



Hall County Regional Planning Commission

**Wednesday, January 6, 2016
Regular Meeting**

Item F2

Zoning Amendments

Staff Contact: Chad Nabity

Agenda Item #5

PLANNING DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

December 23, 2015

SUBJECT:

Adoption of Amendments to Zoning Regulations for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska. Changes are being proposed to the Definitions Section 36-8 (R) and Supplemental Regulations Section 36-96 (C-08-2016GI)

PROPOSAL:

Changes were made in February of 2009 to the Definitions section of the Zoning Regulations to specify the minimum requirements necessary for a Recreational Vehicle Pad and Recreational Vehicle (RV) Park. These regulations were put in place in anticipation of RV Parks built to serve the Nebraska State Fair. To date, the only RV Park that has been built to serve the fair is on the grounds of Fonner Park. That park has been developed with water and sewer extended to all of the planned RV Pads but the required paving and parking has not been completed. Based on the usage of those stalls it does not appear that they are needed at this time. The proposed changes would permit the sites that have been fully developed (including paving) to be used year round to serve the grounds and the community and would permit those sites without paving to be used for short term events like the State Fair. This would bring the campground at Fonner Park into full compliance with the regulations and permitting.

Recreational Vehicle Pad: a space for parking a recreational vehicle within a campground or other allowed place consisting of no less than 800 square feet with a minimum width of 12 feet. Improvements included within the pad space include 1 hard surfaced improved parking space of not less than 180 square feet (20 x 9 or 18 x 10) and 2 hard surfaced improved parallel tire pads of not less than 2.5 feet by 24 feet.

Recreational Vehicle (RV) Park shall mean a tract of land upon which two or more recreational vehicle sites are located, established, or maintained for occupancy by recreational vehicles of the general public as temporary living quarters for recreation or vacation purposes by campers, vacationers, or travelers. *A Recreational vehicle park on tract of land in excess of 20 acres used for seasonal events of not more than 14 consecutive days in duration may provide overflow pads not to exceed 25% of the Recreational Vehicle Pads provided in compliance with the required improvements. Overflow pads shall be allowed without the required improvements.*

In reviewing plans for parking Grand Island Building Department staff has identified a section of the Off-Street Parking Requirements in chapter 36 that could lead to some confusion and conflict with design standards adopted for the streets under other sections of the City Code. In order to eliminate confusion the following edits to subparagraph G are suggested. The edits as proposed would still require approval by the Grand Island Public Works Director for all curb cuts but would not impose limitations that may or may not be relevant.

§36-96. Off-Street Parking Requirements

(A) Purposes:

(1) It is the intent of this section that all buildings and uses shall provide off-street parking and loading facilities in a minimum amount as required herein to meet the needs of such buildings and uses on private property and under the same ownership as such buildings or uses. The accommodations may consist of lots, garages, or other buildings, and accessories; they may be surface facilities or facilities above or under the ground.

(2) It is the further intent of this section that all off-street parking and loading spaces and facilities shall be sited and built according to the requirements contained in this section, and shall require an application for and issuance of a building permit pursuant to §8-22.

(B) Application. Each building or use hereafter constructed, and each addition to or altered building or use shall be provided with off-street parking and loading spaces as required herein. Each off-street parking space or loading facility and space hereafter constructed, upon proper application and permit being granted shall be sited and constructed pursuant to the requirements of this section. No application for a building permit for such building, addition, alteration, or use shall be approved unless accompanied by a plot plan showing the location and amount of off-street parking and loading spaces as required herein for the existing or proposed building or use and including all such additions or alterations. No occupancy or use permit shall be issued unless the required parking and loading facilities shall have been provided in accordance with the approved plot plan. Requirements shall be applicable to all zones and districts but not to include the following business districts or tracts of land as identified below:

(1) *Central Business District* as identified and described in Chapter 13 of this code as the Downtown Improvement and Parking District No. 1.

(2) *Fourth Street Business District.* Beginning at the intersection of Eddy Street and the alley in the block between Fourth and Fifth Streets; thence easterly on the alley to the intersection of the alley with Sycamore Street; thence southerly on Sycamore Street to 100 feet south of the south right-of-way line of North Front Street; thence westerly on the aforesaid line to its intersection with Eddy Street; thence northerly on Eddy Street to the point of beginning.

(3) Tracts of land ten acres or more used for seasonal events (one event every three months) of not more than fourteen consecutive days in duration and a minimum of fourteen days between events.

(C) Area and Computation: An off-street parking space shall be of appropriate dimensions of not less than 180 square feet exclusive of access or maneuvering area, ramps, columns, etc., and shall have a vertical clearance of not less than seven feet. An off-street loading space shall be of appropriate dimensions of not less than 360 square feet exclusive of access or maneuvering area, ramps, columns, etc., and shall have a vertical clearance of not less than fourteen feet. When determination of the number of off-street parking or loading spaces required by this chapter results in a requirement of a fractional space, any fraction of one-half or less may be disregarded while a fraction in excess of one-half shall be counted as one parking space.

(D) Location: All off-street parking spaces shall be on the same lot as the building or within 300 feet of the lot. Permanent off-street parking spaces shall not be permitted within the required front yard setback, provided, however, that for a building containing three dwelling units or less, one space per unit may be placed within the front yard setback if such space is not directly in front of the building excluding garages or carports. Parking facilities located separate from the building or use as listed shall have a substantial portion of same within a specified distance of the building or use which it serves. All off-street loading spaces shall be on the same lot as the building or use served.

(E) Collective Facilities: Off-street parking facilities for separate or mixed buildings or uses may be provided collectively so long as the total number of spaces is not less than the sum of the separate required spaces, and provided further, that the requirement concerning location of such facility with respect to distance from the building or use served shall be complied with. In order to eliminate a multiplicity of entrances and exits and diminish traffic hazards to conserve space where space is at a premium and to promote orderly development generally, the city council is hereby authorized to plan and group parking facilities collectively for a number of businesses in a given area, and especially in the central business district, in such a manner as to obtain a maximum of efficiency and capacity in parking and traffic movement.

(F) Employee Parking: Parking spaces required on an employee basis shall be based on the maximum number of employees on duty on the premises at any one time.

(G) Design Standards. All off-street parking and loading facilities shall be designed with appropriate means of vehicular access to a street or alley and contain adequate and safe maneuvering areas. ~~No~~

driveway or curb cuts shall exceed twenty-six feet in width in residential districts, or thirty-five feet in width in business or industrial/manufacturing districts, and Detailed plans shall be submitted to the public works director for approval of all curb cuts or driveway openings before a permit may be obtained therefor. No signs shall be displayed except such signs as required for the orderly use of the facilities. All facilities shall be provided with a permanent type, dust-free surface meaning asphaltic cement concrete, Portland cement concrete, or paving brick.

All parking lots containing five or more parking spaces, which are within 30 feet of property occupied by a residential use in a Large Lot Residential Zoning District or of property within a Suburban Residential Zoning District, Low Density Residential Zoning District, Medium Density Residential Zoning District, High Density Residential Zoning District or Residential Development Zoning District, shall provide a sight-obscuring fence or screen not less than six feet nor more than eight feet in height along the boundary of the parking lot adjacent to such districts. No fence or screen shall be required between abutting parking lots or adjacent to an alley. The height of any fence or screen shall be subject to other restrictions provided by the City Code.

(H) Maintenance: The parking and loading facilities required by this section shall be provided and maintained so long as the use exists which the facilities are designed to serve. Reasonable precautions must be taken by the owners of particular uses to assure the use of the parking facilities only by the employees or the social or business visitors of the premises for which the facilities are provided. The facilities must be so designed and maintained as not to constitute a nuisance at any time and must not be used in such a manner as to constitute a hazard or unreasonable impediment to traffic.

(I) Reduction of Number of Spaces: Off-street parking or loading facilities shall not be reduced in total extent, after their provision required hereunder, except upon the approval of the Board of Adjustment, and then only after proof that the parking or loading spaces are no longer required by reason of a change in use of the premises of which the facilities are adjunct.

(J) Requirement for Uses Not Listed: For any use not listed, the Board of Adjustment shall determine the proper requirement by classifying the proposed use among the uses specified herein so as to assure equal treatment.

(K) Administration and Enforcement: The off-street parking and loading provisions of this section shall be administered by the zoning official and enforced by the chief building official, who shall also serve in advisory capacity to the city council on matters relative to any phase of such provisions.

(L) Penalty for Violation: The provisions of parking and loading facilities as required by this section shall be a continuing obligation of the owner or sponsor of a given building or use so long as the building or use is in existence and so long as parking and loading facilities are required hereunder in connection therewith, and it shall be unlawful to discontinue, change, or dispense with such facilities without establishing alternate facilities that meet the requirements herein. Penalty provisions applicable to this chapter as a whole shall apply to the violations of these provisions. In addition, at such time as the facilities required hereunder shall fail to continue to be available for the purpose, the building permit for the structures to which the facilities are adjunct and the use or occupancy permits issued for the premises shall be canceled and become null and void.

OVERVIEW:

The proposed changes are minor amendments intended to avoid confusion between differing portion of the City Code or to clarify and allow existing situations.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at this meeting and can make recommendations on the proposed changes.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Planning Commission recommend approval of the proposed changes to the Grand Island City Council.

_____ Chad Nabity AICP, Planning Director

Recreational Facility shall mean facilities for the use by the public for passive and active recreation including tennis, handball, racquetball, basketball, track and field, jogging, baseball, soccer, skating, swimming, or golf. This shall include country clubs and athletic clubs, but not facilities accessory to a private residence used only by the owner and guests, nor arenas or stadiums used primarily for spectators to watch athletic events. In addition, recreational facilities shall mean museums, amphitheaters, race tracks (including all motor powered vehicles) and wildlife conservation areas (used for public viewing), and theme parks.

Recreational Vehicle (RV) shall mean a vehicular unit less than forty (40) feet in overall length, eight (8) feet in width, or twelve (12) feet in overall height, primarily designed as a temporary living quarters for recreational camping or travel use having either its own power or designed to be mounted on or drawn by a motor vehicle. Recreational vehicle includes motor home, truck camper, travel trailer, camping trailer, and fifth wheel.

Recreational Vehicle Pad: a space for parking a recreational vehicle within a campground or other allowed place consisting of no less than 800 square feet with a minimum width of 12 feet. Improvements included within the pad space include 1 hard surfaced improved parking space of not less than 180 square feet (20 x 9 or 18 x 10) and 2 hard surfaced improved parallel tire pads of not less than 2.5 feet by 24 feet.

Recreational Vehicle (RV) Park shall mean a tract of land upon which two or more recreational vehicle sites are located, established, or maintained for occupancy by recreational vehicles of the general public as temporary living quarters for recreation or vacation purposes by campers, vacationers, or travelers. A Recreational vehicle park on tract of land in excess of 20 acres used for seasonal events of not more than 14 consecutive days in duration may provide overflow pads not to exceed 25% of the Recreational Vehicle Pads provided in compliance with the required improvements. Overflow pads shall be allowed without the required improvements.