



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE UPDATE

Place Teams – December 4, 2024



# Agenda

- I. Why Update the LDC**
- II. Guiding Principles**
- III. Code Updates**
  - **Strategies & Techniques**
- IV. Breakout Discussions**
- V. Next Steps**





# Land Development Code - Rewrite



# Why Update the Code?

***Current Land Development Code***  
**Last Comprehensive Update in 1995**  
**Patchwork of Amendments / Fixes**  
**Use-Based, Preventative Code**  
**Suburban Development Pattern**  
**New Development Policies – Forward SGF**





# Guiding Principles

## *Land Development Code*

Implement Forward SGF

Improve Useability

Raise Expectations & Streamline Procedures

Provide Flexibility



# Guiding Principles

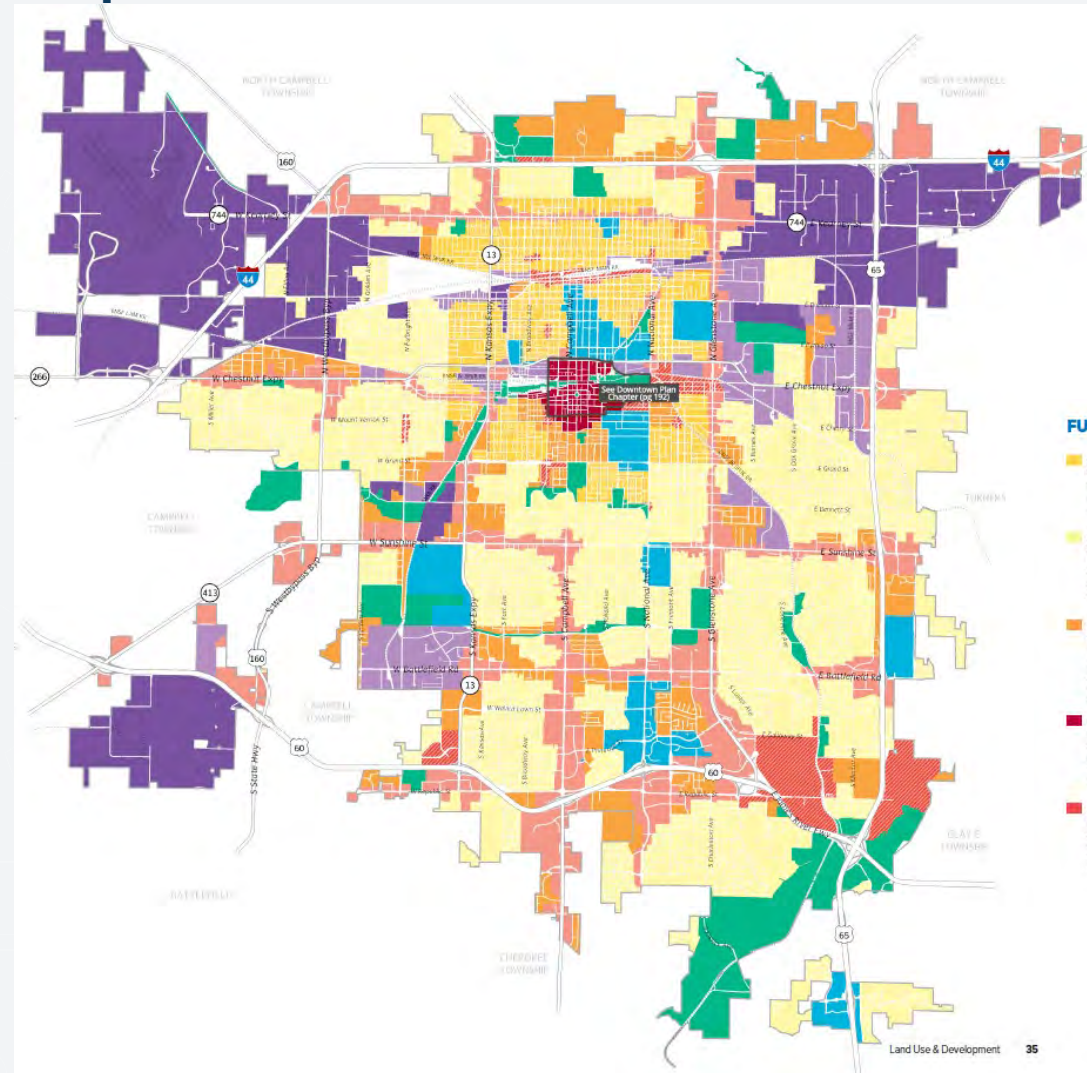
## Implement Forward SGF

Place Types – use and development pattern

Emphasize Community Design

Context Appropriate Typologies

- Streets, Open/Civic Spaces, Frontages & Buildings



### FUTURE PLACETYPES

- Residential Neighborhood: Center City**  
Typically characterized by a diverse range of single-family homes with varying architectural styles, setbacks, and parcel sizes.
- Residential Neighborhood: Traditional**  
Historic colonial neighborhoods that contain predominantly single-family detached dwellings with uniform setbacks, building design, and parcel sizes.
- Mixed Residential**  
Primarily higher-density single-family attached and multi-family residential dwellings. This includes townhomes, rowhomes, duplexes, apartments, student housing, and higher-density detached homes that have been converted into multi-unit buildings.
- Downtown**  
Primarily the primary activity center of Savannah, containing a wide variety of uses such as retail, entertainment, office, hospital, institutional, multi-family residential, and public gathering spaces.
- Mixed Use**  
Functions as small-scale activity centers that provide a mix of residential, shopping, service, office, entertainment, and dining uses. They can include vertically stacked or horizontally laid out uses.
- City Corridor**  
Primarily consists of commercial and service-oriented development varying in scale ranging from seasonal businesses to large retail centers.
- Institutional & Employment Center**  
Center's institutional uses, such as universities, museums, community centers, municipal facilities, and large religious complexes, as well as major medical and office parks.
- Business Flex**  
Includes areas with an eclectic mix of light industrial and office uses, complemented by occasional commercial use, that serve as centers of employment opportunities.
- Industry & Logistics**  
Consists of light and heavy industrial uses, distribution and light industrial uses, such as manufacturing, packaging, warehousing, storage, transportation, commercial and distribution.
- Urban Green Space & Recreation**  
Consists of Springfield, non-agricultural, recreational areas, as well as major community parks, sports complexes, recreational facilities, and community and educational centers that draw both residents and regional visitors.



# Forward SGF

***Development Policies***  
**Neighborhood Revitalization**  
**Placed-based Development**  
**Infill & Redevelopment**  
**Corridor Redevelopment**  
**Connecting to Nature**  
**Planned, Sustainable, Responsible Growth**







# QUALITY OF PLACE!

*Single biggest determinant to sustained community prosperity.*





# Guiding Principles

Improve Usability

Organization - logical organization

Format – consistent structure

Plain Language – eliminate legalese

Graphics / Tables / Illustrations

**CITY OF Springfield**

DEVELOPMENT CODE UPDATE  
Proposed Code Structure – Chapter 36

<b>Article 1 – General Provisions</b>	<b>Article 6 – Nonresidential Development &amp; Design</b>
1.01 Title	6.01 Intent
1.02 Purposes	6.02 Applicability
1.03 Applicability	6.03 Development & Dimension Standards
1.04 Administration	6.04 Community Design
1.05 Interpretation	6.05 Special Plan
1.06 Nonconformities	
1.07 Enforcement	<b>Article 7 – Access &amp; Parking</b>
	7.01 Intent
<b>Article 2 – Applications &amp; Procedures</b>	7.02 Applicability
2.01 General – All Applications	7.03 Access
2.02 Plats	7.04 Required Parking
2.03 Site Plan	7.05 Parking Design
2.04 Conditional Use Permit	7.06 Alternative Compliance
2.05 Rezoning	
2.06 Planned Zoning	<b>Article 8 - Landscape &amp; Site Design</b>
2.07 Variance	8.01 Intent
2.08 Appeals of Administrative Decisions	8.02 Applicability
2.09 Text Amendment (Code)	8.03 Required Landscape
2.10 Vacaton of ROW & Easements	8.04 Buffers & Screens
	8.05 Plant Specifications
<b>Article 3 – Subdivision &amp; Community Design</b>	8.06 Outdoor Lighting
3.01 Streets	8.07 Modifications
3.02 Civic Open Spaces	
3.03 Blocks & Lots	<b>Article 9 - Signs</b>
3.04 Required Improvements	9.01 Intent
	9.02 Applicability
<b>Article 4 – Zone Districts &amp; Uses</b>	9.03 Exempt Signs
4.01 Establishment of Districts	9.04 Permitted Sign Allowance
4.02 Permitted Uses (Use Table)	9.05 Standards for General Sign Types
4.03 Specific Use Standards	9.06 Standards for Specific Sign Types
4.04 Accessory Uses	9.07 General Standards – All Signs
4.05 District Performance Standards	9.08 Design Guidelines
	9.09 Alternative Sign Plans
<b>Article 5 – Residential Development &amp; Design</b>	<b>Article 10 – Supplemental Standards</b>
5.01 Intent	10.01 Airport Overlay
5.02 Applicability	10.02 Historic Designations
5.03 Development & Dimension Standards	10.03 Wireless Telecommunications Facilities
5.04 Neighborhood Design	10.04 Marijuana Facilities
5.05 Alternative Patterns	10.05 Short Term Rentals
	<b>Article 11 – Definitions</b>
	11.01 Description of Uses
	11.02 Defined Terms
	11.03 Design & Architecture Terms

Draft – 09/29/2024

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# Guiding Principles

Raise Expectations & Streamline Procedures

**Simplify Standards - enhance the essentials**

**Decision Criteria – what and why**

**Streamline Process – effective & efficient**





# Guiding Principles

Provide Flexibility

**Intent & Objectives**

**Standards – flexible ranges & alternatives**

**Expedited Procedures – options & modifications**

**Delegate Authority w/  
Accountability**



# What We Heard

## *Place Teams – Key Themes*

### Neighborhood

- Neighborhood Protection
- Create Housing Variety
- Improve Connectivity

### Corridor

- Reduced Impacts of Development – Physical, Environmental, & Neighborhood
- Greening of Corridors
- Prioritize Redevelopment

### Destinations

- Design of Place
- Flexible Parking Requirements
- Pedestrian Safety & Comfort
- Incorporate Housing

### Employment Center / Campus

- Prioritize Redevelopment
- Improve Site Design
- Design Standards / Simplified Process



# Please Remember

## *Land Development Code*

You already regulate development.

This is different.

- Design & Context Emphasis
- Reorganized
- Simplified / Streamlined

Development Standards vs. Enforcement

Forward SGF is the Foundation.



# Code Updates





## **Uses & Districts**

- Generalize Uses
- Refine & Consolidate Districts
- Development & Design Standards
- Refine Planned Zoning Approach

## **Streetscapes & Public Realm Design**

- Improve Connectivity
- Manage Access
- Maximize On-Street Parking
- Design Complete Streets
- Limit / Reduce Lanes / Lane Widths
- Contextual Design Standards
- Integrated Open Spaces

## **Neighborhoods & Housing**

- Building Types Over Density
- Mix the Housing Types
- Neighborhood Design

## **Context based Places**

- Scale & Intensity of Use
- Building Form & Format
- Building & Site Design

# **Updates**

## ***Strategies & Techniques***

# Uses & Districts

Articles 4, 5, & 6

## Strategies & Techniques

Generalize Uses

Refine & Consolidate Districts

Development & Design Standards

Refine Planned Zoning Approach

**Table 4-3: Permitted Uses**

*P = Permitted use*  
*C = Conditional use permit*

Use	R-SF	R-MX1	R-MX2	R-MX3	RMHC	C-MX1	C-MX2	CC	GC	GI	LIC	HM
Retail – Small (<5K or < 10% of mixed-use project))				C		P	P	P	P	P	P	
Retail – Medium (5K – 10K)						C	P	P	P	P	P	
Retail – Large (10K – 50K)							P	P	P		P	
Retail Extra Large (50K+)									P		P	
Retail – Grocery Store, Small (< 10K)						P	P	P	P		P	
Retail – Grocery Store, Medium (10K – 40K)							P	P	P		P	
Retail – Grocery Store, Large (40K+)							C	C	P		P	
Retail – Outside Sales, Small (< 0.5 acre)						C	C	C	P		P	P
Retail – Outside Sales, Medium (0.5 – 2.5 acres)									P		P	P
Retail – Outside Sales, Large (2.5+ acres)									C		C	P

# Uses & Districts

## Articles 4, 5, & 6

### Strategies & Techniques

Generalize Uses

### Refine & Consolidate Districts

Development & Design Standards

Refine Planned Zoning Approach

**Table 4-2: Zoning Districts Transitions**

Previous Code	This Code	Place Types
<i>R-SF - Single Family Residential</i>	<i>R-SF Single Family Residential</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traditional Neighborhood</li> <li>Center City Neighborhoods</li> <li>Mixed Residential (Limited Applicability)</li> </ul>
<i>R-TH - Residential Townhouse</i>	<i>R-MX1 - Mixed-density Neighborhood - Low</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traditional Neighborhood (Transition Areas)</li> <li>Center City Neighborhood (Strategic Integration)</li> <li>Mixed Residential</li> <li>Mixed Use (Limited Applicability)</li> </ul>
<i>WC-3 - West College Residential Sub-area</i>		
<i>GAP - Grant Avenue Parkway Sub-area D</i>		
<i>R-LD - Low-density Residential</i>	<i>R-MX2 - Mixed-density Neighborhood - Medium</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Center City Neighborhood (Transition Areas)</li> <li>Mixed Residential</li> <li>Mixed Use (Limited Applicability)</li> <li>City Corridors</li> </ul>
<i>R-MD - Medium-density Multifamily</i>		
<i>WC-2 - West College Live/work Sub-area 2</i>		
<i>GAP - Grant Avenue Parkway - Sub-area F</i>		
<i>LWO - Live Work Overlay</i>		
<i>R-HD - High-density Multifamily</i>	<i>R-MX3 - Mixed-density Neighborhood - High</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traditional Neighborhood (Transition Areas)</li> <li>City Corridors</li> <li>Downtown (Strategic Integration)</li> <li>City Corridors (Limited Applicability)</li> </ul>
<i>UN - University Combining</i>		
<i>R-MHC - Manufactured Home Community</i>	<i>R-MHC- Residential Manufactured &amp; Small Format Home Community</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited to planned applications in a variety of residential settings according to the development patterns and design criteria in Section 5.05.D</li> </ul>



# Uses & Districts

Articles 4, 5, & 6

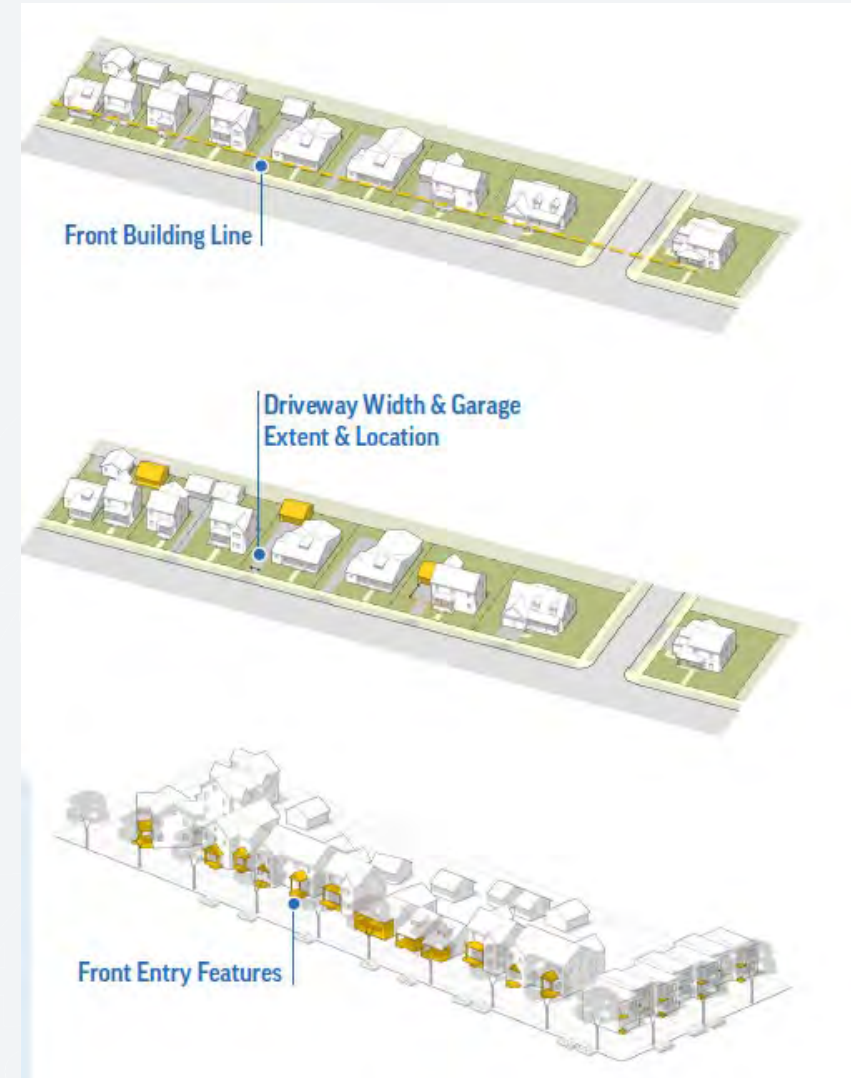
## ***Strategies & Techniques***

Generalize Uses

Refine & Consolidate Districts

## **Development & Design Standards**

Refine Planned Zoning Approach



# Uses & Districts

## Articles 4, 5, & 6

### Strategies & Techniques

Generalize Uses

Refine & Consolidate Districts

Development & Design Standards

Refine Planned Zoning Approach

Table 2-1: Summary of Procedures														
Application	Eligible Applicant				Notice			Pre-development		Review & Decision				
	Owner	Staff	P&Z	CC	Pub	Mail	Post	Staff Meeting	N'hood Meeting	Staff	P&Z	CC	BZA	Protest
Administrative Subdivision (2.02.B)	✓							○		D	A			
Major Subdivision – Preliminary Plat (2.02.C)	✓				■		■	■	□	R	R/PH	Ac / A		
Major Subdivision – Final Plat (2.02.D)	✓							○		D	A			
Site Plan – Administrative (2.03)	✓							○		D	A			
Conditional Use Permit (2.04)	✓				■	■	■	■	■	R	D/PH	A		
Rezoning (Map Amendment) (2.05)	✓		✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	R	R/PH	D/PH		x
Planned Zoning + Regulating Plan (2.06)	✓		✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	R	R/PH	D/PH		x
Variance (2.07)	✓					■	■	○						PH/D
Appeal of Administrative Decision (2.08)	✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■							PH/D
Text Amendment (2.09)		✓	✓	✓	■					R	R/PH	D/PH		
<p>✓ = Eligible to initiate application</p> <p>■ = Required ○ = Applicant's option □ = Optional at PD Director's Discretion</p> <p>R = Review and recommendation D = Decision A = Appeal of Prior Decision Ac = Acceptance of Improvements / Dedications PH = Public Hearing</p>														

# Streetscapes & Public Realm Design

Articles 3 & 7

## *Strategies & Techniques*

Improve Connectivity

Manage Access

Maximize On-Street Parking

Design Complete Streets

Limit / Reduce Lanes / Lane Widths

Contextual Design Standards

Integrated Open Spaces





# Streetscapes & Public Realm Design

Articles 3 & 7

## ***Connectivity & Access***

Improve Connectivity

Manage Access

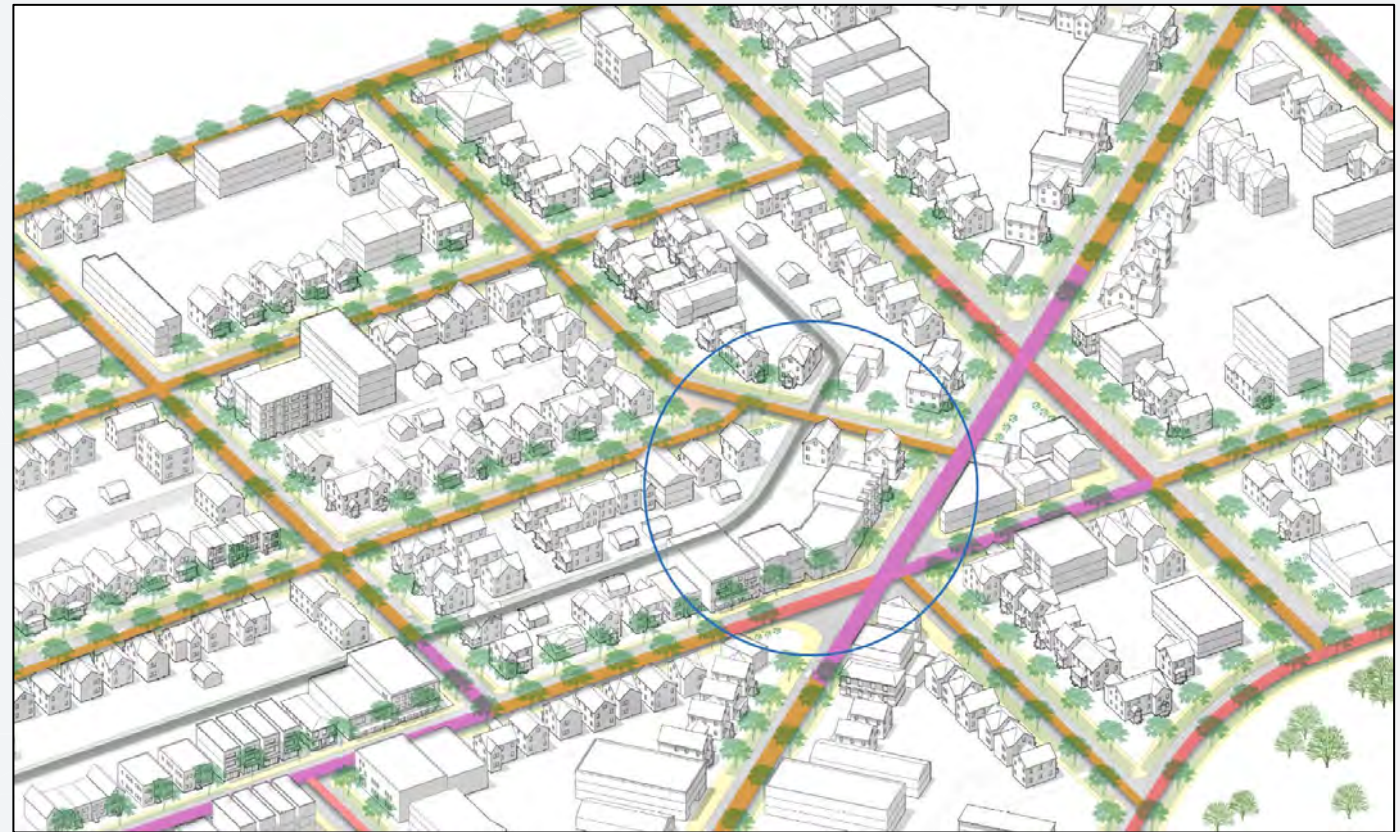
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# Streetscapes & Public Realm Design

Articles 3 & 7

## Street Design

Improve Connectivity

Manage Access

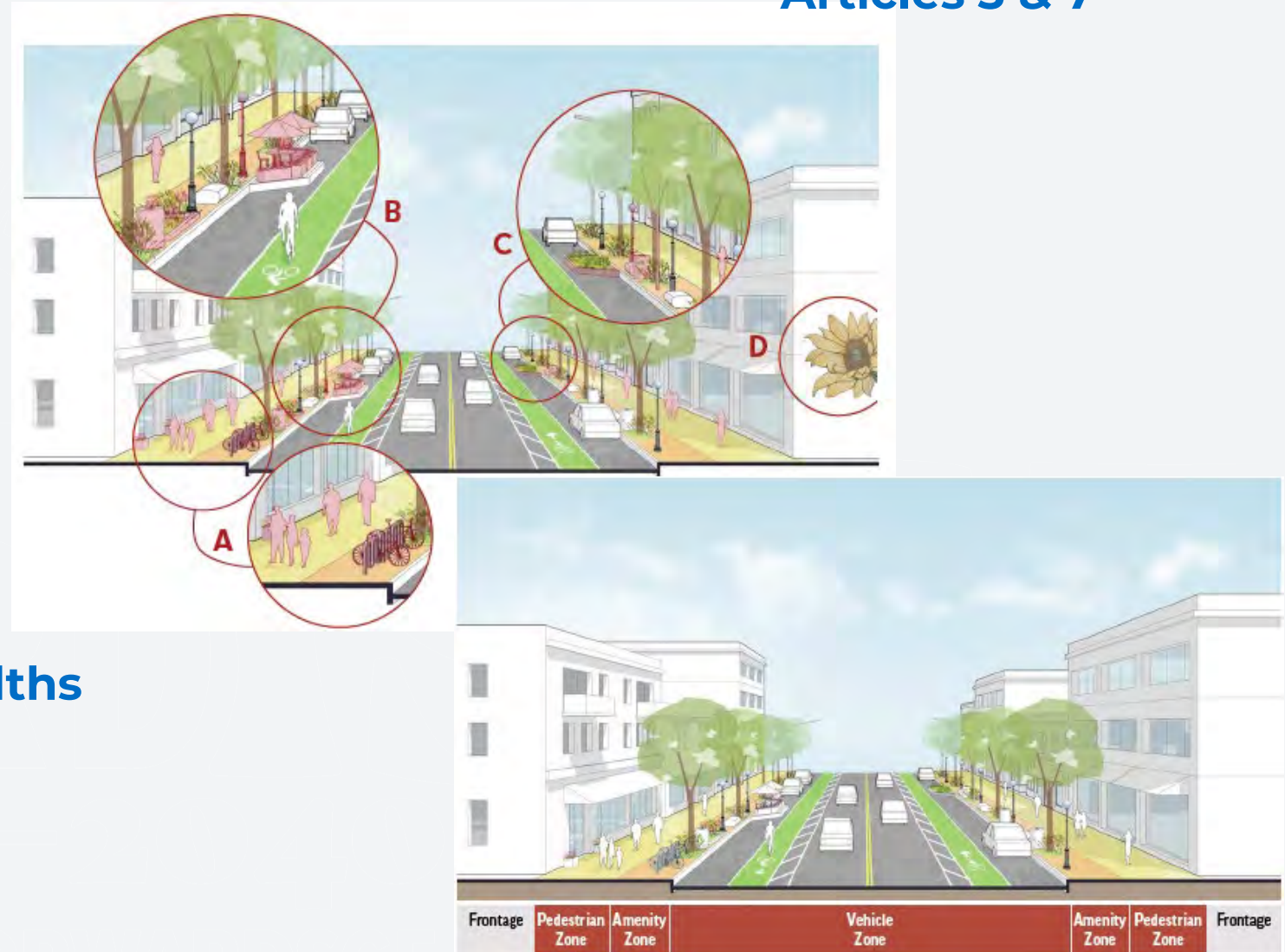
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# Streetscapes & Public Realm Design

Articles 3 & 7

## ***Open Space***

Improve Connectivity

Manage Access

Maximize On-Street Parking

Design Complete Streets

Limit / Reduce Lanes / Lane Widths

Contextual Design Standards

**Integrated Open Spaces**





# Neighborhoods & Housing

Articles 3, 4, & 5

***Strategies & Techniques***

**Building Types Over Density**

**Mix the Housing Types**

**Neighborhood Design**



# Neighborhoods & Housing

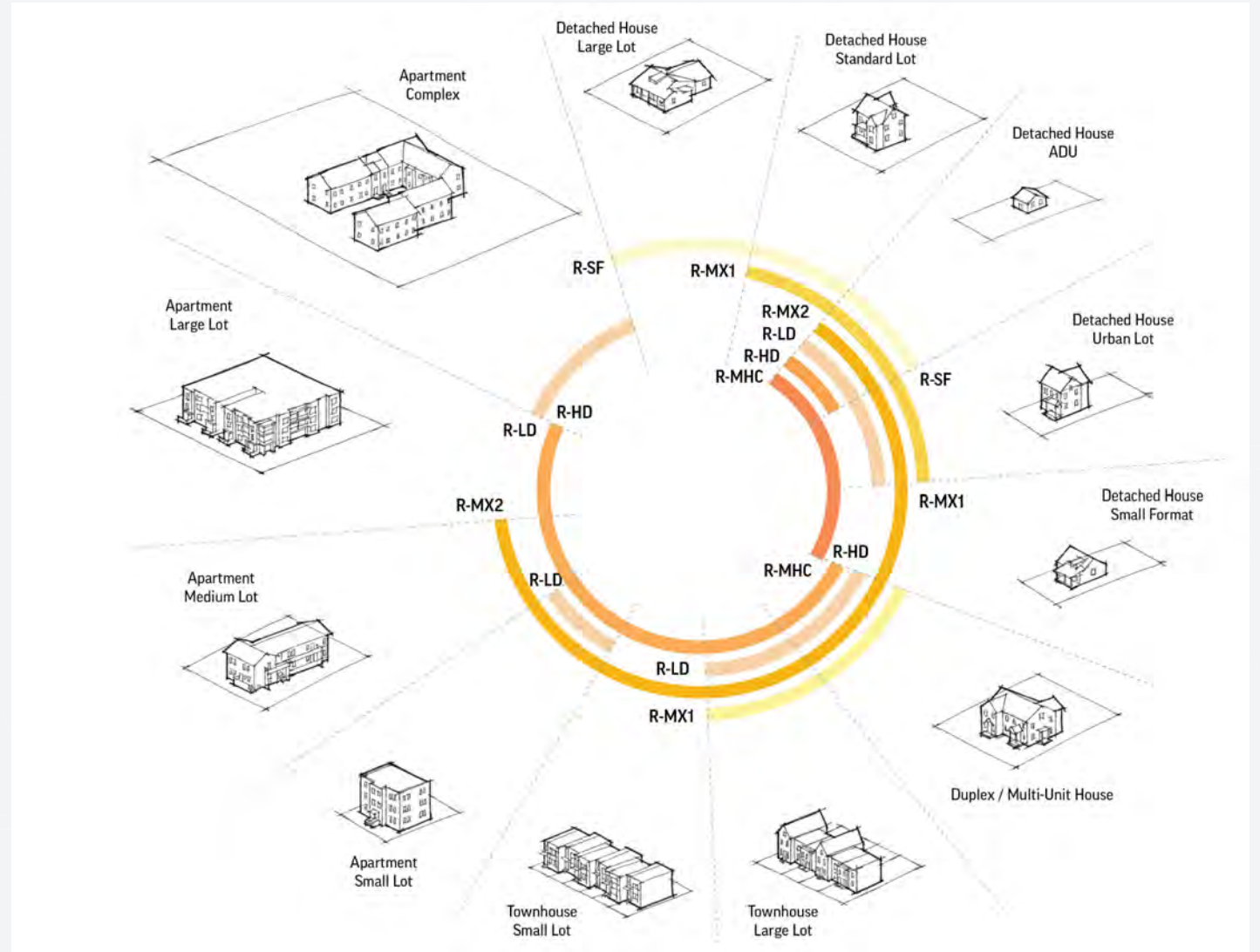
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Mix the Housing Types

Neighborhood Design





# Neighborhoods & Housing

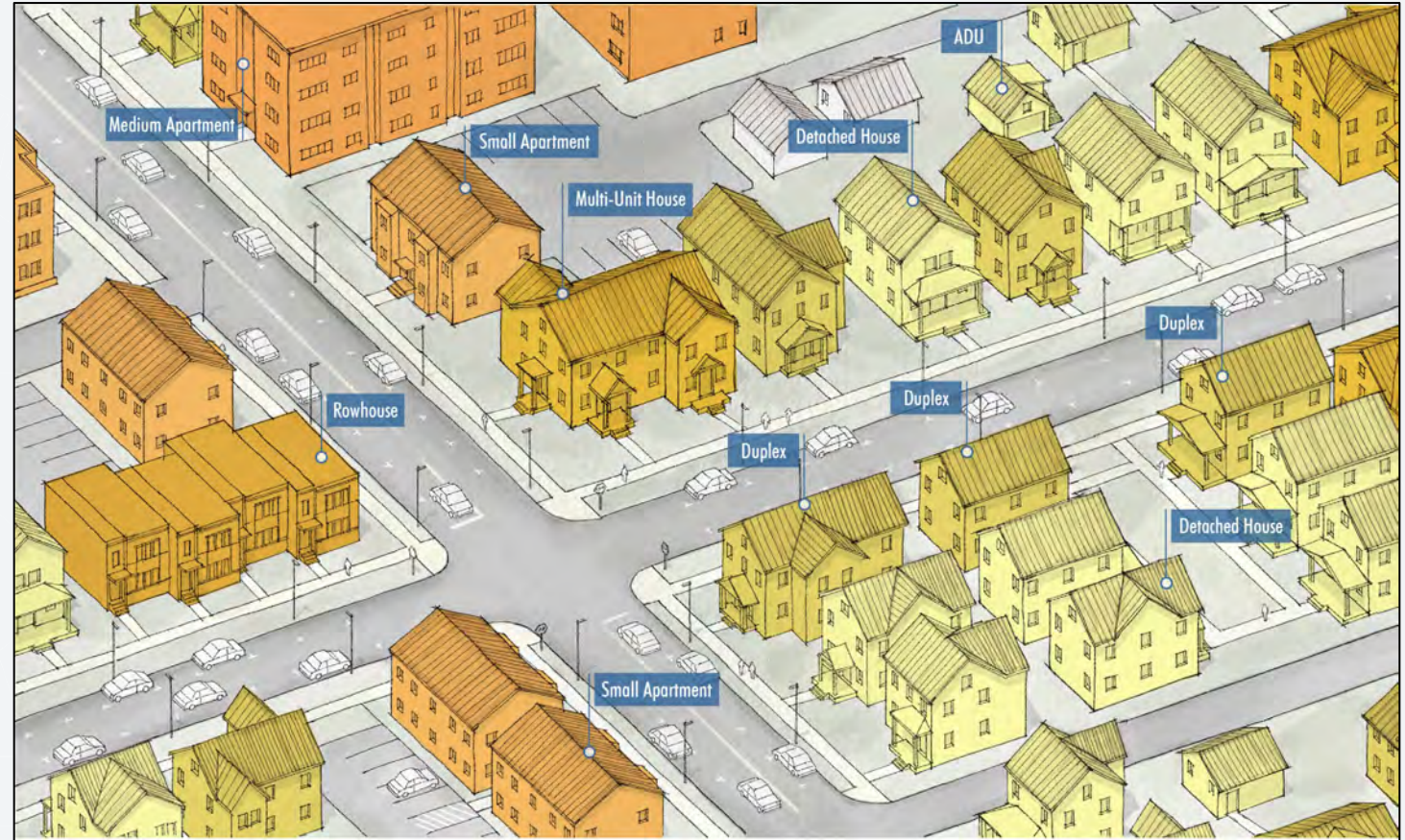
Articles 3, 4, & 5

## *Strategies & Techniques*

Building Types Over Density

Mix the Housing Types

Neighborhood Design





# Neighborhoods & Housing

Articles 3, 4, & 5

## *Strategies & Techniques*

Building Types Over Density

Mix the Housing Types

Neighborhood Design





# Context Based Places

Articles 4, 6, 7, & 8

***Strategies & Techniques***

**Scale & Intensity of Use**

**Building Form & Format**

**Building & Site Design**



# Context Based Places

## Articles 4, 6, 7, & 8

Strategies & Techniques

Scale & Intensity of Use

Building Form & Format

Building & Site Design

**Table 6-1: Nonresidential District Lot & Building Standards**

Zoning District	Minimum Lot Standards			Minimum Setbacks				Building Height [3]
	Size	Frontage Width	Open Space	Front [1]	Interior Side [2]	Street Side [1]	Rear [2]	
C-MX1 – Commercial Mixed-use Neighborhood	30K s.f. max	25' – 150'	20%	25'	n/a	15'	20'	40' / 3 stories
C-MX2 – Commercial Mixed-use Community	60K or ½ block max.	25' – 150'	10%	0' - 15'	n/a	0' - 15'	n/a	65' / 5 stories
CC – City Center	60K or ½ block max.	25' – 300'	n/a	0' - 15'	n/a	0' - 15'	n/a	n/a
GC – General Commercial	n/a	50' +	20%	25'	n/a	25'	n/a	n/a
GI – Government & Institution	n/a	50' +	20%	25'	n/a	25'	n/a	n/a
LIC – Light Industrial Commercial	n/a	50' +	15%	25'	10'	25'	10'	40'
HM - Heavy Manufacturing	n/a	50' +	15%	25'	n/a	25'		n/a

**Table 4-3: Permitted Uses**

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Retail – Small (<5K or < 10% of mixed-use project))				C		P	P	P	P	P	P	
Retail – Medium (5K – 10K)						C	P	P	P	P	P	
Retail – Large (10K – 50K)							P	P	P		P	
Retail Extra Large (50K+)									P		P	



# Context Based Places

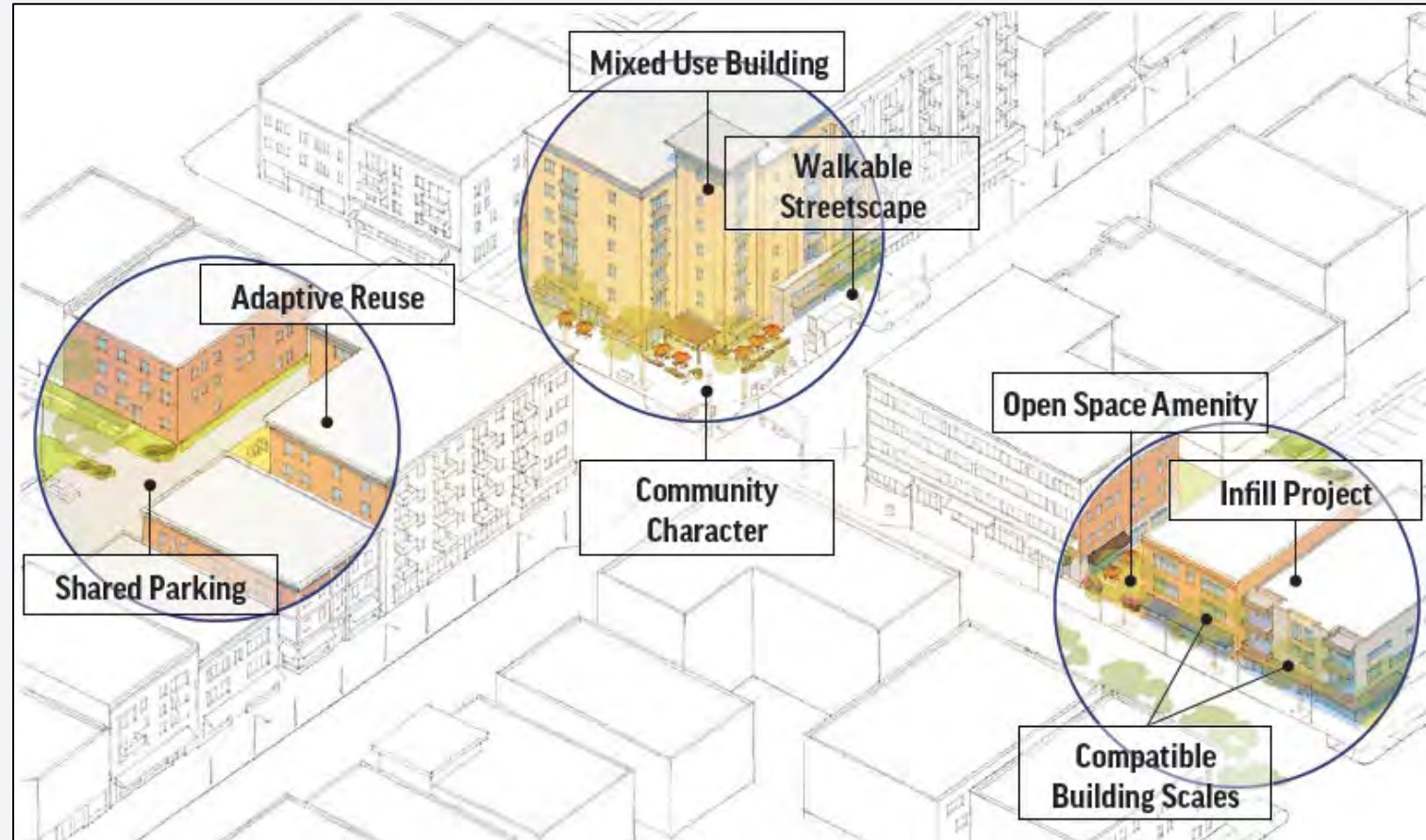
Articles 4, 6, 7, & 8

## *Strategies & Techniques*

Scale & Intensity of Use

Building Form & Format

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# Context Based Places

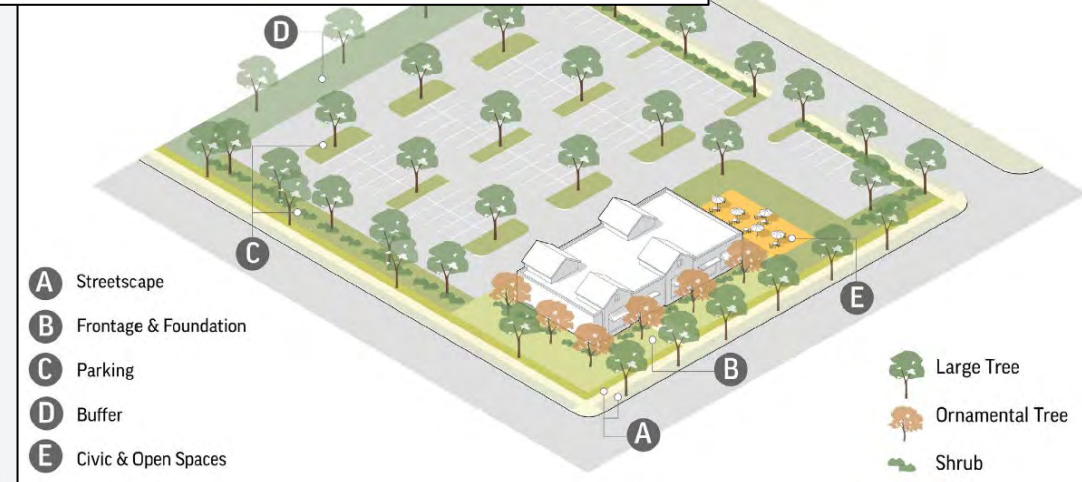
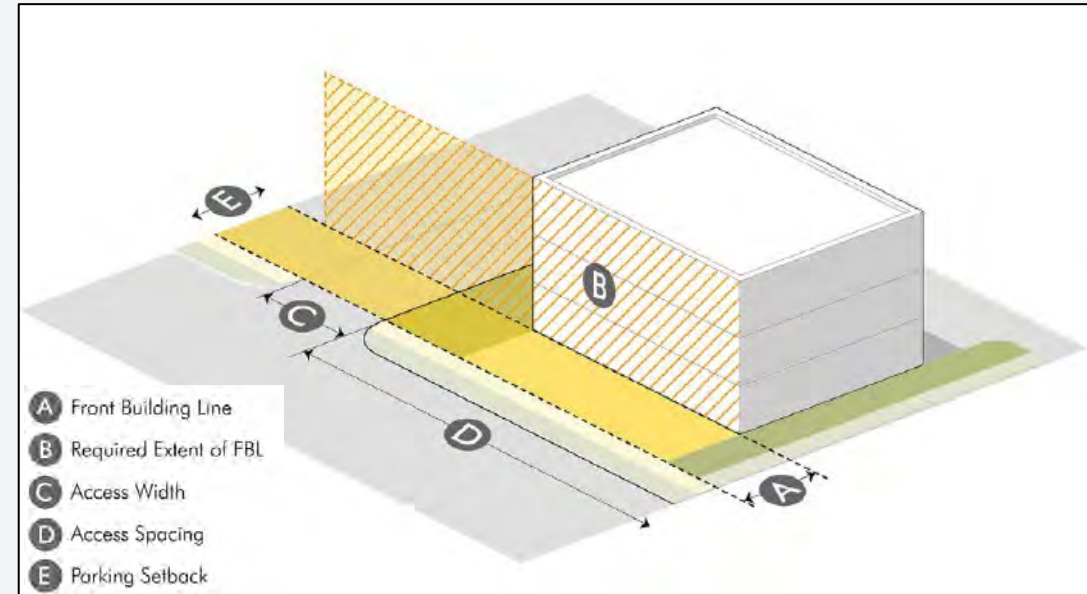
Articles 4, 6, 7, & 8

## Strategies & Techniques

Scale & Intensity of Use

Building Form & Format

Building & Site Design



# Documents & Feedback



**Forward SGF Website**

**[forwardsgf@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:forwardsgf@springfieldmo.gov)**

**Feedback Email**





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE UPDATE

Place Teams – December 4, 2024

