

6.1 PURPOSE

The City of Belmont finds that there are certain uses that exist which may be constructed, continued, and/or expanded provided they meet certain mitigating conditions specific to their design and/or operation. Such conditions ensure compatibility among building types so that different uses may be located in proximity to one another without adverse affects to either. This Chapter specifies those requirements that must be met by all the uses listed in the Uses Permitted with Conditions section for each District in Chapter 5.

Each use shall be permitted in compliance with all conditions listed for the use in this chapter. Certain uses are classified as **Conditional Uses** and require City Council approval in accordance with Section 15.10.

6.2.1 ADULT ESTABLISHMENTS (Permitted in HC Only)*Conditional Use

- a) No such Adult Establishment shall be located less than 1,000 ft from a school, church, day care center, civic building, park, lot in residential use, lot with residential districting or other Adult Establishment.
- b) All openings shall have an opaque glazing to discourage visibility of the interior.
- c) The maximum floor area of each use shall be 3000 square feet.
- d) No exterior signage or building element shall be pornographic in nature or convey any such idea or element.
- e) An Adult Establishment lawfully operated as a conforming use is not rendered a nonconforming use by the subsequent location of a house, church, school, public park, child care center, or residential district with respect to the spacing requirements above.

6.2.2 AUTOMOTIVE/BOAT/HEAVY EQUIPMENT/MANUFACTURED HOME SALES AND/OR SERVICE (HC)* Conditional Use

- a) Large surface parking lots should be visually and functionally segmented into several smaller lots. The size of any single surface parking lot shall be limited to three acres, unless divided by a street, principal building, or Type A Opaque Screen/Buffer.
- b) No outdoor public address system shall be permitted which can be heard beyond the boundaries of the property.

6.2.3 BARS AND NIGHTCLUBS WITH LIVE MUSIC (NC-C, D-D) * Conditional Use

- a) No Bar or Nightclub with Live Music shall be permitted within 300 feet of any one or two family residential dwelling unit, church, or other civic use building.
- b) Live music shall not be audible off the premises at decibel levels louder than normal background noise after 11:00 pm, if such establishments are located with 350 feet of a residence. (Not applicable in D-D)
- c) The City Council may impose specific hours of operation and other appropriate conditions to minimize intrusiveness dependent upon prevailing neighborhood conditions and/or adjacency to residential development.

6.2.4 BED AND BREAKFAST INNS (RR, GR, NC-R, INF-D)

- a) Single family homes used as bed and breakfast inns shall have a minimum heated floor area of 1,500 square feet.
- b) Single family homes used as bed and breakfast inns may not subdivide existing rooms into less than 200 sq ft.
- c) The bed and breakfast inn shall be owner-occupied. (This requirement may be waived with the issuance of Conditional Use Permit).
- d) All guest parking shall be to the rear of the home. Where on-street parking is permitted, the length of the street in front of the lot may be counted as parking. There shall be one space per room of lodging.

6.2.5 CEMETERY (RR, GR, NC-R, NC-C)

- a) Embalming or cremation facilities are not permitted except where permitted by right.
- b) Brick walls between 1.5' and 4' are permitted along the perimeter.
- c) Wood or wrought iron fences between 2.5' and 8' are permitted along the perimeter.
- d) Setbacks from all street right-of-ways and adjacent properties to a wall or grave shall be a minimum of 8 ft.

6.2.6 DAY CARE CENTERS AND SMALL DAY CARE HOMES (RR, GR, NC-R)

A. Child day care center

A child day care center must be contained within a permitted building type for the District in which it is to be located.

Play space must be provided in accordance with the regulations of North Carolina Department of Human Resources. Outdoor play space must be enclosed on all sides by building, and/or permitted types of walls or fences; it may not include driveways, parking areas, or land otherwise unsuited for children's play space; play space may not be in the established front yard.

B. Adult day care center

An adult day care center must be contained within a permitted building type for the District in which it is to be located.

There is no limit on the hours of operation of an adult day care center, but it shall not serve any client on a continuous 24-hour basis.

C. Child day care home

The day care operation must be located within the residential dwelling unit occupied by the operator of the service. Preschool instruction and daytime care is limited to 5 children not related to the operator.

Play space must be provided in accordance with the regulations of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources. Outdoor play space must be fenced or otherwise enclosed on all sides and may not include driveways, parking areas, or land otherwise unsuited for children's play space; it is prohibited in any front yard.

A day care home must be clearly incidental to the residential use of the dwelling and must not change the essential residential character of the dwelling; all building and lot standards for residential dwellings shall be maintained.

D. Adult Day Care Home

An adult day care home must be located within the residential dwelling unit occupied by the operator of the service. Care is limited to no more than 6 adults who do not reside in the dwelling.

An adult day care home must be clearly incidental to the residential use of the dwelling and must not change the essential residential character of the dwelling; all building and lot standards for residential dwellings shall be maintained.

6.2.7 DRIVE-THROUGH FACILITIES (NC-C, H-C, BC-D, TN-D/CD)

- a) Drive-through windows and services shall be located and accessed on the side or rear of a building.
- b) Drive-through windows and services located and accessed on the side of a building in the Neighborhood Center-Commercial district shall be approved as a **Conditional Use**, limited to one lane, and shall be screened from off-site view from a public street.
- c) Vehicle queuing for drive-through uses shall be located outside of and physically separated from the right-of-way of any street. This area shall not interfere with the efficient internal circulation of the site, adjacent property, or adjacent street right-of-way.
- d) In the NC-C District drive-through facilities shall be screened from off-site view from a street right of way by of a Type A buffer with a minimum width of 10 ft.
- e) Drive-through windows and services for drug stores are allowed in TN-D/CD and shall be approved as a “Conditional Use” limited to one lane with an additional by-pass lane, and shall be screened with at least a Type B buffer (min. height 4 feet) if facing an existing residential property.
- f) Drive-through windows and services located and accessed on the side/rear of a building in the Business Campus Development district shall be approved as a Conditional Use and limited to four lanes. If an existing residential property is located adjacent to the drive-through facility or is across a public street, a Type A buffer (min. width 10 ft.) shall be required.

6.2.8 ESSENTIAL SERVICES, CLASS 1 & 2 (All Districts) (Free-Standing Wireless Communications Towers exceeding 35 ft in Height, and Electric Substations Require Conditional Use Permit)

- a) Wireless communications towers in all districts (except HC and BC-D districts) may not exceed the maximum permitted height for a given district except as a component of an existing or proposed structure not intended for human occupancy (i.e. Church bell towers and steeples) or attached to existing or proposed public infrastructure such as street lights, water towers and electrical transmission towers. All such towers shall be designed using stealth design elements. Wireless communications facilities attached to existing or proposed structures such as water towers, transmission towers, church steeples, streetlights, bell towers, or similar structures do not require a Conditional Use permit.
- b) The maximum height of all wireless communications towers in the HC district and any BC-D district shall be 180 feet; provided, however, that the maximum height of a tower may be greater than 180 feet, but less than 200 feet when such tower is designed and constructed to accommodate the present or potential co-location of an additional wireless communications service provider or public safety communication use.
- c) Free standing wireless communications towers in HC and BC-D districts shall be setback a distance equal to the total height measured from grade elevation from all adjoining properties of differing designation.
- d) No wireless communications tower shall be sited within 1 mile of another wireless communications tower except as a component of existing public utility infrastructure.

- e) All ancillary structures shall be screened with an opaque screen of landscaping, wood fence, or wall, or any combination thereof.
- f) All wireless communications towers in the HC and BC-D districts shall be constructed using a monopole design.
- g) All Essential Service facilities shall be located outside of all front and side yards and shall provide Type A Opaque Screening around all ground facilities.

6.2.9 GASOLINE SERVICE STATION (NC-C, HC)

- a) Gasoline pumps, canopies, and associated service areas are prohibited in any established front yard abutting a street.
- b) All areas where vehicles are stored temporarily shall be considered as parking lots and must comply with the provisions of Chapter 10.
- c) All such vehicle storage areas shall be located at the rear of the building.
- d) The outdoor service area of a car wash shall be placed in the rear yard only and screened from view.
- e) Lighting provided by canopies shall be per the specifications of Chapter 10.

6.2.10 HOME OCCUPATIONS (RR, GR, NC-R, INF-D)

A home occupation is permitted accessory to any dwelling unit (except manufactured housing) in accordance with the following requirements:

- a) The home occupation must be clearly incidental to the residential use of the dwelling and must not change the essential residential character of the dwelling.
- b) A home occupation conducted in an accessory structure shall be housed only in a garage or other accessory structure that meets the requirements of this Code.
- c) The use shall employ no more than one person who is not a resident of the dwelling.
- d) A home occupation housed within the dwelling shall occupy no more than 25 percent of the total floor area of the dwelling.
- e) There shall be no visible outside display of stock in trade which is sold on the premises.
- f) There shall be no outdoor storage or visible evidence of equipment or materials used in the home occupation, excepting equipment or materials of a type and quantity that could reasonably be associated with the principal residential use.
- g) Operation of the home occupation shall not be visible from any dwelling on an adjacent lot, nor from a street.
- h) Only non-commercial vehicles will be permitted in connection with the conduct of the home occupation.
- i) The home occupation shall not utilize mechanical, electrical, or other equipment which produces noise, electrical or magnetic interference, vibration, heat, glare, or other nuisances outside the dwelling or accessory structure housing the home occupation.
- j) Home occupations shall be limited to those uses which do not draw clients to the dwelling on a regular basis.
- k) No business identification or advertising signs are permitted.

6.2.11 INDOOR STORAGE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL (HC)

- a) All indoor storage of hazardous materials shall be in compliance with all state and federal regulations.
- b) Such material shall be listed and made known with the Belmont Fire Department.

6.2.12 MANUFACTURED HOUSING (RR and Existing Manufactured Home Parks)

- a) A continuous, permanent brick foundation or curtain wall, unpierced except for required ventilation and access, shall be installed upon a poured concrete footer after placement on the lot, and before occupancy.
- b) The minimum width (the width being the narrower of the two overall dimensions) of the main body of the manufactured home as assembled on the site shall be at least twenty-two (22) feet for a distance extending along the length (the length being the longer of the two overall dimensions) of at least twenty (20) feet. In general terms, this only permits double-wide manufactured housing.
- c) The manufactured home shall front on a street such that the primary entrance is aligned to the street.
- d) The manufactured home is set up on the site in accordance with the standards set by the NC Department of Insurance.
- e) The tongue, axles, transporting lights, and removable towing apparatus are removed after placement on the lot and before occupancy.
- f) In no instance may a *manufactured home* be used for a nonresidential purpose.
- g) A manufactured home must bear a seal certifying that it was built to the standards adopted on July 1, 1976 that meets or exceeds the construction standards promulgated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development that were in effect at the time of construction.

6.2.13.1 NEIGHBORHOOD STORES (NC-R, INF-D)*Conditional Use

- a) The building may contain additional uses including a café, a contract post office, an automatic bank teller, and a newsstand.
- b) No uses associated with the operation of a gas station are permitted.

6.2.13.2 NEIGHBORHOOD MANUFACTURING (NC-C, D-D)

- a) To avoid blank walls and dead space that inhibit pedestrian activity, neighborhood manufacturing uses with storefronts along pedestrian oriented streets (Ex: Main Street and East Catawba Street) shall provide active storefronts. Active storefronts shall include large display windows, retail sales areas, merchandise, show rooms, or similar areas that enliven the street. Such uses shall not exceed 2,500 ft² in total manufacturing area. Neighborhood manufacturing uses shall be limited to existing non-residential development fronting on East Catawba Street and Main Street. Neighborhood manufacturing uses outside these designated corridors may be approved upon the issuance of a conditional use permit.

6.2.14 OUTDOOR STORAGE (HC, BC-D)

- a) All outdoor storage shall be located in the side or rear yard only and shall be screened from view with Type B Landscaping (Semi-Opaque Screen).

6.2.15 OUTDOOR STORAGE OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT (HC, BC-D)

Outdoor storage of construction equipment, where expressly permitted, may be established on a lot according to the following standards:

- a) Where permitted as an accessory use in conjunction with a building, the area of storage shall not be placed in any established yard abutting a street;
- b) Where permitted as a principal use on a lot, the area of storage shall be no closer than 40 feet from an abutting street right-of-way,
- c) The area of outdoor storage shall be screened from view from any street and from all abutting properties by a landscape screen. Wherever security fencing is desired, it shall be placed on the interior side of the screen.

6.2.16 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (RR, GR, NC-R, INF-D)

- a) All recreational facilities shall be treated as parks in design and landscaping. All structures associated with a recreational facility shall be located toward the perimeter of the lot.
- b) Recreational facilities are encouraged to be built adjoining school campuses, parks, greenbelts, parkways, greenways, or waterfronts.
- c) Parking shall be to the rear and/or side of the building(s).
- d) The principal building shall face the fronting street and shall not be setback a distance that inhibits pedestrian access. All public swimming pools shall comply with 15A NCAC 18A .2500 Rules Governing Public Swimming Pools available from the Gaston County Health Department. Pools and other active uses should be screened and/or buffered with a Type A Opaque Screen/Buffer from any existing or proposed residential property to minimize noise and visual trespass.

6.2.17 RENTAL COTTAGE (In Outbuildings) (RR, GR, NC-R)

- a) Minimum floor area shall be 480 sq ft.
- b) The principal building shall be owner-occupied.
- c) Rental cottages may only be constructed on the second story of a garage, studio, workshop or similar outbuilding use that is accessory to the principal structure.

6.2.18 RESTAURANTS (NC-C, DD)

- a) Outdoor seating shall not obstruct sidewalks or streets, but may encroach upon sidewalks.

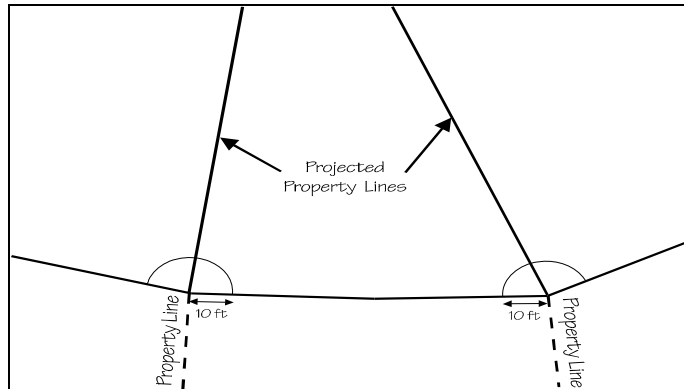
6.2.19 TEMPORARY AMUSEMENTS (HC)

- a) The applicant must comply with city fire department and county building inspection department safety recommendations. A certificate of occupancy must be obtained before the attraction may be opened to the public.
- b) The audience of any temporary attraction must be orderly at all times, and it shall be unlawful for any person attending such event to create a disturbance in the audience.
- c) Amplified sound equipment shall not be permitted outside of the structure used as a temporary attraction.
- d) Parking shall be provided in a ratio equivalent to one space per 25 sq. ft. of the total space used for the attraction, including auxiliary and administrative areas.
- e) Flashing, rotating, or intermittently illuminated lighting may not be visible from the area surrounding the building.
- f) If any part of the site abuts a residential neighborhood or parcel, the temporary attraction may not issue tickets or queue additional patrons after 10:00 p. m. local time.

6.2.20 WATER-RELATED STRUCTURES (All Districts)

- a) All water-related structures shall be approved by Duke Power Shoreline Management prior to any construction. Prior to the issuance of zoning compliance for a building permit, the applicant must obtain and submit the required authorization from the Duke Energy Shoreline Management or any other pertinent outside agency.
- b) Individual Private Facilities (residential pier) are permitted on lots currently in single family residential use.
- c) An individual private facility (residential pier) serving two adjacent waterfront lots may be constructed and held in common ownership providing the two property owners record joint access and maintenance agreements; the combined shoreline frontage as measured along the existing shoreline.
- d) Common use facilities and other commercial facilities are permitted on publicly owned lots, or lots held in common ownership only.
- e) All water-related structures shall be setback a minimum of 10 feet from all adjacent properties.

- f) All structures shall be constructed with established projected property lines. Where current property lines extend under the water, all structures shall be built within such property lines.
- g) Where existing underwater property lines do not exist, a property line projection over the water may be established at each of two (2) property lines on the shoreline. Each projection shall be perpendicular to a line connecting two (2) points on the existing 569.4 foot contour line where a ten (10) foot radius from the property corner intersects the 569.4 foot contour line as shown in this illustration.



- h) Where adjacent property is located between the rear lot line and the existing 569.4 contour comprising a portion of the impoundment lands, and is leased for use by the adjoining property owner for waterfront access, then the property projection lines are to be extended directly from the rear property corners to the existing 569.4 contour and then projected over the water as prescribed above.
- i) Piers may be extended within the prescribed projection area from the existing 569.4 contour line to achieve a maximum depth of 10 feet as measured at full pond level. A pier may be extended to a maximum length of 120 feet in order to achieve a water depth of 10 ft. or less.
- j) Piers may not extend more than one-third the width of the cove as measured from the existing 569.4 contour at the location of the proposed facility to the closest point on the opposite shore.
- k) The Zoning Administrator shall refer all requests for variances to the projected property lines to Duke Power Shoreline Management for their comments and opinions. Duke Power Shoreline Management shall consider the potential boating safety and public recreation issues when rendering their decision. The Zoning Administrator shall then transmit Duke Power Shoreline Management's opinions to the Planning Board along with any other pertinent information in accordance with stated variance issues.

6.2.21 OUTDOOR STORAGE OF LANDSCAPING/GARDEN SUPPLIES (NC-C, D-D)

- a) Outdoor storage of landscaping/garden supplies shall only be permitted as an auxiliary and seasonal use of an established business that conducts its primary operations in a permanent building.
- b) The total area of outdoor storage for a business shall not exceed 40% of the gross building area in which the business is located and operates.
- c) All outdoor storage shall be located in the side and/or rear yard only.
- d) No detached/attached trailers, sheds, metal shelters, or other accessory structures may be used in connection with the outdoor storage.

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