for the definition of hotel / motel is ... should it not be tied to a rental timeline, such as nightly, up to but not including thirty (30) days?

### **RELATED ORDINANCE SECTIONS REQUIRING REVISION:**

#### **R4 Standards 9.24.040.G.**

G. *Vehicle Access. Ingress or egress to a multifamily dwelling or to a **hotel, motel or resort** shall not be allowed from less than a thirty-five (35) foot right-of-way and a twenty-five (25) foot all weather travel surface **uninterrupted from US Highway 101 to the facility**, accessible to emergency vehicles. In the event that a thirty-five (35) foot*

*right-of-way is not possible, a minimum of ten (10) foot easement (five (5) feet on each side of the travel surface) shall be dedicated to the City for utility purposes and pedestrian use. Commercial, [hotel, motel or resort uses](#) and multifamily dwellings shall not have vehicles access to or from a cul-de-sac.*

In a recent case for Conditional Use Permit, the main road from Hwy 101 did not meet the width requirements, but the discussion centered around the short secondary street immediately adjacent to the site. The requirement should be for the **full length of the access from Hwy 101**, which I believe was the true intent of current wording, but not clearly stated.

## **Provisions of Definitions and other Sections also need related revision:**

### DEFINITIONS

The term “Commercial uses” is not defined but is used in many locations withing YMC. Cornell Law defines it as follows, or any other similar definition:

– The term “used for commercial purposes” means the carriage of persons or property for any fare, fee, rate, charge or other consideration, or directly or indirectly in connection with any business, or other undertaking intended for profit.

### C1 RETAIL COMMERCIAL ZONE

*9.28.010.N. [Hotel, motel or resort](#) on a minimum of 1.0 acre with direct access provided from U.S. Highway 101 only and with accessory commercial uses;*

### CONDITIONAL USE STANDARDS

*9.72.050.A. [Hotels, motels](#) or resorts in an R-4 zone shall have a minimum lot area per guest unit of one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet.*

Is a provision for Fire Department review and approval needed?

*[For hotel, motel or resort in an R4 zone, the serving Fire Department shall have reviewed and approved required emergency access. Evidence of such review and approval shall be required.](#)*

Or similar wording.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Yachats City Planning Commissioners  
Katherine Guenther, City Planner

**FROM:** John Theilacker, Vice-Chair  
Yachats City Planning Commission

**DATE:** September 13, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Amendments to YMC:  
Fence, Hedge, and Wall Height

Good afternoon. Although I was not a member of the Planning Commission during its formation of the proposed Yachats Municipal Code amendments for fences, hedges, and walls, I'm offering the following edits for Commission and City Staff consideration. These are largely grammatical, but some are intended to improve the interpretation of Code provisions.

### Section 5.08.060 Maintenance of Property – Nuisances.

C.1. For the sentence starting with "Every fence shall be...", add the word "to" between "allowed" and "become".

### Section 5.08.090 Fences.

A. For the sentence starting with "Every fence shall be...", add the word "to" between "allowed" and "become". For the second sentence starting with "Residential fences must...", suggest replacing the word "must" with "shall", and ending the sentence after the words "...fencing purposes". Strike the words "except they cannot contain", and replace with "Use of...", and add the words "...is prohibited" after the words "dangerous materials."

The second and third sentences of this Section would now read as:

*"Residential fences shall be constructed of material specifically designed and manufactured for fencing purposes. Use of any material which will do bodily harm, such as electric or barbed wire, upturned barbed selvage, broken glass,*

*spikes, or any other hazardous or dangerous materials shall be prohibited. (refer to Section 9.04.030 of YMC for definition of “selvage”.)*

Section 9.04.030 Definitions.

- As we noted in our code work sessions, each definition should start with the word “Means...” to be consistent with existing definitions, and use of the word “section” when referring to part of the Code should be capitalized.
- For the definition of “Hedge”, I suggest the word “barrier” following “Sight-Obscuring” be replaced with “Fence”. “Sight-Obscuring Fence” is a defined term, whereas “Sight-Obscuring barrier” is not.
- I suggest replacing the proposed definition for “Selvage” with the following definition, which is non-regulatory:

*“Means the finished top edge of a chain-link fence, consisting of either knuckle or twist (barb). Knuckle selvage is rounded and safer because it has no sharp points to catch on clothing or people, and is appropriate for residential chain link systems. Twisted or barbed selvage has sharp ends for high security purposes and is appropriate for commercial or high-security fence systems.”*

- I suggest replacing the proposed text for subsection B7 of Sections 9.12.040, 9.16.040, 9.20.040, and 9.24.040, as follows:

*“Where a residential use abuts another residential use, or a non-residential use, or a residentially- or non-residentially zoned lot, a fence, wall, or Sight-Obscuring Fence may be established and maintained immediately adjacent to the abutting property line provided it is no more than six (6) feet in height (except where the Clear Vision Area would be impaired as defined in YMC Section 9.64.010), or no more than eight (8) feet in height when permitted by Conditional Use in accordance with Chapter 9.80 of the YMC. When such a fence, wall, or Sight-Obscuring Fence is placed above a retaining wall immediately adjacent to a property line, the combined height of the wall and fence shall not exceed eight (8) feet.”*

Section 9.64.010 Design standards.

A.2. I suggest striking the text "...and eight (8) feet..." from the first sentence and capitalizing "Clear-Vision Areas".

Chapter 9.68 – Manufactured Dwellings, Manufactured Dwelling Parks and Recreational Vehicles.

Section 9.68.030

C.15 I suggest adding the words "be screened with a.." between the word "shall" and the words "Screening Buffer" to form a complete sentence.

## City Recorder

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**From:** Yachats Office Manager  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 20, 2022 2:01 PM  
**To:** City Recorder  
**Subject:** Planning Commission hearing input

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**From:** Burgundy Featherkile <burgundy@featherkile.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2022 4:46 PM  
**To:** City Hall <cityhall@YachatsMail.org>  
**Subject:** Planning Commission hearing input

9.64.010A2 :No temporary or permanent obstruction (e.g., structure, fence, or shrub vegetation) ~~between~~ *greater than* three (3) feet and eight (8) feet in height shall be placed in clear-vision areas on streets,

The correction doesn't make sense. Why would you say "greater than 3 feet *and* 8 feet in height" ?

Burgundy - from Yachats, Home of the World's Largest Ocean

"If a little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing, think what a lot of it will do." —Porterhouse Blue