

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

SAN DIEGO AREA  
7575 METROPOLITAN DRIVE, SUITE 103  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-4421  
(619) 767-2370



# W22a

July 26, 2013

**TO: COMMISSIONERS AND INTERESTED PERSONS**

**FROM: SHERILYN SARB, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SAN DIEGO COAST DISTRICT  
DEBORAH LEE, DISTRICT MANAGER, SAN DIEGO COAST DISTRICT  
DIANA LILLY, COASTAL PROGRAM ANALYST, SD COAST DISTRICT**

**SUBJECT: STAFF RECOMMENDATION ON CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH LCP  
AMENDMENT NO. IMB-MAJ-2-12 (Commercial Mixed-Use) for Commission  
Meeting of August 14-15, 2013**

---

## SYNOPSIS

### SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT REQUEST

The subject LCP land use plan and implementation plan amendment was submitted and filed as complete on November 19, 2012. A one-year time extension was granted on February 6, 2013. The last day for Commission action would be February 17, 2014.

The City is proposing to amend its certified LCP land use plan and implementation plan to expand and encourage the development of mixed use and multi-family residential projects in the City's three existing commercial land use designations and zones. The proposed amendment would make a variety of changes in the permitted uses and development standards to the C-1 General Commercial district, the C-2 Seacoast Commercial district, and the C-3 Neighborhood Commercial District (see Exhibits #3 and #4). In each district, the amendment would allow more residential use than currently allowed, and significantly reduce the amount of parking required for mixed use projects. As proposed, the only areas where commercial uses would be required would be for lots fronting Seacoast Drive, and a limited stretch of Palm Avenue, where 60% of the ground floor would be required to be "Active Commercial Uses."

The City's existing MU-2 Overlay, which is applied to existing single-family residential uses in the Seacoast District, would be converted to the "Seacoast Residential Overlay." Rather than encourage the conversion of the single-family residential to commercial uses, as the existing overlay does, the proposed Residential Overlay would "preserve opportunities for single-family residences," as well as allowing multi-family and commercial uses.

Increases in allowable heights and density for residential uses in the Seacoast and Neighborhood Commercial Districts are also proposed. In the Seacoast District, on

properties located on the east side of Seacoast Drive, or Palm Avenue, east of Seacoast Drive, maximum heights would increase from three stories and 30 feet to three stories and 35 feet. Maximum permitted density would be increased from 1 unit per every 1,500 gross sq.ft to 1 unit per every 1,210 gross sq.ft. feet of lot area. In the Neighborhood Commercial District, permitted height would be increased from 2 stories or 28 feet to 3 stories and 30 feet, and density from one unit per every 2,000 sq.ft. feet of land to as much as 1 unit per every 1,210 gross sq.ft. of lot area.

The amendment would also significantly reduce the amount of parking required for new mixed use development. The standards for retail stores (currently one space for each 250 sq.ft. of floor area plus one space per two employees) and office uses (currently one space for 300 sq.ft. of floor area plus one space per two employees), would both be revised to require only one space for each 500 sq.ft. of floor area. Further reductions in parking would be allowed for mixed use projects, mixed use projects with “vertical” mixed use projects, and hotel projects. Small commercial uses (less than 1,000 sq.ft.) would be eligible for a waiver eliminating any parking requirements.

The proposed amendment also includes new commercial/mixed use zones design guidelines. These include preserving and creating view corridors to the oceanfront, pedestrian orientation, building articulation, landscaping, and providing active uses on ground floors.

### **SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that, following a public hearing, the Commission approve the proposed City of Imperial Beach Land Use Plan Amendment and Implementation Plan Amendment subject to the suggested modifications listed below.

The City’s intent with the subject amendment is to encourage development and redevelopment in more focused areas which may be able support higher occupancies in the commercial leaseholds, as opposed to broader mixed use districts. Additionally, if there were an increase in the City’s mixed use development, that could potentially reduce the reliance on automobiles and reduce traffic. To this end, the amendment would allow substantially more multi-family residential uses in the City’s commercial districts, including the C-1 Commercial District, and the C-2 Seacoast District.

However, the C-1 area includes the City’s primary access road to the coast (Palm Avenue). Commercial uses in this area serve people travelling from the freeway to the shoreline. In addition, there is an existing recreational vehicle park/campground in the C-1 area on the north side of Palm Avenue/SR-125, at the corner of SR-125 and Rainbow Drive, that provides lower cost, visitor-serving overnight accommodations, which is one of the highest priority uses identified in the Coastal Act. This area also serves as the gateway to people entering the city from Coronado and the Silver Strand. As proposed, the amendment would allow this entire area to be converted to multi-family residential uses, would significantly reduce the overall amount of commercial facilities along Palm Avenue, and would potentially allow for the elimination of the City’s only existing

lower-cost overnight accommodations facility, inconsistent with the priority use policies of the Coastal Act.

Similarly, the amendment would allow the C-2 Seacoast Commercial District to be converted entirely to multi-family residential. The existing Seacoast District parallels the beach, and constitutes Imperial Beach's visitor-serving area. Unlike most coastal cities, Imperial Beach's tourist-commercial land area is not specifically reserved for tourist-commercial uses only, but is currently more of a mixed use area, with commercial uses required on the ground floor (including uses that are not strictly visitor-serving, such as professional offices, financial institutions, real estate offices, and child day care centers), and residential uses permitted on the upper floors. The proposed amendment would further de-emphasize tourist-commercial uses in the Seacoast District, and encourage continuation of the many existing single-family residences that are currently located along the shoreline.

As proposed, the amendment does not include any protections for the City's existing high-priority uses, does not require a minimum amount of commercial uses in the C-1 or C-2 districts, and prioritizes the protection of single-family residences on the shoreline. This approach is not consistent with the Coastal Act requirements that private lands suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational facilities, designed to enhance public opportunities for coastal recreation, have priority over private residential development.

Therefore, suggested modifications have been added to ensure that a minimum amount of lower-cost and visitor-serving commercial uses are preserved along Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive. Suggested Modifications #3, #6, and #10 require that all buildings with frontage on the north and south sides of Palm Avenue/SR 75 between the border with the City of San Diego and Rainbow Drive including those with multiple-family dwelling units, include "active commercial uses" at a minimum of sixty percent of each building's ground floor square footage, as well as direct pedestrian access from the Palm Avenue sidewalk or a plaza. This is essentially the same requirement that the City is proposing to include in the proposed IP; however, the City's proposal for ground level commercial covers only approximately 5 city blocks in the middle of Palm Avenue, and excludes both the portions of Palm Avenue on the eastern border of the city, and the portion of the Palm Avenue on the Coronado side of the city. The suggested modifications require that the area along Palm Avenue that is subject to the 60% active commercial uses standard include the entire length of Palm Avenue from the City's border with the City of San Diego to the east, roughly to the location of the RV park (see Exhibit #7).

The western terminus of Palm Avenue is the main entry way to the City from the Silver Strand. Visitors to the Imperial Beach's shoreline from Coronado would likely never travel inland on Palm Avenue to the area where the City is proposing retain some commercial development. This area currently consists largely of commercial development now, including the RV park on the north side of Palm Avenue, and various commercial retail uses on the south side. Thus, the proposed suggested modification would prioritize commercial uses in the areas most likely to generate the demand for

tourist-commercial uses, as well as being consistent with the bulk of the existing uses along Palm Avenue.

Since the amendment would allow a significant increase in low-priority residential uses into the City's commercial zones, suggested modifications have been added to provide specific protection for high-priority visitor serving uses; in particular, the City's existing RV park. Suggested Modification #3 adds language to the definition of the new General Commercial and Mixed-Use land use to protect and encourage existing high-priority uses such as the RV park. Suggested Modification #7 adds a requirement that public recreation and lower-cost commercial recreational development, including RV parks, campgrounds, hostels, and hotels, not be removed, unless replaced with a facility comparable in function, location, and cost to the public.

Suggested Modifications #4, #5, #11, and #15 revise the City's proposed Seacoast Residential Overlay to largely retain the same language and emphasis on visitor-serving commercial uses as in the existing certified LUP. The suggested modifications do not require that any existing single-family uses convert to commercial, or prohibit the future development of single-family residences in the overlay. As modified, the overlay zone allows for the development of oceanfront land suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational uses, with such uses, consistent with the visitor-serving commercial protection policies of the Coastal Act.

Several of the City's proposed use regulation changes, as submitted, could adversely impact tourist-oriented businesses and lower cost visitor and recreational facilities. Specifically, the amendment would prohibit hostels and campsites in C-1 zone, which, as tourist-oriented businesses and lower cost visitor accommodations, the policies of the certified LCP specifically encourage along the beachfront, South San Diego Bayfront and inland areas. The City has suggested that campsites are not an appropriate use in a commercial zone, and that campsites are not pedestrian oriented. However, as noted, there is an existing RV Park in the C-1 zone, on a site adjacent to San Diego Bay and near the Bayshore Bikeway. This use currently offers overnight RV camping, and is within easy biking distance of the Bayshore Bikeway and the shoreline, thus providing a low-cost commercial recreation use that is both very appropriate for the site, and compatible with alternate forms of recreational transportation. Suggested Modification #9 revises the list of uses allowed in commercial districts to allow hostels and campgrounds in the C-1 zone, with approval of a CUP. Thus, high priority uses will be permitted, as deemed appropriate and compatible with the surrounding uses through the conditional use permit process.

The proposed amendment significantly reduces the amount of parking required for new mixed use development throughout the city. The intent of the reductions is to rely on shared parking opportunities associated with mixed use development, and to also shift away from a reliance on automobile traffic in favor of pedestrian, bicycle, and other forms of alternative transit. Development in the City of Imperial Beach is well positioned to take advantage of alternative forms of public transportation; the San Diego Trolley line has stations at Palm Avenue on the north side of the Imperial Beach, and Iris Avenue on



the southern side. The City's main accessways—Palm Avenue, Seacoast Drive, and Imperial Beach Blvd—are well served by bus lines. In addition, in recent years the City has been improving bicycle routes through and around the city.

The policies of the certified LCP are generally supportive of smart growth development, which can include concentrated density, mixed use development, and, where appropriate, implementing shared parking, all of which are part of the proposed amendment. Given the City's existing transit infrastructure and the current availability of public parking in the nearshore area, the proposed reduction in parking standards is not expected to adversely impact beach parking. However, the City should continue to monitor the parking supply and demand along Seacoast Drive, and should counts indicate public parking is becoming impacted, private off-street parking requirements may need to be adjusted, or additional public spaces secured. Suggested Modification #2 also adds new policies supporting balanced development between commercial, residential, and recreational uses to support alternative forms of transit and walkability, and requires shared public/private parking where feasible to support beach users.

In summary, the proposed amendment will result in a reduction in commercial uses and development throughout the city. However, the intent is to concentrate and hopefully support more successful commercial enterprises in core areas. As modified, high-priority visitor-serving uses will not be adversely affected, as the areas most likely to serve tourists—the Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive street frontages—will provide 60% active commercial uses on the ground floor. The City's existing RV park will be protected and affordable overnight accommodations must be maintained. Additional trip demand reduction policies in the LUP will ensure that access to the coast continues to be supported. Therefore, the proposed amendment, if modified as suggested, can be found consistent with the certified LUP.

The appropriate resolutions and motions begin on Page 8. The suggested modifications begin on Page 10. The findings for denial of the Land Use Plan Amendment as submitted and approval if modified begin on Page 19. The findings for denial of the Implementation Plan Amendment as submitted and approval if modified begin on Page 28.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Further information on the City of Imperial Beach LCP Amendment #2-12 may be obtained from **Diana Lilly**, Coastal Planner, at (619) 767-2370.

---

## **PART I. OVERVIEW**

### **A. LCP HISTORY**

On June 30, 1981, the City of Imperial Beach formally submitted its Land Use Plan (LUP) for Commission approval. The plan, as originally submitted, comprised the City's entire General Plan (10 elements and a policy plan). Since the plan contained a large volume of material that was not coastal-related and policies addressing coastal issues were found throughout many of the elements, staff summarized the coastal policies into one document. This policy summary along with the Land Use Element was submitted to the Commission as the LCP Land Use Plan.

On September 15, 1981, the Commission found substantial issue with the LUP, as submitted, denied and then conditionally approved the LUP with recommended policy changes for all policy groups. The City resubmitted the LCP Land Use Plan in early 1982, incorporating most of the Commission's suggested policy modifications. This included modification language related to the preservation and protection of Oneonta Slough/Tijuana River Estuary and South San Diego Bay, preservation and enhancement of coastal access and the provision for visitor-serving commercial uses in the Seacoast District. On March 16, 1982, the Commission certified the City of Imperial Beach LCP Land Use Plan as submitted. The Commission on November 18, 1982 effectively certified the land use plan. In 1983, prior to certification of the Implementation Plan, the Commission approved an amendment to the LUP to correct a mapping error.

On August 15, 1983, the City began issuing coastal development permits pursuant to Section 30600.5 (Hannigan provisions) of the Coastal Act based on project compliance with its certified LUP. The City then submitted its entire Zoning Ordinance in order to implement the provisions of the certified Land Use Plan. The zoning ordinance was completely rewritten in order to implement the LUP. On September 26, 1984, the Commission approved the LCP/Implementation Plan as submitted. As of February 13, 1985, the City has been issuing coastal development permits under a certified local coastal program. Subsequent to the Commission's actions on the land use plan and implementation plan, there have been approximately thirty-one amendments to the certified local coastal program.

### **B. STANDARD OF REVIEW**

The standard of review for land use plans, or their amendments, is found in Section 30512 of the Coastal Act. This section requires the Commission to certify an LUP or LUP amendment if it finds that it meets the requirements of and conforms with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Specifically, it states:

#### Section 30512

(c) The Commission shall certify a land use plan, or any amendments thereto, if it finds that a land use plan meets the requirements of, and is in conformity with, the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200). Except as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), a decision to certify shall require a majority vote of the appointed membership of the Commission.

Pursuant to Section 30513 of the Coastal Act, the Commission may only reject zoning ordinances or other implementing actions, as well as their amendments, on the grounds that they do not conform with, or are inadequate to carry out, the provisions of the certified land use plan. The Commission shall take action by a majority vote of the Commissioners present.

In those cases when a local government approves implementing ordinances in association with a land use plan amendment and both are submitted to the Commission for certification as part of one LCP amendment, pursuant to Section 13542(c) of the Commission's regulations, the standard of review of the implementing actions shall be the land use plan most recently certified by the Commission. Thus, if the land use plan is conditionally certified subject to local government acceptance of the suggested modifications, the standard of review shall be the conditionally certified land use plan.

### **C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Section 30503 of the Coastal Act requires local governments to provide the public with maximum opportunities to participate in the development of the LCP amendment prior to its submittal to the Commission for review. The City has held City Council meetings with regard to the subject amendment request. All of those local hearings were duly noticed to the public. Notice of the subject amendment has been distributed to all known interested parties.

## **PART II. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM SUBMITTAL - RESOLUTIONS**

Following a public hearing, staff recommends the Commission adopt the following resolutions and findings. The appropriate motion to introduce the resolution and a staff recommendation are provided just prior to each resolution.

### **I. Denial as Submitted**

**MOTION:**     *I move that the Commission certify Land Use Plan Amendment #2-12 as submitted by the City of Imperial Beach.*

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO DENY:**

Staff recommends a **NO** vote. Failure of this motion will result in denial of the amendment as submitted and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the appointed Commissioners.

#### **RESOLUTION TO DENY:**

The Commission hereby denies certification of the Land Use Plan Amendment #2-12 as submitted by the City of Imperial Beach and adopts the findings set forth below on the grounds that the amendment does not conform with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Certification of the Land Use Plan amendment would not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act because there are feasible alternatives or mitigation measures which could substantially lessen any significant adverse impact which the Land Use Plan Amendment may have on the environment.

### **II. Approval with Suggested Modifications**

**MOTION:**     *I move that the Commission certify Land Use Plan Amendment #2-12 for the City of Imperial Beach if it is modified as suggested in this staff report.*

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO CERTIFY WITH SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS:**

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of the motion will result in the certification of the land use plan amendment with suggested modifications and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion to certify with suggested modifications passes only upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the appointed Commissioners.

#### **RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY WITH SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS:**

The Commission hereby certifies the Land Use Plan Amendment #2-12 for the City of Imperial Beach if modified as suggested and adopts the findings set forth below on the grounds that the Land Use Plan amendment with suggested modifications will meet the requirements of and be in conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Certification of the land use plan amendment if modified as suggested complies with the California Environmental Quality Act because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the plan on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible alternatives or mitigation measures that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts which the Land Use Plan Amendment may have on the environment.

### **III. Reject as Submitted**

**MOTION:**     *I move that the Commission reject the Implementation Program Amendment #2-12 for the City of Imperial Beach as submitted.*

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF REJECTION:**

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in rejection of Implementation Program and the adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

#### **RESOLUTION TO DENY CERTIFICATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM AS SUBMITTED:**

The Commission hereby denies certification of the Implementation Program submitted for the City of Imperial Beach and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the Implementation Program as submitted does not conform with, and is inadequate to carry out, the provisions of the certified Land Use Plan. Certification of the Implementation Program would not meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act as there are feasible alternatives and mitigation measures that would substantially lessen the significant adverse impacts on the environment that will result from certification of the Implementation Program as submitted

### **IV. Certify with Suggested Modifications**

**MOTION:**     *I move that the Commission certify the Implementation Program Amendment #2-12 for the City of Imperial Beach if it is modified as suggested in this staff report.*

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in certification of the Implementation Program with suggested modifications and the adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

**RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY THE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM WITH SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS:**

The Commission hereby certifies the Implementation Program Amendment for the City of Imperial Beach if modified as suggested and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the Implementation Program with the suggested modifications conforms with, and is adequate to carry out, the provisions of the certified Land Use Plan. Certification of the Implementation Program if modified as suggested complies with the California Environmental Quality Act, because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the Implementation Program on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible alternatives and mitigation measures that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts on the environment.

**PART III. SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS**

**Land Use Plan Modifications**

The underlined sections represent language that the City of Imperial Beach proposes be added to the certified LUP, and the ~~strike-through~~ sections represent language which the City proposes to delete from LUP. The red underlined sections represent language that the Commission suggests be added to the City's proposal, and the ~~red strike-through~~ sections represent language which the Commission suggests be deleted from the City's proposal.

1. On Page I-9 of the *Introduction*, the second checklist item under the description of key features of the Land Use Element is amended as follows:
  - ✓ Reducing the highest density apartment/condominium areas from a maximum density of one unit per 1,000 square feet of lot area to one unit per 1,500 square feet of lot area, except where specified development incentives are offered.
2. On Page C-23 continuing onto Page C-24 of the *Circulation Element*, the following new policies shall be added:

**C-22 Parking**

**i. Shared Public/Private Parking**

Where feasible, public use of private parking facilities currently underutilized on weekends and holidays (i.e., serving office buildings) shall be permitted in all commercial zones located within ¼ mile of the beach.

**j. Balanced Development**

All new commercial and higher density residential development shall be located and designed to facilitate provision or extension of transit service to the development to the extent feasible. Residential, commercial, and recreational uses should be located in relationship to each other so as to encourage walking, bicycling, and transit ridership. Major employment, retail, and entertainment districts and major coastal recreational areas should be well served by public transit and easily accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists.

**k. Employer Support of Transit**

The City shall actively encourage convenient alternatives to automobile use throughout the Commercial Districts by require employers to provide incentives for alternative transit use such as providing employee transit passes or subsidies, ridesharing programs, preferred parking for carpooling and on-site shower facilities.

3. On Page L-8 of the *Land Use Element*, Table L-2: Land Use Designations and Specifications is amended as follows:

**C-1C/MU-1 General Commercial and Mixed-Use (4 stories)**

The General Commercial and Mixed-Use land use designation provides for commercial development, mixed-use development, multiple-family dwellings, and ~~land~~ businesses to meet the local demand for commercial goods and services, as opposed to the goods and services required primarily by the tourist population. Nevertheless, existing high-priority uses such as RV parks shall be protected and encouraged. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this C/MU-1 designation will be community- and neighborhood-serving retail and office uses. ~~Such as markets, specialty stores, professional offices, personal service department stores, restaurants, liquor stores, hardware stores, etc.~~ Multi-family Residential uses may be permitted ~~above the first floor~~ at a maximum density of 1 one unit per every 1,000 square sq. feet. of land, per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance. ~~Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.~~

For all buildings with frontage along the north and south sides of Palm Avenue/SR 75 between the border with the City of San Diego and Rainbow Drive, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, “active commercial uses” are required to be provided at a minimum of sixty percent of each building’s ground floor square footage with direct pedestrian access from the Palm Avenue sidewalk or a plaza. The remaining 40% must primarily be related to the commercial use, such as parking, access, or other non-active commercial purpose.

4. On Page L-8 of the *Land Use Element*, Table L-2: Land Use Designations and Specifications is amended as follows:

**C-2-C/MU-2 Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use (3 stories, except for hotels, where 4 stories may be permitted by specific plan)**

The C/MU-2 Seacoast Commercial land use designation provides for land to meet the demand for goods and services required primarily by as well as the tourist population, as well as by local residents who use the beach area. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be visitor-serving retail such as specialty stores, surf shops, restaurants, and hotels and motels, etc. In order to promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-through establishments, drive-through services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners, and other similar auto-related business establishments shall be prohibited in this zone.

Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, multi-family residential uses shall be permitted at a maximum density of 1 unit per every 1,500 gross sq. ft. of lot area; if located on ~~Palm Avenue~~ or the east side of Seacoast Drive or on Palm Avenue, east of Seacoast Drive, multi-family residential uses may be increased to a maximum density of 1 unit per every 1,210 gross sq. ft. of lot area, subject to the compliance with specified development incentives and the approval of a conditional use permit.

~~Residential uses may (included below) be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.~~

Additionally, the Seacoast **Mixed Use**/Residential Overlay was established to preserve opportunities for single-family residences to provide for the future expansion of commercial uses allowed in the C/MU-2 designation while preserving opportunities for the continuation of single-family residential uses within the overlay area. Mixed-use and multi-family residences are permitted in the C/MU-2 area, as well as in the Seacoast **Mixed Use**/Residential Overlay Zone.

5. On Page L-8 of the *Land Use Element*, Table L-2: Land Use Designations and Specifications is amended as follows:

**MU-2 Mixed Use Overlay**

~~The Mixed Use Overlay land use designation provides for future expansion of uses allowed in the C-2 Land Use Designation in an orderly way without requiring the amendment of the General Plan. In this overlay designation, commercial activities would be allowed to expand into areas otherwise designated as Residential. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such commercial use.~~

**Seacoast Mixed Use/Residential Overlay**

The purpose of the Seacoast **Mixed Use**/Residential Overlay land use designation is to ~~preserve opportunities for the continuation of single-family residential uses provide for the future expansion of commercial uses allowed in the C/MU-2 designation, while preserving opportunities for the continuation of single-family residential uses, in the area~~ bounded by Ocean Boulevard (the beach) to the west, Ocean Lane on the east, Imperial



Beach Boulevard on the south, and Palm Avenue on the north. In this area, single-family land uses shall be permitted, in addition to all uses permitted within the C/MU-2 designation.

6. On Page L-9 of the *Land Use Element*, Policy L-4e is amended as follows:

**Policy L-4e Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use (C-2 & MU-2)**

The Seacoast ~~commercial~~ Area shall serve as a commercial and mixed-use visitor-serving, pedestrian-oriented commercial area. ~~A Residential Overlay Zone was established to preserve the opportunity for single family residences to remain in a designated portion of the project area. Existing residential uses shall be slowly transitioned to new visitor serving commercial uses.~~ Existing residential uses shall be slowly transitioned to new visitor serving commercial uses. To ensure that the existing character is maintained and enhanced, the zoning for this area shall incorporate standards for setbacks and stepbacks, and encourage pedestrian activity through the design and location of building frontages and parking provisions. As part of the design review, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> stories may be required to be set back from Seacoast Drive.

For all buildings with frontage along Seacoast Drive, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, “active commercial uses” are required to be provided at a minimum sixty percent of each building’s ground floor square footage and have direct pedestrian access from the Seacoast Drive sidewalk or a plaza. The remaining 40% must primarily be related to the commercial use, such as parking, access, or other non-active commercial purpose.

Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, t~~Timeshares~~ shall require approval of a conditional use permit and shall be prohibited on the ~~first~~ 4<sup>th</sup> ~~floor,~~ unless 25% are reserved for overnight accommodation.

7. On Page L-12 of the *Land Use Element*, the Policy L-9 is amended as follows:

**L-9 Lower Cost Visitor and Recreational Facilities**

Lower cost visitor and recreational facilities shall be protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided. Developments providing public recreational opportunities are preferred.

Public recreation and lower-cost commercial recreational development, including RV parks, campgrounds, hostels, and hotels, shall not be removed, unless replaced with a facility comparable in function, location, and cost to the public.

**Implementation Plan Modifications**

The underlined sections represent language that the City of Imperial Beach proposes be added to the certified LUP, and the ~~strike-through~~ sections represent language which the City proposes to delete from LUP. The red underlined sections represent language that the Commission suggests be added to the City's proposal, and the ~~red-strike-through~~ sections represent language which the Commission suggests be deleted from the City's proposal.

8. On Page 1 of the Proposed New and Amended Definitions, the following amendments shall be made:

**19.04.400. Height, Measurement of**

Height shall be measured from ~~existing grade at all points of the site to a warped plane an equal height above all points on the site~~ the average level of the highest and lowest point of that portion of the building site (at existing grade) covered by the building or structure to the highest point of the building or structure.

**Active Commercial Uses**

"Active commercial uses" mean commercial uses that are oriented along the street wall facing the main street at ground level. Active commercial uses ~~should~~ shall be accessible to the general public, generate walk-in pedestrian clientele, ~~and or~~ contribute to a high level of pedestrian activity. Property entrances will be oriented to the street, which will facilitate sidewalk traffic and active streets. Uses that generate pedestrian activity include retail shops, grocery stores, restaurants, bars, theaters and the performing arts, personal convenience services, hotels, banks, travel agencies, child care services, libraries, museums and galleries, and commercial recreation and entertainment.

**Open Space, ~~Public~~ Common**

~~"Public Common~~ open space" means those usable outdoor spaces commonly accessible to all residents and users of the building for the purpose of passive or active recreation.

9. Chapter 19.23, the table of land uses permitted in the proposed C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3, shall be amended as followed. As proposed by the City, "P" means "Expressly permitted," "C" means "Permitted with conditional use permit," and "N" means "Not permitted."

Highlighted text indicates that the use is a newly defined regulated use by the City, or the City is proposing to change or add permissions.

[C] or [P] or [N] text indicates land use permission in the existing ordinance that the City is proposing to change.

Chapter 19.23 COMMERCIAL/~~MIXED-USE~~ USE REGULATIONS

Commercial Uses	C/MU-1	C/MU-2	C/MU-3	Notes
Liquor store	<del>P</del> [C] <u>C</u>	<del>P</del> [C] <u>C</u>	N	See definition.
Hostel	<del>N</del> <u>C</u>	C	N	See definition.
Single-family detached	N	N*[P]	N	*Only permitted in Seacoast <u>Mixed-Use/Residential Overlay Zone</u>
Campsites	<del>N</del> <u>C</u>	N	N	See definition.

10. Chapter 19.26, the proposed C/MU-1 General Commercial and Mixed-Use Zone shall be amended as follows:

**Chapter 19.26. C/MU-1 GENERAL COMMERCIAL AND MIXED-USE ZONE**

**19.26.020. Permitted uses.**

A. ~~The following commercial uses (excluding light manufacturing or industrial uses) shall be permitted subject to subsections C and D of this section as appropriate:~~ Specified commercial, residential, light industrial, public and semi-public, green building utilities, and open space and recreation uses allowed in the C/MU-1 zone are listed in Chapter 19.23, including those requiring a conditional use permit, and shall also comply with the following land use regulations:

~~1. — Stores, shops and offices supplying commodities or performing services for residents of the City as a whole such as retail food stores, restaurants, department stores, specialty shops, banks, business or professional offices and other financial institutions, personal service enterprises, hotels and motels;~~

1. For all buildings with frontage along ~~Palm Avenue between 7th Street and Florida Street~~ the north and south sides of Palm Avenue/SR 75 between the border with the City of San Diego and Rainbow Drive, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, “active commercial uses” as defined in Chapter 19.05 are required to be provided at a minimum of sixty percent of each building’s ground floor square footage, have direct pedestrian access from the Palm Avenue sidewalk or a plaza, and have a minimum building depth of twenty-five feet. ~~Exceptions would require approval of a conditional use permit. The remaining 40% must primarily be related to the commercial use, such as parking, access, or other non-active commercial purpose.~~

11. In Chapter 19.27 of the proposed C/MU-2 Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use Zone, Section 19.27.010 shall be amended as follows:

**Chapter 19.27. C/MU-2 SEACOAST COMMERCIAL AND MIXED-USE ZONE**

**19.27.010. Purpose of zone.**

The purpose of the C/MU-2 zone is to provide land to meet the demand for goods and services required primarily by the tourist population, as well as local residents who use the beach area. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in the C/MU-2 zone will be visitor-serving retail such as specialty stores, surf shops, restaurants, and hotels and motels. ~~Additionally, the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone has been established to preserve opportunities for single family residences within the overlay area.~~ Mixed-use and multiple family residences are also permitted in the C/MU-2 zone and in the Seacoast ~~Mixed Use~~/Residential Overlay Zone. The development standards of the C/MU-2 zone encourage pedestrian activity through the design and location of building frontages and parking provisions.

12. Section 19.27.020 shall be amended as follows:

**19.27.020. Permitted uses.**

A. ~~The following commercial uses shall be permitted subject to subsections B, C, and D of this section as appropriate:~~ Specified commercial, residential, light industrial, public and semi-public, green building utilities, and open space and recreation uses allowed in the C/MU-2 zone are listed in Chapter 19.23, including those requiring a conditional use permit, and shall also comply with the following land use regulations:

1. For all buildings with frontage along Seacoast Drive, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, “active commercial uses” as defined in Chapter 19.04 are required to be provided at a minimum sixty percent of each building’s ground floor square footage and have direct pedestrian access from the Seacoast Drive sidewalk or a plaza. ~~Exceptions would require approval of a conditional use permit. The remaining 40% must primarily be related to the commercial use, such as parking, access, or other non-active commercial purpose.~~

[...]

5. Multiple-family residential dwelling units are permitted at a maximum density of one unit per every one thousand five hundred gross square feet of lot area; or if located on ~~Palm Avenue and~~ the east side of Seacoast Drive ~~or Palm Avenue, east of Seacoast Drive~~, residential dwelling units may be increased to a maximum density of one dwelling unit for each one thousand two hundred and ten gross square feet of lot area with approval of a conditional use permit by the City Council that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the following development incentives:

- a. Project sites that are consolidated to a final size greater than twenty thousand square feet;
- b. Entire project achieves Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System certification, a comparable green building certification, or can demonstrate the ability to achieve certification;
- c. Entire project provides a minimum of seventy-five percent “active commercial uses” on the ground floor;
- d. At least twenty-five percent of proposed residential units must be three-bedroom units;
- e. Provide an additional one hundred square feet of ~~public~~ common open space or plaza space with minimum dimensions of six feet by ten feet;
- f. Dedicate a minimum of one foot of private property frontage to public use (creates a one-foot front setback dedicated to public use);
- g. Floors above first floor provide additional setback of five feet beyond required setback.

13. Section 19.27.040(B) Yards shall be amended as follows:

B. For properties within the Seacoast ~~Mixed Use~~/Residential Overlay Zone, the setbacks shall be as required in Section 19.27.140(B); and, [...]

14. Section 19.27.070 shall be amended as follows:

**19.27.070. Building Height.**

A. No building in the C/MU-2 (~~Seacoast Commercial~~) Zone shall exceed three stories or thirty feet in height, which ever is less, except as follows:

1. [...]
2. Properties east of Seacoast Drive shall have a height limit not to exceed three stories and thirty-five feet with approval of a conditional use permit that demonstrates compliance with the following:
  - a. Side yard setbacks and/or setbacks have been incorporated into the project to protect street-end public views towards the ocean;
  - b. Two or more of the development incentives listed in Section 19.27.020(A)(5), and [...]

15. Section 19.27.140 shall be amended as follows:

**19.27.140. Seacoast ~~Commercial~~ Mixed-Use/Residential Overlay Zone.**

The area located between Ocean Boulevard on the west, Ocean Lane on the east, and between Imperial Beach Boulevard on the south and Palm Avenue on the north is designated as a ~~Commercial~~ the Seacoast Mixed-Use Residential Overlay ~~Zone~~ (MU-2). The purpose of ~~this overlay zone is to preserve opportunities for continuation of single-family residential uses in this area.~~ this transition zone is to allow for the gradual commercial expansion in an area which is currently used for residential purposes. this transition zone is to allow for the gradual commercial expansion in an area which is generally used for residential purposes while preserving opportunities for the continuation of single-family residential uses.

A. The following uses shall be permitted in the MU-2 Seacoast Mixed-Use/Residential Overlay Zone:

1. ~~R~~Single-family residential;
2. Short-term rentals as defined in Section 19.040.692 of this code; and
3. Any use listed in Chapter 19.27.020 as a permitted use in the C/MU-2 zone is a permitted use in the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone.

16. Section 19.48.035 shall be amended as follows:

**19.48.035. Required spaces for Mixed-Use Projects in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones.**

17. Section 19.48.050 shall be amended as follows:

**19.48.050. Required spaces — for Stand-Alone Commercial and other uses.**

18. On Page 2 of the proposed new DESIGN GUIDELINES, Section 5.0 Ground Floor Uses and Street Level Design shall be amended to add the following new guideline:

- 5.6 Public views towards the ocean from public vantages shall be protected and preserved through the use of setbacks and stepbacks.

Detailed design standards and criteria should be developed for the Seacoast area. The standards and criteria should provide specific direction as to the design quality and image desired by the community.

**PART IV. FINDINGS FOR REJECTION OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH LAND USE PLAN AMENDMENT, AS SUBMITTED, AND APPROVAL IF MODIFIED**

**A. AMENDMENT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed amendment would make a variety of changes in the permitted uses and development standards, including required parking and design guidelines, to the City's three commercial land use designations. The City's three existing commercial areas are the C-1 General Commercial district, the C-2 Seacoast Commercial district, and the C-3 Neighborhood Commercial District (see Exhibits #3 and #4). In each district, the amendment would allow more residential uses than currently allowed, and significantly reduce the amount of parking required for mixed use projects.

**1. C-1 General Commercial (4 stories)**

The General Commercial land use designation is applied to a several-block area on the north and south side of Palm Avenue/Highway 75, roughly from the freeway to where Palm Avenue curves into the City of Coronado. Although the C-1 district is not along the shoreline, it is the main entry way into the City and a major coastal access route. The existing LUP describes the use of the area as follows:

The General Commercial land use designation provides land to meet the local demand for commercial goods and services, as opposed to the goods and services required primarily by the tourist population. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be community and neighborhood serving retail and office uses such as markets, specialty stores, professional offices, personal service department stores, restaurants, liquor stores, hardware stores, etc. Residential uses may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,000 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.

The proposed amendment would allow multi-family residential uses throughout the designation, including on the ground level, and would redesignate the area as C/MU-1 General Commission and Mixed Use (4 stories). The existing Mixed Use 1 Overlay in the area, which was designed to encourage commercial uses on existing residential lots in the C-1 designation, would be removed, as both commercial and residential uses would be allowed throughout the district.

**2. C-2 Seacoast Commercial (3 stories, except for hotels where 4 stories may be permitted by specific plan)**

The Seacoast Commercial district is the City's tourist commercial, visitor-serving region. It includes the area along Seacoast Drive, which the main street paralleling the shoreline

from Palm Avenue to Imperial Beach Boulevard, as well as a small stretch of Palm Avenue east of Seacoast Drive. The area is currently designated in the LUP as follows:

**C-2 Seacoast Commercial (3 stories, except for hotels where 4 stories may be permitted by specific plan)**

The Seacoast Commercial land use designation provides for land to meet the demand for goods and services required primarily by the tourist population, as well as local residents who use the beach area. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be visitor-serving retail such as specialty stores, surf shops, restaurants, hotels and motels, etc. In order to promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-thru establishments, drive-thru services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners, and other similar auto related business establishments shall be prohibited in this zone. Residential uses may (included below) be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.

The Seacoast District is currently developed with a mix of commercial, multi-family residential, and mixed use developments. However, many of the lots immediately adjacent to the shoreline are developed with single-family residents. There is an existing overlay designation in the Seacoast District, the Mixed Use 2 Overlay, which is designed to promote and facilitate the expansion of visitor-serving commercial uses along the shoreline:

**MU-2 Mixed Use Overlay**

The Mixed Use Overlay land use designation provides for future expansion of uses allowed in the C-2 Land Use Designation in an orderly way without requiring the amendment of the General Plan. In this overlay designation, commercial activities would be allowed to expand into areas otherwise designated as Residential. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such commercial use.

The proposed amendment would redesignate the area C/MU-2 Seacoast Commercial and Mixed Use. It would allow residential uses on the ground floor throughout the district. It would allow multi-family residential uses to be located on the east side of Seacoast Drive, and on Palm Avenue, east of Seacoast Drive, to develop at a density of 1 unit per every 1,210 gross sq.ft. of lot area, rather than the existing 1 per 1,500 sq.ft of lot area.

The MU-2 Overlay would be converted to the “Seacoast Residential Overlay.” Rather than encourage the conversion of the single-family residential to commercial uses, as the existing overlay does, the proposed Residential Overlay would “preserve opportunities for single-family residences,” as well as allowing multi-family and commercial uses.

3. C-3 Neighborhood Commercial (2 stories)



The C-3 Neighborhood Commercial District is a several-block area at the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Imperial Beach Boulevard, several parcels at the northeast corner of Imperial Beach Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street, and several parcels on the northeast corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Iris Avenue. These lands are intended to provide for businesses which meet the local neighborhood demand for commercial goods and services, as opposed to the goods services required primarily by the tourist population or City-wide. The current maximum height is 2 stories or 28 feet, and residential uses are permitted only above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 2,000 sq.ft. feet of land.

This designation would be changed to C/MU-3 Neighborhood Commercial and Mixed Use (3 Stories), allowing heights up to 30 feet. With approval of a condition use permit that demonstrates compliance with various development incentives, three stories or 35 feet in height would be permitted. The proposed amendment would allow residential uses in the C/MU-3 area at a maximum density of 1 unit per every 1,500 gross sq.ft., (or up to 1 unit per every 1,210 gross sq.ft. of lot area if the development incentives are provided), and residential uses would not be limited to above the ground floor. In addition, since the area on the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Street has been developed with multi-family residential, the amendment includes redesignating this area to High Density Residential to match the existing use.

#### 4. Parking

The City's IP includes detailed parking standards; however, the following general parking standards are included in the LUP:

#### **Policy C-22h Detailed Parking Standards Shall Be Included In the Zoning Ordinance**

The Standards shall use the following guidelines:

Residential - 1.5 to 2.0 spaces per dwelling unit.

Hotel/Motel - 1 space per guest room.

Commercial - varies from 1 space per 50 sq. ft. to 1 space per 300 sq. ft. of building.

Bars and Restaurants - 1 space for each seventy-five square feet of net floor area, plus one per two employees at largest work shift.

The proposed amendment would add the following new standards for mixed use development:

#### **Policy C-22h Detailed Parking Standards Shall Be Included In the Zoning Ordinance**

Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, parking standards for the commercial/mixed-use zones shall use the following guidelines:

- Commercial – C/MU-1 and C/MU-3 zones: 1 space per 500 gross sq. ft. of commercial use.
- Commercial – C/MU-2 zone: 1 space per 1,000 gross sq. ft. of commercial use.
- Multiple-family residential – C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones: 1.5 spaces per dwelling unit.

- Hotel without cooking facilities – C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones: 1 space per guest room.
- Hotel with cooking facilities – C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones: 1.5 spaces per guest room.

In the commercial/mixed-use zones, parking reductions, shared parking, waivers, or other strategies may be employed in order to facilitate pedestrian oriented activity and mixed-use development, and shall be subject to Policies C-22b, C-22e, and C-22f, which describe various requirements for pedestrian-oriented design, shared parking, and off-site parking requirements (see Exhibit #6, “AECOM, Page 1-2).

## **B. CONFORMITY OF THE LAND USE PLAN WITH CHAPTER 3**

Relevant Coastal Act policies include the following:

### **Section 30210**

*In carrying out the requirement of Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution, maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse.*

### **Section 30211**

*Development shall not interfere with the public's right of access to the sea where acquired through use or legislative authorization, including, but not limited to, the use of dry sand and rocky coastal beaches to the first line of terrestrial vegetation.*

### **Section 30213**

*Lower cost visitor and recreational facilities shall be protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided. Developments providing public recreational opportunities are preferred...*

### **Section 30221**

*Oceanfront land suitable for recreational use shall be protected for recreational use and development unless present and foreseeable future demand for public or commercial recreational activities that could be accommodated on the property is already adequately provided for in the area.*

### **Section 30222**

*The use of private lands suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational facilities designed to enhance public opportunities for coastal recreation shall have priority over private residential, general industrial, or general commercial development, but not over agriculture or coastal-dependent industry.*

**Section 30250**

*(a) New residential, commercial, or industrial development, except as otherwise provided in this division, shall be located within, contiguous with, or in close proximity to, existing developed areas able to accommodate it or, where such areas are not able to accommodate it, in other areas with adequate public services and where it will not have significant adverse effects, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources. [...]*

**Section 30253**

*New development shall:*

*(1) Minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard.*

*(2) Assure stability and structural integrity, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area or in any way require the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms along bluffs and cliffs.*

*(3) Be consistent with requirements imposed by an air pollution control district or the State Air Resources Control Board as to each particular development.*

*(4) Minimize energy consumption and vehicle miles traveled.*

*(5) Where appropriate, protect special communities and neighborhoods which, because of their unique characteristics, are popular visitor destination points for recreational uses.*

**1. Findings For Denial**

As described, the proposed revisions to the plan would allow substantially more multi-family residential uses in the City's commercial districts. The City's small Neighborhood Commercial district (currently designated C-3) is more than a mile and half away from the shoreline, is very limited in size, and is intended to serve only local commercial needs. The proposed revisions to this land use designation would not impact coastal access or resources. However, as proposed, the revisions to the General Commercial and Seacoast Commercial would potentially impact high-priority visitor-serving commercial uses.

As certified in the LUP, the existing C-1 General Commercial district is also oriented mainly towards the needs of locals, not visitors. However, although the area is not specifically designed with tourists in mind, it contains the City's primary access road to the coast (Palm Avenue), and commercial uses in this area serve people travelling from the freeway to the shoreline. In addition, there is an existing recreational vehicle park/campground in the C-1 area on the north side of Palm Avenue/SR-125, at the corner of SR-125 and Rainbow Drive, that provides lower cost visitor-serving overnight accommodations, which is one of the highest priority uses identified in the Coastal Act. The RV site is immediately adjacent to San Diego Bay, and is within easy biking distance of the Bayshore Bikeway and the shoreline. The western end of Palm Avenue, where the RV park is located, is also the main entryway to the city and the city's beaches from the Silver Strand and Coronado.

However, as proposed, the LUP would allow the entire C-1 District, including the existing RV site, to be redeveloped solely with multi-family uses. (The City's proposed IP amendment includes a requirement that lots fronting Palm Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Florida Street would be required to be at least 60% active commercial uses. However, this requirement is not proposed to be included in the Land Use Plan and thus, would not be the standard of review should the City want to reduce or remove it in the future). The City is currently reviewing a development proposal to remove the RV park and replace it entirely with condominiums. The proposed redesignation from Commercial to Mixed Use is likely to significantly reduce the overall amount of commercial facilities along Palm Avenue, and would potentially allow for the elimination of the City's only existing lower-cost overnight accommodations facility, inconsistent with the priority use policies of the Coastal Act.

The existing C-2 Seacoast Commercial District parallels the beach, and constitutes the Imperial Beach's visitor-serving area. However, unlike most coastal cities, the City's tourist-commercial land area is not specifically reserved for tourist-commercial uses only, but is more of a mixed use area, with commercial uses required on the ground floor (including uses that are not strictly visitor-serving, such as professional offices, financial institutions, real estate offices, and child day care centers), and residential uses permitted on the upper floors. Furthermore, as noted above, many of the oceanfront lots in the Seacoast District are currently single-family residences. The existing Mixed Use Overlay in the Seacoast District acknowledges the presence of these low-priority single-family residential uses, but encourages their conversion into high-priority commercial uses. Thus, a wide range of uses are currently permitted in the Seacoast District.

As with the proposed changes to the C-1 District, the proposed amendment would further de-emphasize tourist-commercial uses in the Seacoast District by allowing the entire C-2 area to be built out with multi-family residential uses. (As with the C-1 District, the proposed IP amendment includes a requirement that lots fronting Seacoast Drive be a minimum of 60% active commercial uses, but this limitation is not included in the LUP). Allowing all residential uses in the City's only tourist-commercial oriented area is not consistent with the priority use provisions of the Coastal Act. In addition, the proposed replacement of the existing Mixed Use Overlay in the Seacoast District with a "Seacoast

Residential Overlay” would reverse the intent of the existing overlay—to encourage new tourist commercial uses—to encouraging continuation of the single-family residential uses. This approach is not consistent with the Section 30221 requirement that private lands suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational facilities designed to enhance public opportunities for coastal recreation have priority over private residential development.

Thus, the subject amendment significantly deprioritizes all kinds of commercial uses in all areas of the City, in favor of residential uses. The City’s intent with the subject amendment is to encourage development and redevelopment in more focused areas which may be able support higher occupancies in the commercial leaseholds, use as opposed to broader mixed use districts. In addition, if there were an increase of mixed use development, that could potentially reduce the reliance on automobiles and reduce traffic.

However, the City’s commercial zones already permit mixed commercial and residential development; despite the proposed “Commercial Mixed-Used” label, the proposed LUPA would give residential uses equal emphasis with commercial. The Commission recognizes the City’s interest in stimulating development in underutilized areas and avoiding high vacancy rates in commercially zoned areas. However, it is important that a minimal amount of land area for commercial uses be preserved along major coastal access corridors and in shoreline areas in order to ensure visitor-serving commercial facilities for tourists are available, such that beach communities do not become entirely bedroom communities accessible only to residents. In addition, if the City is going to allow more residential uses at the expense of commercial uses, the City’s few highest priority commercial uses—lower-cost commercial facilities including the City’s RV parks—should be protected and preserved.

The City’s IP includes detailed parking standards; however, general parking standards are included in the LUP. Thus, the detailed discussion of parking impacts are included in the findings for the IP amendment, which are incorporated herein. However, the proposed LUP changes in parking requirements for Mixed Use developments are generally consistent with the public access policies. However, since the parking requirements will be reduced, and given the overall amendment’s shift towards pedestrian orientation, increased heights and density, the LUP should include some specific trip demand reduction strategies. However, as proposed, no specific strategies are included, only a general commitment to “transportation demand management strategies.”

As proposed, the amendment does not include any protections for the City’s existing high-priority uses, does not require a minimum amount of commercial uses in the C-1 or C-2 districts, and prioritizes the protection of single-family residences on the shoreline. Therefore, as submitted, the amendment cannot be found consistent with the public access, recreation, and priority use policies of the Coastal Act.

## **2. Findings For Approval if Modified**

Since the amendment would allow a significant increase in low-priority residential uses into the City's commercial zones, suggested modifications have been added to provide specific protection for high-priority visitor serving uses; in particular, the City's existing RV park. Suggested Modification #3 adds language to the definition of the new General Commercial and Mixed-Use land use to protect and encourage existing high-priority uses such as the RV park. Suggested Modification #7 adds a requirement that public recreation and lower-cost commercial recreational development, including RV parks, campgrounds, hostels, and hotels, not be removed, unless replaced with a facility comparable in function, location, and cost to the public. This requirement is comparable with requirements that have been included in LCPs in other areas of San Diego County, including Solana Beach and Chula Vista.

To ensure that a minimum amount of lower-cost and visitor-serving commercial uses are preserved along the City's main coastal access route, Suggested Modification #3 and #6 requires that all buildings with frontage on the north and south sides of Palm Avenue/SR 75 between the border with the City of San Diego and Rainbow Drive including those with multiple-family dwelling units, include "active commercial uses" at a minimum of sixty percent of each building's ground floor square footage, as well as direct pedestrian access from the Palm Avenue sidewalk or a plaza. ("Active Commercial Uses" is a new definition proposed in the IP, and described below in the findings for the Implementation Plan). This is essentially the same requirement that the City is proposing to include in the proposed IP, with several important modifications. First, the suggested modifications requires that the area along Palm Avenue that is subject to the 60% active commercial uses standard includes the entire length of Palm Avenue from the City's border with the City of San Diego to the east, roughly to the location of the RV park (see Exhibit #7). The City's (IP) proposal for ground level commercial covers only approximately 5 city blocks in the middle of Palm Avenue, and excludes the portions of Palm Avenue on the eastern border of the city and the portion of the Palm Avenue on the Coronado side of the city. As noted, the western terminus of Palm Avenue is the main entry way to the City from the Silver Strand. Visitors to the Imperial Beach's shoreline from Coronado would mostly likely never travel inland on Palm Avenue to the area where the City is proposing retain some commercial development. This area currently consists largely of commercial development now, including the RV park on the north side of Palm Avenue, and various commercial retail uses on the south side. There is also an existing mobile home park on the south side of Palm Avenue. Thus, the proposed suggested modification would prioritize commercial uses in the areas most likely to generate the demand for tourist-commercial uses, and would be generally consistent with the existing uses along Palm Avenue.

Second, as proposed in the IP, the requirement for 60% active commercial uses could be removed or modified with approval of a conditional use permit. However, if this requirement could simply be removed without any conditions, or standards, or offsets, it would remove the emphasis on commercial uses on Palm Avenue altogether. Thus, this exception provision is not included in the suggested modification (and is deleted in the IP by Suggested Modification #10 and #12).

Suggested Modifications #3 and #6 also clarify that the requirement for “60% active commercial uses” on the Palm Avenue street frontage means that the remaining 40% of the lot frontage would generally be commercial, but not necessarily “active” uses; that is, it could be parking, or back of the house space, or stairwells associated with upper story residential uses. The intent of this requirement is not to suggest or allow the other 40% of the lot to be used for parking associated with residential uses. The City has indicated this clarification is consistent with their intent in adopting the provision. All of these revisions have been made to the corresponding IP policies (see Suggested Modifications #10 and #12).

Suggested Modifications #4 and #5 revise the City’s proposed Seacoast Residential Overlay to largely retain the same language and emphasis on visitor-serving commercial uses as in the existing certified LUP. The suggested modifications do not require that any existing single-family uses convert to commercial, or prohibit the future development of single-family residences in the overlay. As modified, the overlay zone allows for the development of oceanfront land suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational uses, with such uses, consistent with the visitor-serving commercial protection policies of the Coastal Act. These revisions have been made to the corresponding IP policies (see Suggested Modifications #11 and #15).

Suggested Modification #2 adds new policies supporting balanced development between commercial, residential, and recreational uses to support alternative forms of transit and walkability. Suggested Modification #2 also requires shared public/private parking where feasible to support beach users.

Suggested Modification #4 clarifies the location where the proposed increase in density would apply. Suggested Modification #1 adds a clarification in the introduction section of the LUP to include in the overall LUP goals the proposed allowance for an increase in density with the development incentives.

In summary, the proposed amendment will result in a reduction in commercial uses and development throughout the city. However, the intent is to concentrate and hopefully support more successful commercial enterprises in core areas. As modified, high-priority visitor-serving uses will not be adversely affected, as the areas most likely to serve tourists—Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive street frontages—will provide 60% active commercial uses on the ground floor. The City’s existing RV park will be protected and affordable overnight accommodations must be maintained. Additional trip demand reduction policies in the LUP will ensure that access to the coast continues to be supported. Therefore, the proposed amendment, if modified as suggested, can be found consistent with the certified LUP.

**PART V. FINDINGS FOR REJECTION OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH  
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AMENDMENT, AS SUBMITTED, AND  
APPROVAL IF MODIFIED**

**A. AMENDMENT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed changes to the implementation plan/zoning code would add new definitions, revise the permitted uses in the City’s commercial zones, increase height limits in the Seacoast zone, and significantly reduce the parking requirements for all mixed use projects.

**1. Definitions**

The City is proposing to add definitions of many use types that are not currently defined in the code, as well as making minor adjustment to existing definitions, from Religious Assemblies, to Health Clubs to Mixed Use Development. The amendment includes a new definition of “Active Commercial Uses,” which, as noted previously, would be required on a percentage of the ground floor of developments fronting a portion of Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive. Active Commercial Uses would be defined as follows:

“Active commercial uses” mean commercial uses that are oriented along the street wall facing the main street at ground level. Active commercial uses should be accessible to the general public, generate walk-in pedestrian clientele, and contribute to a high level of pedestrian activity. Property entrances will be oriented to the street, which will facilitate sidewalk traffic and active streets. Uses that generate pedestrian activity include retail shops, grocery stores, restaurants, bars, theaters and the performing arts, personal convenience services, hotels, banks, travel agencies, child care services, libraries, museums and galleries, and commercial recreation and entertainment.

**2. Permitted Uses**

The amendment would add a new table to the code identifying uses in the three commercial/mixed use districts that are expressly permitted, uses that require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), uses that are permitted with specific location requirements, and unpermitted uses. Most of the uses listed in the proposed table are unchanged from the existing certified plan, but as previously described, most of the restrictions on multi-family uses on the ground floor would be eliminated.

The City has identified an error in the proposed amendment that identifies liquor stores as permitted outright rather than only with a CUP in the proposed C/MU-1 (General Commercial/Mixed Use) and C/MU-2 (Seacoast Commercial/Mixed Use) zones. Liquor stores are currently only permitted with a CUP in these zones. Suggested Modification #9 corrects the permitted use table to require a CUP for liquor stores.



### 3. Commercial Zone Revisions

Consistent with the LUP Amendment, the IP amendment would revise the existing General Commercial, Seacoast Commercial, and Neighborhood Commercial zones to allow multi-family uses on the ground floor in each district, with the following exceptions.

The C-1 Zone would be rezoned as the “C/MU-1 General Commercial and Mixed-Use Zone.” As described under the Land Use Plan findings, in addition to commercial uses, the amendment would allow multi-family residential through most of the area, on both upper and ground level development. However, for buildings with frontage along Palm Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Florida Street, the following requirements would apply:

“Active commercial uses” are required to be provided at “a minimum of 60% of each building’s ground floor square footage, have direct pedestrian access from the Palm Avenue sidewalk or a plaza, and have a minimum building depth of twenty-five feet. Exceptions would require approval of a conditional use permit.”

The C-2 zone would be rezoned as the “C/MU-2 Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use Zone.” Consistent with the proposed changes to the LUP, the proposed zoning would allow multi-family residential development throughout the district, except that for all buildings with frontage along Seacoast Drive, the same requirement as along Palm Avenue for 60% active commercial uses and pedestrian access from Seacoast Drive, would apply.

The proposed amendment would also allow an increase in the residential density and heights in the Seacoast district. Currently, residential dwelling units are permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 sq.ft. of lot area. The amendment would allow a maximum density of one dwelling unit for each 1,210 sq.ft. of lot area, with approval of a CUP that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the following development incentives:

- a. Project sites that are consolidated to a final size greater than twenty thousand square feet;
- b. Entire project achieves Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System certification, a comparable green building certification, or can demonstrate the ability to achieve certification;
- c. Entire project provides a minimum of seventy-five percent “active commercial uses” on the ground floor;
- d. At least twenty-five percent of proposed residential units must be three-bedroom units;
- e. Provide an additional one hundred square feet of public open space or plaza space with minimum dimensions of six feet by ten feet;

- f. Dedicate a minimum of one foot of private property frontage to public use (creates a one foot front setback dedicated to public use);
- g. Floors above first floor provide additional stepback of five feet beyond required stepback.

In addition, the maximum height limit in the Seacoast district would increase. The certified IP limits building heights in the Seacoast district to three stories or thirty feet in height, whichever is less, with an exception for hotels, which can be up to 40 feet with approval of a Specific Plan. As proposed, properties located on the east side of Seacoast Drive would have a height limit of three stories or 35 feet, with approval of a CUP that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the above development incentives.

The C-3 zone would be rezoned as the C/MU-3 Neighborhood Commercial and Mixed Use zone. Permitted uses would be expanded to allow multi-family residential uses throughout the district, except that for all buildings with frontage along Imperial Beach Boulevard and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, the 60% active commercial uses and direct pedestrian access requirement would apply. The same multi-family density increase as in the Seacoast district (from 1 dwelling unit per 1,500 sq.ft. of lot area to 1 dwelling unit per 1,210 with two development incentives) would also apply.

The maximum height limit in the Neighborhood zone would also increase, from two stories and 28 feet, to three stories and 30 feet in height, whichever is less. Three stories and 35 feet height would be permitted if two of the same above-listed development incentives are included in the project.

#### 4. Parking

The proposed amendment involves significant reductions in the amount of off-street parking required for new or expanded development in the three newly designated Commercial/Mixed Use zones. The existing standards for stand-alone residential uses and most individual commercial uses would remain the same. However, several significant changes are proposed to individual commercial uses, including revising the standards for retail stores (currently one space for each 250 sq.ft. of floor area plus one space per two employees) and office uses (currently one space for 300 sq.ft. of floor area plus one space per two employees), both of which would be revised to require only one space for each 500 sq.ft. of floor area.

The following new standards would apply for mixed use (commercial/residential) and hotel development:

#### **19.48.035. Required spaces in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C-MU-3 zones.**

For new development or expansion of existing structures designed to accommodate a variety of shops, stores, offices, restaurants, personal convenience services, and athletic and health clubs in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones, off-street parking shall be provided in accordance with the standard listed

in the following table. During site plan review, the City would determine whether the standard for required parking could be reduced based on the types of proposed land uses and existing land use, and the availability of parking (both private and public parking) in the project area. Shared parking shall be permitted and shall only be approved when technical evidence is presented to justify the shared use. The Urban Land Institute guidebook Shared Parking Second Edition (2005) shall be used as a guideline and supplemented by additional findings, where appropriate.

<b>Zone/Land Use</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>25% Reduction for Vertical Mixed-use</b>	<b>Eligible for Waiver for Commercial Uses Less Than 1,000 SF</b>	<b>Eligible for Additional Parking Reduction for Shared Parking</b>
C/MU-1 and C/MU-3	1 space per 500 gross SF of commercial	X	X	X
C/MU-2	1 space per 1,000 gross SF of commercial	X	X	X
Multiple-family Residential	1.5 spaces per dwelling unit	X		X
Hotel without Cooking Facilities	1 space per guest room	X		
Hotel with Cooking Facilities	1.5 spaces per guest room	X		

To clarify what types of developments the proposed new parking standards apply to, the City has requested that the title for the above “**Section 19.48.035 Required spaces in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones**” be revised to indicate these requirements apply to mixed-use projects, and the title for “**Section 19.48.050 Required spaces – Commercial and other uses**” be revised to indicate this section applies to stand-alone projects. Suggested Modifications #16 and #17 make these revisions.

#### 5. Design Standards

The proposed amendment also includes new commercial/mixed use zones design guidelines. These include preserving and creating view corridors to the oceanfront, pedestrian orientation, building articulation, landscaping, and providing active uses on ground floors. These guidelines will be added in a separate section of the IP titled “Proposed Commercial/Mixed-Use Zones Design Guidelines.”

#### **B. CONFORMANCE WITH THE CERTIFIED LAND USE PLAN**

The standard of review for LCP implementation submittals or amendments is their consistency with and ability to carry out the provisions of the certified LUP.

The certified LUP has a number of goals and policies relevant to the proposed amendment.

### **C-22 Parking**

Parking for both residents and visitors shall be provided as part of new development.  
[...]

## **GOAL 2 NATURAL RESOURCES – KEY FOUNDATION OF THE CITY**

**The ocean, beach, bay, estuary, weather and related ecosystems set much of the image of Imperial Beach. Conservation and protection of these resources shall be a key focus of the General Plan. The unique physiographic characteristics of Imperial Beach are recognized as the foundation for all other aspects of the community. These characteristics enhance the quality of life of residents and visitors and shall not be wasted, destroyed, or neglected. They are generally nonrenewable and provide many of the scenic, historic, economic, recreation, open space and ecological values for the community.**

### **CO-1 The Beach**

Imperial Beach has few industries and must, therefore, rely on the attraction of tourists for economic development. The beach area is most critical and the City should:

1. Designate the beach as open space.
2. Retain public ownership of the beaches.
3. Insure continued public access to beaches and, where possible, provide additional access, as well as increased public parking opportunities in the beach area (see Parks, Recreation and Access Element).
4. Require landscaping of properties near the beach area to attain a pleasant visual image.
5. Assure continued replenishment of sand.

## **GOAL 4 VISUAL QUALITY IS IMPORTANT**

**The visual quality of the City's environment shall be preserved and enhanced for the aesthetic enjoyment of both residents and visitors and the economic well-being of the community. Development of neighborhoods, streets and individual properties should be pleasing to the eye, rich in variety, and harmonious with existing development. The feeling of being near the ocean and bay should be emphasized even when the water is not visible. Designs reflective of a traditional California seaside community should be encouraged.**

#### **D-8 Project Design**

- a. The design of development projects should respect, work with and enhance the natural features of the land.
    - Natural scenic amenities such as mature trees; watercourses and views should be integrated into the project design
    - Structures should be oriented and constructed so they may take advantage of the beneficial features of the climate and be protected from the negative ones in order to reduce energy consumption and increase the enjoyment of the residents.
  - b. Projects should be designed so there is a harmonious relationship with adjoining uses.
    - The pattern of existing neighborhoods should be respected. A development should be integrated with the adjacent neighborhood if the project size or natural boundaries dictate, or the design should create one or more separate and strong neighborhood identities.
    - Structures should relate to neighborhood structures both within and adjacent to the development and not create a harsh contrast of scale, style or color.
- [...]

#### **L-6 Tourist Commercial Uses**

Imperial Beach should provide, enhance and expand tourist commercial uses to the extent that they can be compatible with the small beach oriented town character of the City.

#### **L-9 Lower Cost Visitor and Recreational Facilities**

Lower cost visitor and recreational facilities shall be protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided. Developments providing public recreational opportunities are preferred.

### **P-1 Opportunities For All Ages, Incomes, and Life Styles**

To fully utilize the natural advantages of Imperial Beach's location and climate, a variety of park and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors shall be provided for all ages, incomes and life styles.

This means that:

- a. The beach shall be free to the public.
- b. Recreational needs of children, teens, adults, persons with disabilities, elderly, visitors and others shall be accommodated to the extent resources and feasibility permit.

[...]

### **P-2 Ocean and Beach Are The Principal Resources**

The ocean, beach and their environment are, and should continue to be, the principal recreation and visitor-serving feature in Imperial Beach. Oceanfront land shall be used for recreational and recreation-related uses whenever feasible.

### **P-7 Increase Tourist Related Commercial Land Uses**

The City and its business community should take direct action to increase the amount of tourist-oriented businesses both along the beachfront, South San Diego Bayfront and inland areas.

## **GOAL 14 SHORELINE ACCESS**

**To provide physical and visual access in the City's five coastal resource areas for all segments of the population without creating a public safety concern, overburdening the City's public improvements, or causing substantial adverse impacts to adjacent private property owners.**

### **1. Findings For Denial**

As described, the proposed amendment would allow multi-family residential uses to be located throughout all of the City's commercial zones, with the exception of the ground level street frontages on a portion of Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive, where 60% active commercial uses must be provided on the ground floor. However, as proposed, this requirement could be removed with approval of a conditional use permit, and thus, no commercial uses at all would necessarily be required. In addition, as proposed, only a very limited stretch of Palm Avenue is covered by the requirement for 60% active commercial uses.

As discussed in the findings for the LUP, which are incorporated herein, it is important that a minimum level of commercial development is provided both on the Palm Avenue, which is the major coastal access route into the City, and particularly in the Seacoast District, to ensure that lower cost visitor and recreational facilities are protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided. The LUP encourages the City and its business community "to take direct action to increase the amount of tourist-oriented businesses both along the beachfront, South San Diego Bayfront and inland areas."

Furthermore, the requirement for 60% active uses on the ground floor is somewhat ambiguous; as proposed, it could be interpreted as allowing 60% site to be developed with commercial uses, with the remaining street frontage occupied by residential parking, which would not promote a visitor-serving or pedestrian oriented environment.

The proposed definition of the "Active Commercial Uses" which must be provided is also written in such a way that the requirements could be considered optional, rather than mandatory. Specifically, the definition states that active commercial uses "should" (not shall) be accessible to the general public, generate walk-in pedestrian clientele, and contribute to a high level of pedestrian activity. Thus, as proposed, the active commercial use requirement might not actually result in any tourist or pedestrian-oriented development.

The proposed redefinition of how height is measured is unclear, as it does not specify whether height should be measured from existing grade, or after grading or fill occurs. Thus, as proposed, the definition could result in significantly greater heights than under the current LCP, which could adversely impact the visual quality of the City's environment, inconsistent with the visual protection policies of the LCP.

The proposed new definition of "Open Space, Public" could also be misleading, as "public open space" is typically used to describe publically owned lands available for access or recreation, while the City's proposed definition refers to outdoor recreation area available for the use of residents and users of a private building or business.

Several of the City's proposed use regulation changes, as submitted, could adversely impact tourist-oriented businesses and lower cost visitor and recreational facilities. Specifically, the amendment would prohibit hostels and campsites in C-1 zone, which, as tourist-oriented businesses and lower cost visitor accommodations, the policies of the certified LCP specifically encourage along the beachfront, South San Diego Bayfront and inland areas. The City has suggested that campsites are not an appropriate use in a

commercial zone, and that campsites are not pedestrian oriented. However, as previously described, there is an existing RV Park in the C-1 zone, on a site adjacent to San Diego Bay and near the Bayshore Bikeway. This use currently offers overnight RV camping, and is within easy biking distance of the Bayshore Bikeway and the shoreline, thus providing a low-cost commercial recreation use that is both very appropriate for the site, and compatible with alternative forms of recreational transportation.

As discussed in detail in the LUP findings, the proposed changes in the existing Seacoast District overlay zone would shift the emphasis on shoreline development from commercial to residential, inconsistent with the LUP policies promoting visitor-serving uses along the shoreline.

The LCP policies call for providing visual access to the coast, preserving and enhancing the aesthetic quality of the city, and preserving the feeling of being near the ocean and bay should be emphasized even when the water is not visible. In the Seacoast District, the proposed amendment would allow an increase in height for properties east of Seacoast Drive from 3 stories or 30 feet, to 3 stories and 35 feet, when certain development incentives are met. The amendment also allows an increase in density on the inland side of Seacoast Drive and a portion of Palm Avenue. Most of the public shoreline and ocean views in the city are from the east/west streets inland of Seacoast Drive. Thus, as proposed, the increase in height and density could potentially impact public views of the water and shoreline area from these streets, inconsistent with the visual resource protection policies of the LCP.

Therefore, as proposed, the amendment would have adverse impacts on the provision of tourist-commercial related uses and visual quality, inconsistent with the certified LCP. Therefore, the amendment must be denied as submitted.

## **2. Findings For Approval if Modified**

As discussed in detail in the findings for the LUP, Suggested Modifications have been added that would ensure that while as proposed, most of the C-1 District could be developed entirely with multi-family residential uses, a minimum amount of lower-cost and visitor-serving commercial uses will be preserved along the ground level of development along Palm Avenue, the City's main coastal access route, and on Seacoast Drive, the first coastal roadway and the spine of the near-shore area (see Suggested Modifications #10, and #15). Suggested Modifications #10 and #12 removes the option to delete the requirement 60% active commercial uses on the ground floor frontage on Palm Avenue through approval of a conditional use permit, and the definition of Active Commercial Uses has been modified to make the requirement mandatory, not optional (see Suggested Modification #8). Thus, as modified, active commercial uses will be required along the City's main coastal access corridors, Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive.

In addition, at the City's request, Suggested Modification #8 makes a minor revision to the definition of Active Commercial Uses to state that these uses shall be "accessible to



the general public, generate walk-in pedestrian clientele, or [not and] contribute to a high level of pedestrian activity,” to clarify that while any particular development may not be able to meet all of these criteria, each project must provide at least one, in order to achieve the goal of creating an active, pedestrian oriented streetscape.

As described in the LUP findings, Suggested Modifications #11 and #15 revise the City’s proposed Seacoast Residential Overlay to largely retain the same language and emphasis on visitor-serving commercial uses as in the existing certified LUP. The suggested modifications do not require that any existing single-family uses to convert to commercial, or prohibit the future development of single-family residences in the overlay. As modified, the overlay zone allows for the development of oceanfront land suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational uses, with such uses, consistent with the visitor-serving commercial protection policies of the Coastal Act.

Suggested Modification #8 clarifies that the measurement of height begins from existing, not finished grade. Suggested Modifications #8 and #5 also replace the City’s proposed new term “Open Space, Public” with “Open Space, Common” to more accurately reflect the private use being defined.

Suggested Modification #9 revises the list of uses allowed in commercial districts to allow hostels and campgrounds in the C-1 zone, with approval of a CUP. Thus, high priority uses will be permitted, as deemed appropriate and compatible with the surrounding uses through the conditional use permit process.

As the amendment would allow an increase in height for properties east of Seacoast Drive from 3 stories or 30 feet, to 3 stories and 35 feet, Suggested Modification #18 adds language requiring that public views towards the ocean be protected through the use of setbacks and stepbacks. Thus, as modified, the increase in density and height associated with the amendment will not adversely impact public views or the visual quality of the area.

As described, the proposed amendment significantly reduces the amount of parking required for new mixed use development throughout the city. The intent of the reductions is to rely on shared parking opportunities associated with mixed use development, and to also shift away from a reliance on automobile traffic in favor of pedestrian, bicycle, and other forms of alternative transit. However, when private development does not provide adequate on-site parking, users of that development who arrive by automobile are forced to occupy public parking that would otherwise be used by visitors to the beach. Thus, the Commission typically requires all private development to provide adequate on-site parking or alternative public transportation to minimize adverse impacts on public access. In addition, the City’s LUP specifically requires that parking for both residents and visitors be provided as part of new development.

Development in the City of Imperial Beach is well positioned to take advantage of alternative forms of public transportation. Just outside of the City’s borders to the east, the San Diego Trolley line has stations at Palm Avenue on the north side of the Imperial

Beach, and Iris Avenue on the southern side. The City's main accessways—Palm Avenue, Seacoast Drive, and Imperial Beach Blvd—are well served by bus lines. According to information from SANDAG submitted by the City, ridership on the Imperial Beach bus lines is among the highest in the region. In addition, in recent years the City has been improving bicycle routes through and around the city. For example, in July 2009, the approved minor LCP Amendment #1-09 allowing for improvements to the City's existing Ecoroute Bikeway, loop through the City west along Palm Avenue, down the entire length of Seacoast Drive, east along the City's southern border next to the TJ Estuary, and north along Connecticut/7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the Bay.

In the City of Imperial Beach, the Seacoast District is the area where inadequate parking would be most likely to adversely impact beach goers. There is currently free street end parking available at most of the street ends in the Seacoast District, and several large paid parking lots operated by the Port District. Although no formal parking studies have been conducted, City staff have indicated that these spaces are typically underutilized the majority of the time.

A "Parking Strategy Memo" prepared for the City in December 2008 by Fehr & Peers reviewed various parking issues in Imperial Beach, focusing on implementing a shared parking strategy. The study did not specifically assess the City's supply of or demand for public beach parking, but made general recommendations regarding parking requirements for commercial/residential mixed-use development. The study recommends the adoption of 1 parking space per 1,000 sq.ft. of commercial development (as part of a mixed use project) requirement in the Seacoast Drive area, and 1 parking space per 500 sq.ft. of commercial development (as part of a mixed use project) in the Palm Avenue area. These are the parking ratios proposed in the subject amendment. The study also concludes, based on a brief parking study, that on Seacoast Drive, there is a general availability of on-street parking and off-street parking at the several mixed use developments surveyed. In addition, the study notes that "there are few physical impediments to walking in Imperial Beach, with generally pleasant weather and few topographical limitations, especially along Seacoast Drive." Although the parking study is specifically suggesting that off-site parking for commercial development is feasible in these circumstances, the fact that the city streets are flat and laid out in a grid, results in a fair amount of easy to access, unrestricted street parking in the residential area surrounding Seacoast Drive, which provides a reservoir of parking for beach visitors, as well.

The policies of the certified LCP are generally supportive of smart growth development, which can include concentrated density, mixed use development, and, where appropriate, implementing shared parking. The LUP policies also require that public access to the shoreline be provided and maintained. The intent of the proposed revisions to the parking standards are intended to spur development of pedestrian-oriented, mixed use projects that will require fewer overall parking lots, fewer vehicle miles traveled and shift circulation patterns away from individual vehicles towards the use of alternative means of transit. Given the City's existing transit infrastructure, the current availability of public parking in the nearshore area, the proposed reduction in parking standards is not expected to adversely impact beach parking. However, as suggested in the parking study, the City

should continue to monitor the parking supply and demand along Seacoast Drive, ideally through regular counts, particularly during the peak summer months. Should counts indicate public parking is becoming impacted, private off-street parking requirements may need to be adjusted, or additional public spaces secured.

With the suggested modifications, the proposed LCP amendment is consistent with the public recreation, access, and shoreline protection policies of the certified LUP. The proposed amendment, if modified as suggested, conforms to the certified land use plan, as amended, and the proposed ordinance can be found in conformance with and adequate to implement the certified LUP.

## **PART VII. CONSISTENCY WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

Section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exempts local government from the requirement of preparing an environmental impact report (EIR) in connection with its local coastal program. The Commission's LCP review and approval program has been found by the Resources Agency to be functionally equivalent to the EIR process. Thus, under CEQA Section 21080.5, the Commission is relieved of the responsibility to prepare an EIR for each LCP.

Nevertheless, the Commission is required in an LCP submittal or, as in this case, an LCP amendment submittal, to find that the LCP, or LCP, as amended, does conform with CEQA provisions. In the case of the subject LCP amendment, the Commission finds that approval of the subject LCP amendment, if modified as suggested, would not result in significant environmental impacts under the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act.

As described above, for the most part, the proposed amendments to the City of Imperial Beach's Land Use Plan and Implementation Plan are consistent with the environmental protection policies of the Coastal Act. Suggested modifications have been added that ensure no impacts to public recreational, access, or visual resources will result from the proposed revisions. If modified as suggested, no impacts to coastal resources will result from the amendment.

Any specific impacts associated with individual development projects would be assessed through the environmental review process, and, an individual project's compliance with CEQA would be assured. Therefore, the Commission finds that no significant unmitigatable environmental impacts under the meaning of CEQA will result from the approval of the proposed LCP amendment as modified.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-7236**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING GENERAL PLAN/ LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM AMENDMENT (GPA/ LCPA) 100057, AND FINAL PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SCH# 2011041048) AND CERTIFYING THAT PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT (ORDINANCE NO. 2012-1130) IS CONSISTENT WITH THE COASTAL ACT FOR THE COMMERCIAL ZONING AMENDMENT PROJECT. MF 935**

**APPLICANT: CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH**

**WHEREAS**, on August 1, 2012 and on August 15, 2012, the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach held a duly advertised public hearing to consider the merits of approving or denying an application for General Plan/ Local Coastal Program/ Zoning Code (GPA/ LCPA/ ZCA 100057) Amendment, and

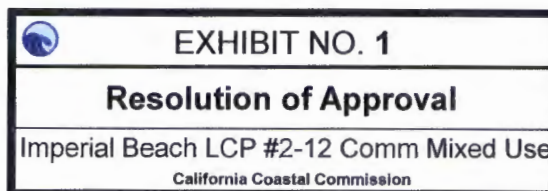
**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the proposed GPA/LCPA that would amend Figure L-1 (Land Use Map) of the Imperial Beach General Plan/LCP for properties designated C-1 (General Commercial) in the Palm Avenue study area, C-2 (Seacoast Commercial) in the Old Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive study areas, and C-3 (Neighborhood Commercial) in the 13th Street Corridor study areas; and areas zoned R-1500 (High Density Residential) that are subject to the MU-1 (Mixed Use-1) overlay designation in the Palm Avenue study area and the MU-2 (Mixed Use-2) overlay designation in the Seacoast Drive study area, pursuant to Government Code Section 65300.5, is internally consistent with other policies of the general plan/ local coastal program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the proposed Ordinance No. 2012-1130 to effect the proposed changes would be consistent with General Plan Policies L-4f and L-6 that encourage visitor-serving and tourist-oriented commercial uses and would, therefore, be externally consistent pursuant to Government Code Section 65860; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the amendment is in substantial compliance with Policy D-8 of the Design Element of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan, which promotes project design harmonious with adjoining uses as the proposed setbacks and stepbacks provides a buffer from residential uses and the proposed active commercial use areas creates a more pedestrian-oriented environment and exemplifies many of the principles of form-based codes; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach hereby finds and certifies that the proposed Commercial Zoning Amendment is consistent with the California Coastal Act, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 30510(a) and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations section 13551; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach finds that Public notice was given of the availability of documents and request for comments pertaining to this item that began a six-week/45-day public review period (from **April 19, 2012** to **June 4, 2012**) for the item prior to any final action being taken by the City Council on this amendment request, pursuant to California Code of Regulations Code §13515 (14 CCR 13515) and California Government Code §65352; and





**WHEREAS**, in compliance with Section 15063 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) has been prepared for this project and routed for public review from April 19 to June 4, 2012, and submitted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH # 2011041048) in accordance with the requirements of the (CEQA) for agency review, and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has considered and heard any and all public testimony regarding the potential environmental impacts associated with this project, and hereby determines that:

- 1) the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (SCH # 2011041048)) reflects the decision-making body's independent judgment and analysis;
- 2) the decision-making body has, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b), considered the information contained in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Reports (SCH # 2011041048) and the written comments received during the public review period;
- 3) The PEIR found significant and unavoidable environmental impacts to the issue areas of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), hydrology and water quality, and transportation and traffic.
- 4) Pursuant to Section 21081 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 15091 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City found that mitigation for the project's greenhouse gas emissions; hydrology and water quality; and transportation and traffic impacts would not fully reduce those impacts to below a level of significance. Other potential measures were found to have specific economic, legal, technological, and social considerations that otherwise render full mitigation infeasible.
- 5) Pursuant to Section 15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines a Statement of Overriding Considerations is hereby adopted, by the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach, as certain significant effects of implementing the project are unavoidable even after incorporation of any feasible mitigation measures.
- 6) The City finds that the remaining unavoidable significant effects are acceptable due to specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits which will result from approval and implementation of the project, as listed below. All of these benefits are based on the facts set forth in the Findings Regarding Significant Effects as contained in Exhibit "A" to this resolution, the Final PEIR, and the record of proceedings for this project.
- 7) The City finds that the proposed Imperial Beach General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project would have the following substantial Overriding Benefits as further contained in Exhibit "B" to this resolution:
  - a. Increased City Revenue for Needed Municipal Services and Facilities. Implementation of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project will help to stimulate new commercial activity in Imperial Beach, which will in turn generate increased local sales tax revenue for the City.

Increasing sales tax revenue is essential for funding existing and future municipal services as well as maintenance and improvements of public facilities that are owned and operated by the City.

- b. Employment Opportunities. Implementation of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project will generate new construction employment opportunities over the multi-year build-out. Implementation will also stimulate new and redeveloped commercial areas that will generate long-term employment opportunities at local commercial establishments. This will provide an economic benefit to the community and potentially the region as a whole.
- c. Enhancement of Local Community Character and Quality of Life. The development regulations and design guidelines associated with the project will yield development that better meets community goals for quality design and architecture, environmental sustainability, and pedestrian-friendliness in comparison to the existing zoning. Furthermore, expanding the number and diversity of local commercial businesses will allow residents and visitors to accomplish more shopping needs in Imperial Beach, resulting in shorter trips and opportunities to bike and walk to shopping, restaurant, and other commercial destinations.
- d. Pedestrian-Oriented Development. One of Imperial Beach's valued assets is its walkable environment, which is associated with reduced automobile traffic and associated air pollutants, public health benefits, viable transit access, enjoyable and well-connected urban form and connectivity, and overall quality of life advantages for residents and visitors. The new development regulations and design guidelines are intended to protect and enhance the pedestrian environment in the City's commercial corridors, thereby reinforcing and improving these benefits.

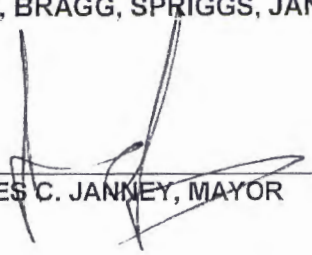
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that General Plan/ Local Coastal Program Amendment (GPA/ LCPA 100057), and the Commercial/ Mixed-Use Zones Design Guidelines, as provided in Attachment 3 and made a part hereof, are hereby approved and the Final PEIR (SCH # 2011041048) including the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) is hereby certified by the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach subject to the mitigation measures provided in the Final PEIR.

**Appeal Process under the California Code of Civil Procedure (CCP):** The time within which judicial review of a City Council decision must be sought is governed by Section 1094.6 of the CCP. A right to appeal a City Council decision is governed by CCP Section 1094.5 and Chapter 1.18 of the Imperial Beach Municipal Code.

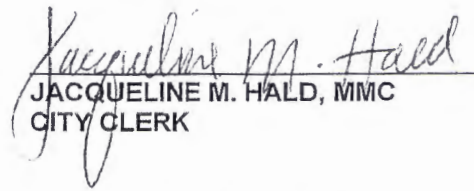
**PROTEST PROVISION:** The 90-day period in which any party may file a protest, pursuant to Government Code Section 66020, of the fees, dedications or exactions imposed on this development project begins on the date of the final decision.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach at its regular meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2012, by the following roll call vote:

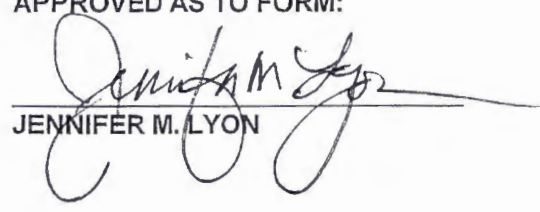
<b>AYES:</b>	<b>COUNCILMEMBERS:</b>	<b>BILBRAY, KING, BRAGG, SPRIGGS, JANNEY</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>COUNCILMEMBERS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>COUNCILMEMBERS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>

  
JAMES C. JANNEY, MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

  
JACQUELINE M. HALD, MMC  
CITY CLERK

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
JENNIFER M. LYON



## **FINDINGS REGARDING SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS**

### **IMPERIAL BEACH GENERAL PLAN/LOCAL COASTAL PLAN AND COMMERCIAL ZONING AMENDMENTS PROJECT SCH: 2011041048**

**August 2012**

The City of Imperial Beach (City), as lead agency has prepared a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan (GP/LCP) and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2011041048). The PEIR found significant but mitigable impacts to air quality, paleontological resources, hydrology and water quality, and noise. The PEIR found significant and unavoidable environmental impacts to the issue areas of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), hydrology and water quality, and transportation and traffic.

These findings, as well as the accompanying statement of overriding considerations have been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. The purpose of these findings is to satisfy the requirements of Sections 15090, 15091, 15092, 15093, and 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines, all in connection with the approval of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project.

Before project approval, an EIR must be certified pursuant to Section 15090 of the CEQA Guidelines. Prior to approving a project for which an EIR has been certified, and for which the EIR identifies one or more significant environmental impacts, the approving agency must make one or more of the following findings, accompanied by a brief explanation of the rationale, pursuant to Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines, for each identified significant impact:

- Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, such project which avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effect as identified in the final environmental impact report.
- Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding. Such changes have been adopted by such other agency, or can and should be adopted by such other agency.
- Specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other considerations, including provision of employment opportunities for highly trained workers, make infeasible the mitigation measures or project alternatives identified in the environmental impact report.



## I. OVERALL FINDINGS

Pursuant to Section 21081 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 15091 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City finds as follows:

- A. For each significant effect identified in the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) other than those related to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, hydrology and water quality, and transportation and traffic, changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project by project conditions of approval of which mitigate or avoid each significant environmental effect, as explained below. (Public Resources Code section 21081(a)(1).)
- B. For significant direct and cumulative impacts regarding GHG emissions associated with construction and operation of the proposed project, feasible measures have been incorporated in to the project to help minimize potential impacts. However, specific technical and legal considerations render full mitigation infeasible. No other known technically feasible and legally enforceable measures exists to reduce impacts to less than significant. In addition, at a program level of analysis, there is no assurance that the mitigation measures would be adequately applied to future projects or that additional, more effective Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce construction-related GHG emissions should be required in the future. Thus, the GHG impacts remain significant and unmitigated.

The potential will remain for future sea level rise due to the effects of global warming that is not addressed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps and the Imperial Beach Municipal Code. There are no technically feasible mitigation measures that can reduce this impact to less than significant due to the project's location immediately adjacent to the Pacific Ocean. Therefore, the potential impact of coastal flooding remains significant and unmitigated.

For significant traffic impacts that would occur by Year 2030, a feasible mitigation measure has been included in the project to consider and implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies. However, these would not reduce the impact to less than significant. A portion of the necessary changes or alterations to improve roadway operation are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another government agency and have been, or can and should be adopted by that other agency, and specific economic, legal and social considerations render full mitigation infeasible. (Public Resources Code Section 21081(a)(2) and (3).) While The City will coordinate with other agencies and jurisdictions to initiate a project and establish a process to accept fair-share contributions from project applicants at the time of permit issuance to be directed towards the improvement, there is no guarantee of timing of implementation of the improvements prior to the impact occurring. Other social and economic considerations, such as removing on-street parking for roadway improvements would be in conflict with City goals to maintain on-street parking for the benefit of local businesses or would not allow for the pedestrian-oriented and bicycle-friendly street environment concepts of current City planning efforts. Therefore, potential traffic impacts remain significant and unmitigated.

A Statement of Overriding Considerations is being adopted to address these significant and unmitigated impacts.

These findings are explained below and are supported by substantial evidence in the record of these proceedings, including materials in the City's files for this project.

## II. EXPLANATION OF FINDINGS

A. Pursuant to Section 15091(a)(1) of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City finds that, for each of the following significant effects as identified in the PEIR, dated August 2012 for the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project (project) changes or alterations (mitigation measures) have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which avoid or substantially lessen each of the significant environmental effects as identified in the PEIR. The following are brief descriptions of the impacts and mitigation measures set forth in the PEIR and explanation of the rationale for this finding for each impact.

### 1. Air Quality Impacts

Emissions from construction activities could potentially conflict with an applicable air quality plan and could violate an ambient air quality standard, which would be a significant air quality impact.

**Mitigation Measures AQ-1 and AQ-2:** Mitigation Measure AQ-1, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval, requiring a fugitive dust control plan be developed and approved by the SDAPCD for all projects prior to issuance of a grading permit and commencement of construction activities that identifies measures to minimize generation of fugitive dust from all construction activities. This measure also includes standard fugitive dust control measures to be implemented. Mitigation Measure AQ-2, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval, requiring construction emission control measures to be implemented.

**Rationale:** Alterations in the project have been required that avoid or substantially lessen the air quality impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1 and AQ-2 would reduce the impact to less than significant by providing appropriate requirements to minimize the production of both dust and equipment emissions during construction

activities. These measures are considered feasible and would reduce potential air quality impacts to less than significant.

## **2. Paleontological Resource Impacts**

Paleontological resources could be encountered if substantial excavation is proposed, such as for underground parking, and result in a significant impact if the resource were to be adversely affected.

**Mitigation Measure PR-1:** Mitigation Measure PR-1, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval. This measure requires a qualified paleontological monitor to be present during grading/excavation/trenching activities and outlines the reporting requirements and steps to be taken in the event of a discovery.

**Rationale:** Alterations in the project have been required that avoid or substantially lessen the paleontological resource impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measures PR-1 would reduce the impact to less than significant by requiring that a paleontological monitor be present during ground disturbing activities and shall stop such activities, evaluate the significance of the resource, and consult with the Community Development Director if a paleontological resource is discovered. These procedures will ensure that significant paleontological resources would be appropriately preserved. This measure is considered feasible and would minimize potential air quality impacts.

## **3. Hydrology and Water Quality Impacts**

Construction and operation of new land uses within the project study areas may result in significant impacts to regional water quality.

**Mitigation Measures HY-1, HY-2, HY-3, and HY-4:** Mitigation Measures HY-1, HY-2, HY-3, and HY-4 as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval, requiring final grading and drainage plans to be reviewed for compliance with the City SUSMP; design BMPs to be incorporated into project plans for pollutant reduction; construction BMPs to be incorporated into project plans for pollutant reduction; and nonstructural post-construction operational BMPs to be implemented for pollutant reduction.



**Rationale:** Alterations in the project have been required that avoid or substantially lessen this water quality impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measures HY-1, HY-2, HY-3, and HY-4 would reduce the impact to less than significant by requiring implementation of project design features and construction practices at a project level that would reduce impacts to hydrology and water quality through actions such as reducing runoff volumes both during construction and operation of a project and minimizing pollutants in runoff. These measures are considered feasible and would reduce this potential hydrology and water quality impact to less than significant.

#### 4. Noise Impacts

Due to the potential for high short-term and instantaneous noise levels during peak construction activity near noise-sensitive receptors, businesses and residences near construction sites within the project study areas could be intermittently exposed to temporarily elevated levels of noise, which would be a significant impact.

**Mitigation Measures NOI-1 and NOI-2:** Mitigation Measure NOI-1, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval. This measure requires noise minimizing measures to be implemented during construction activities, including equipment requirements, truck route requirements, and community noticing of noise generating activities. Mitigation Measure NOI-2, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval, requiring a project-specific noise study for all construction projects within 150 feet of existing residential uses to determine the need for noise barriers or noise blankets to be incorporated into contract specifications.

**Rationale:** Alterations in the project have been required that avoid or substantially lessen this noise impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would reduce the impact to less than significant by requiring feasible equipment noise minimizing measures to be implemented, reducing noise to sensitive surrounding areas through appropriate truck haul routes, and notifying the surrounding community of when to expect increased noise levels. Mitigation Measures NOI-2 would serve to implement noise reduction measures at local residences when found to be potentially impacted by construction noise through a project-specific noise study. These measures are considered feasible and would reduce this noise impact to less than significant.

An increase in commercial and residential development from revitalization of underutilized properties would be expected to generate additional traffic that would result in increased noise levels, most noticeably to properties near Palm Avenue/SR-75 and Seacoast Drive. Elevated traffic noise would be a permanent increase in the ambient noise levels in the project study areas. Noise levels within 100 feet of roadways within the project study areas exceed the City's compatibility standards as defined in the Imperial Beach General Plan/LCP Noise Element. Thus, residential or mixed-used development could be proposed in areas that may be subject to existing or future traffic noise levels in excess of 60 dB CNEL, which would be a significant operation noise impact.

**Mitigation Measures NOI-3:** Mitigation Measure NOI-3, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval. This measure requires site-specific noise studies in areas where new residential development would be exposed to CNEL of greater than 60 dBA to determine the area of impact and to present appropriate mitigation measures, such as specific placement of outdoor areas, mechanical ventilation to maintain interior noise levels below 45 dBA, and appropriate sound-minimizing features in new residences.

**Rationale:** Alterations in the project have been required that avoid or substantially lessen this noise impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-3 would reduce the impact to less than significant by requiring a site specific noise study to determine if and where noise impacts might result with new residential development. If potential noise impacts are identified, the resultant noise levels would be reduced to acceptable levels through a variety of potential design and construction features in the new residences. This measure is considered feasible and would reduce this noise impact to less than significant.

B. Pursuant to Section 15091(a)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City finds that, for each of the following significant effects as identified in the PEIR, changes or alterations which would avoid or substantially lessen these significant effects are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding and/or specific technical, economic, and social considerations render full mitigation infeasible; thus, these significant impact remain significant and unavoidable. The following are brief explanations of the rationale for this finding for each significant and unmitigated impact:

1. **Greenhouse Gas Impacts**

GHG emissions associated with construction of the proposed project would contribute to this significant cumulative GHG impact.

**Mitigation Measure GHG-1:** Mitigation Measure GHG-1, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval. The measure requires projects seeking discretionary approval from the City to implement all feasible measures for reducing GHG emissions associated with construction that are recommended by the City and/or San Diego Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) at the time individual portions of the site undergo construction. By requiring that the list of feasible measures be established prior to the selection of a primary contractor, this measure requires that the ability of a contractor to effectively implement the selected GHG reduction measures be inherent to the selection process. The list provided within Mitigation Measure GHG-1 in the PEIR will be updated as new technologies or methods become available.

**Rationale:** The mitigation measure imposed upon the project as a condition of approval does not fully avoid or reduce the impact to less than significant. However, specific technical and legal considerations render full mitigation infeasible as no other known technically feasible and legally enforceable measures exists to reduce impacts to less than significant. In addition, at a program level of analysis, there is no assurance that the mitigation measures would be adequately applied to future projects or that additional, more effective BMPs to reduce construction-related GHG emissions should be required in the future. Therefore, this impact would remain significant and unavoidable; however, the unavoidable impact is overridden by the benefits of the project, as set forth in the statement of overriding considerations.

The proposed project would generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. The proposed project would contribute to this significant cumulative GHG impact.

**Mitigation Measure GHG-2:** Mitigation Measure GHG-2, as specified in the PEIR has been imposed upon the project as a condition of approval. The measure requires applicants to consider and implement GHG emission reduction strategies in the categories of Energy Efficiency, Water Conservation and Efficiency, and Solid Waste



Measures. The provided list of measures and their respective feasibility are likely to evolve over time.

**Rationale:** The mitigation measure imposed upon the project as a condition of approval does not fully avoid or reduce the impact to less than significant. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GHG-2 would reduce operational emissions, but it is unclear to what extent these proposed reduction strategies would be applied throughout the project study areas. Therefore, it cannot be ensured that these proposed reduction measures would reduce emissions below the analysis threshold. Specific technical and legal considerations render full mitigation infeasible as no other known technically feasible and legally enforceable measures exist to reduce impacts to less than significant. Therefore, this impact would remain significant and unavoidable; however, the unavoidable impact is overridden by the benefits of the project, as set forth in the statement of overriding considerations.

## **2. Hydrology and Water Quality Impacts**

Development of beachfront properties that would be subject to coastal flooding due to the potential of future GHG-related sea level rise, including all properties west of Ocean Lane and all properties designated as within an area of special flood hazard per IBMC Section 15.50.040, would be subject to a significant coastal flooding impact.

**Mitigation Measures:** No mitigation is available to be implemented by the proposed project.

**Rationale:** There are no technically feasible mitigation measures that can reduce the potential for future coastal flooding of beachfront properties that can be implemented by this project. The important cultural, social, and historical community identity of Imperial Beach is closely tied to the City's location immediately adjacent to the Pacific Ocean and the act of removing development out of potential coastal flood areas is not feasible. Therefore, the potential impact of coastal flooding remains significant and unmitigated; however, the unavoidable impact is overridden by the benefits of the project, as set forth in the statement of overriding considerations.

## **3. Transportation and Traffic Impacts**

Significant impacts to roadway segments and intersections would occur as a result of an increase of 22,856 ADT by year 2030.

**Mitigation Measure TR-1:** The City shall require all future development projects proposed under the General Plan/LCP and commercial zoning amendments to consider and implement TDM measures during both construction activities and project operation. TDM measures shall be based on strategies recommended by SANDAG or other applicable documents and studies.

**Rationale:** The mitigation measure imposed upon the project as a condition of approval does not avoid or reduce the impact to less than significant and the roadways and intersections would continue to have poor future operating conditions. Full mitigation is not feasible due to a portion of the impacts occurring outside of the City's jurisdiction. While The City will coordinate with other agencies and jurisdictions to initiate a project and establish a process to accept fairshare contributions from project applicants at the time of permit issuance to be directed towards the improvement, there is no guarantee of timing of implementation of the improvements prior to the impact occurring.

While the capacity enhancements identified in Table 3.9-6 of the PEIR would improve traffic operations for impacted segments and intersections within Imperial Beach and San Diego, the capacity enhancements would require removing on-street parking and/or increasing the number of through travel lanes along Imperial Beach Boulevard, Coronado Avenue, and SR-75. These measures are considered infeasible due to social and economic considerations as they would be in conflict with City goals to maintain on-street parking for the benefit of local businesses and would not allow for the pedestrian-oriented and bicycle-friendly street environment concepts of the *Palm Avenue Commercial Corridor Master Plan*, which are intended to provide a pedestrian-oriented and bicycle-friendly street environment.

Therefore, potential traffic impacts remain significant and unmitigated; however, the unavoidable impact is overridden by the benefits of the project, as set forth in the statement of overriding considerations.



## **STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS**

### **IMPERIAL BEACH GENERAL PLAN/LOCAL COASTAL PLAN AND COMMERCIAL ZONING AMENDMENTS PROJECT**

**SCH: 2011041048**

**August 2012**

#### **Background**

The City of Imperial Beach (City), as lead agency has prepared a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan (GP/LCP) and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2011041048). The PEIR found significant and unavoidable environmental impacts to the issue areas of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, hydrology and water quality, and transportation and traffic.

Pursuant to Section 21081 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 15091 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City found that mitigation for the project's greenhouse gas emissions; hydrology and water quality; and transportation and traffic impacts would not fully reduce those impacts to below a level of significance. Other potential measures were found to have specific economic, legal, technological, and social considerations that otherwise render full mitigation infeasible.

#### **Statement of Overriding Considerations**

Pursuant to Section 15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines, when the lead agency approves a project that may result in the occurrence of significant effects that are identified in the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), but are not avoided or substantially lessened, the agency shall state in writing the specific reasons to support its action based on the Final EIR and/or other information in the record.

The City has adopted Findings Regarding Significant Effects for the above project, which identify that certain significant effects of implementing the project are unavoidable even after

incorporation of any feasible mitigation measures. The City finds that the remaining unavoidable significant effects are acceptable due to specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits which will result from approval and implementation of the project, as listed below. All of these benefits are based on the facts set forth in the Findings Regarding Significant Effects, the Final PEIR, and the record of proceedings for this project.

### **Overriding Benefits**

The City finds that the proposed Imperial Beach General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project would have the following substantial Overriding Benefits:

1. Increased City Revenue for Needed Municipal Services and Facilities

Implementation of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project will help to stimulate new commercial activity in Imperial Beach, which will in turn generate increased local sales tax revenue for the City. Increasing sales tax revenue is essential for funding existing and future municipal services as well as maintenance and improvements of public facilities that are owned and operated by the City.

2. Employment Opportunities

Implementation of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project will generate new construction employment opportunities over the multi-year build-out. Implementation will also stimulate new and redeveloped commercial areas that will generate long-term employment opportunities at local commercial establishments. This will provide an economic benefit to the community and potentially the region as a whole.

3. Enhancement of Local Community Character and Quality of Life

The development regulations and design guidelines associated with the project will yield development that better meets community goals for quality design and architecture, environmental sustainability, and pedestrian-friendliness in comparison to the existing zoning. Furthermore, expanding the number and diversity of local commercial businesses will allow residents and visitors to accomplish more shopping needs in Imperial Beach, resulting in shorter trips and opportunities to bike and walk to shopping, restaurant, and other commercial destinations.

4. Pedestrian-Oriented Development

One of Imperial Beach's valued assets is its walkable environment, which is associated with reduced automobile traffic and associated air pollutants, public health benefits, viable transit access, enjoyable and well connected urban form and connectivity, and overall quality of life advantages for residents and visitors. The new development regulations and design guidelines are intended to protect and enhance the pedestrian environment in the City's commercial corridors, thereby reinforcing and improving these benefits.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-1130**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH AMENDING TITLE 19 (ZONING) OF THE IMPERIAL BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS FOR THE C-1, C-2, AND C-3 COMMERCIAL ZONES AND AMENDING THE ZONING MAP FOR PROPERTIES DESIGNATED C-1 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) IN THE PALM AVENUE STUDY AREA, C-2 (SEACOAST COMMERCIAL) IN THE OLD PALM AVENUE AND SEACOAST DRIVE STUDY AREAS, AND C-3 (NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL) IN THE 13TH STREET CORRIDOR STUDY AREAS AND AREAS ZONED R-1500 (HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) THAT ARE SUBJECT TO THE MU-1 (MIXED USE-1) OVERLAY DESIGNATION IN THE PALM AVENUE STUDY AREA AND THE MU-2 (MIXED USE-2) OVERLAY DESIGNATION IN THE SEACOAST DRIVE STUDY AREA. MF 935.**

**WHEREAS**, on August 1, 2012, and on August 15, 2012, the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach held duly advertised public hearings to consider the merits of approving or denying an application for Zoning Code Amendment (ZCA) 100057 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map for properties designated C-1 (General Commercial) in the Palm Avenue study area, C-2 (Seacoast Commercial) in the Old Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive study areas, and C-3 (Neighborhood Commercial) in the 13th Street Corridor study areas; and areas zoned R-1500 (High Density Residential) that are subject to the MU-1 (Mixed Use-1) overlay designation in the Palm Avenue study area and the MU-2 (Mixed Use-2) overlay designation in the Seacoast Drive study area; and

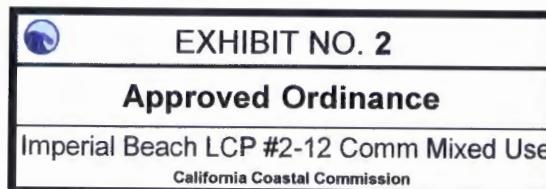
**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the proposed Commercial Zone changes to be consistent with General Plan Policies L-4f and L-6 that encourage visitor-serving and tourist-oriented commercial uses and the proposed zoning code amendment would, therefore, be externally consistent with the General Plan/ Local Coastal Plan pursuant to Government Code Section 65860; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the proposed Commercial Zones promotes the local and regional goals for a walkable community, implements SANDAG's Smart Growth policy to take advantage of existing infrastructure, reduce sprawl, provide for a more pedestrian environment, and eventually reduce GHG to better adapt to if not mitigate the effects of global warming.; and

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with Section 15063 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) has been prepared for this project and routed for public review from April 19 to June 4, 2012, and submitted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH # 2011041048) in accordance with the requirements of the (CEQA) for agency review, and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has considered and heard any and all public testimony regarding the potential environmental impacts associated with this project, and hereby determines that:

- 1) the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (SCH # 2011041048)) reflects the decision-making body's independent judgment and analysis;
- 2) the decision-making body has, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b), considered the information contained in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact





Reports (SCH # 2011041048) and the written comments received during the public review period;

- 3) The PEIR found significant and unavoidable environmental impacts to the issue areas of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), hydrology and water quality, and transportation and traffic.
- 4) Pursuant to Section 21081 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 15091 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City found that mitigation for the project's greenhouse gas emissions; hydrology and water quality; and transportation and traffic impacts would not fully reduce those impacts to below a level of significance. Other potential measures were found to have specific economic, legal, technological, and social considerations that otherwise render full mitigation infeasible.
- 5) Pursuant to Section 15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines a Statement of Overriding Considerations is hereby adopted, by the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach, as certain significant effects of implementing the project are unavoidable even after incorporation of any feasible mitigation measures.
- 6) The City finds that the remaining unavoidable significant effects are acceptable due to specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits which will result from approval and implementation of the project, as listed below. All of these benefits are based on the facts set forth in the Findings Regarding Significant Effects, the Final PEIR, and the record of proceedings for this project.
- 7) The City finds that the proposed Imperial Beach General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project would have the following substantial Overriding Benefits:
  - a. Increased City Revenue for Needed Municipal Services and Facilities. Implementation of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project will help to stimulate new commercial activity in Imperial Beach, which will in turn generate increased local sales tax revenue for the City. Increasing sales tax revenue is essential for funding existing and future municipal services as well as maintenance and improvements of public facilities that are owned and operated by the City.
  - b. Employment Opportunities. Implementation of the General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project will generate new construction employment opportunities over the multi-year buildout. Implementation will also stimulate new and redeveloped commercial areas that will generate long-term employment opportunities at local commercial establishments. This will provide an economic benefit to the community and potentially the region as a whole.

- c. Enhancement of Local Community Character and Quality of Life. The development regulations and design guidelines associated with the project will yield development that better meets community goals for quality design and architecture, environmental sustainability, and pedestrian-friendliness in comparison to the existing zoning. Furthermore, expanding the number and diversity of local commercial businesses will allow residents and visitors to accomplish more shopping needs in Imperial Beach, resulting in shorter trips and opportunities to bike and walk to shopping, restaurant, and other commercial destinations.
- d. Pedestrian-Oriented Development. One of Imperial Beach's valued assets is its walkable environment, which is associated with reduced automobile traffic and associated air pollutants, public health benefits, viable transit access, enjoyable and well-connected urban form and connectivity, and overall quality of life advantages for residents and visitors. The new development regulations and design guidelines are intended to protect and enhance the pedestrian environment in the City's commercial corridors, thereby reinforcing and improving these benefits.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** That the zoning amendments as provided in Attachment 2 are made a part of the ordinance herein.

**SECTION 2:** That the zoning classification of the properties designated C-1 (General Commercial) in the Palm Avenue study area, C-2 (Seacoast Commercial) in the Old Palm Avenue and Seacoast Drive study areas, and C-3 (Neighborhood Commercial) in the 13th Street Corridor study areas; and areas zoned R-1500 (High Density Residential) that are subject to the MU-1 (Mixed Use-1) overlay designation in the Palm Avenue study area and the MU-2 (Mixed Use-2) overlay designation in the Seacoast Drive study area are changed to C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 respectively and that the Zoning Map adopted pursuant to Section 19.06.020 shall be amended to reflect the change of zoning classification.

**SECTION 3:** That the development of the properties as designated above are subject to the mitigation measures as provided in the Final PEIR.


**SECTION 4:** That this ordinance shall only become effective upon its certification by the California Coastal Commission.

**Appeal Process under the California Code of Civil Procedure (CCP):** The time within which judicial review of a City Council decision must be sought is governed by Section 1094.6 of the CCP. A right to appeal a City Council decision is governed by CCP Section 1094.5 and Chapter 1.18 of the Imperial Beach Municipal Code.

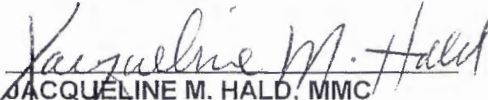
**PROTEST PROVISION:** The 90-day period in which any party may file a protest, pursuant to Government Code Section 66020, of the fees, dedications or exactions imposed on this development project begins on the date of the final decision.

**INTRODUCED AND FIRST READ** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach, California, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2012; and **THEREAFTER ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach, California, on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012, by the following vote:

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>COUNCILMEMBERS:</b>	<b>KING, BRAGG, SPRIGGS, JANNEY</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>COUNCILMEMBERS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>COUNCILMEMBERS:</b>	<b>BILBRAY</b>

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES C. JANNEY, MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

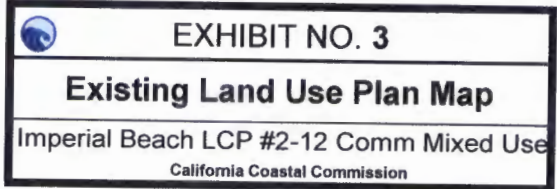
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JACQUELINE M. HALD, MMC  
CITY CLERK

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JENNIFER M. LYON  
CITY ATTORNEY



5 4 3 2 1 0 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0



**Figure L-1: LAND USE MAP**

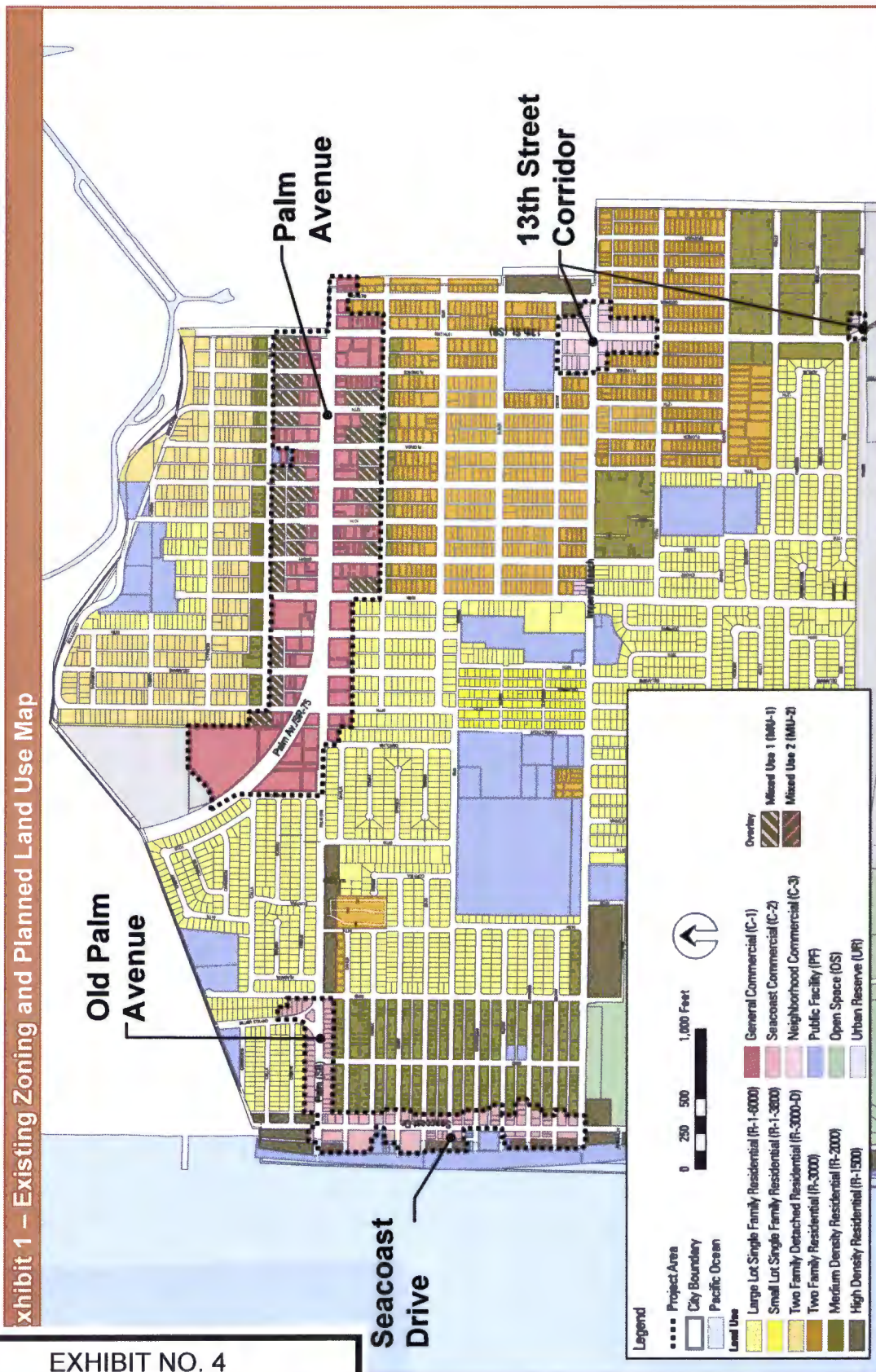
Land Use Element

L-4

General Plan/ Local Coastal Plan

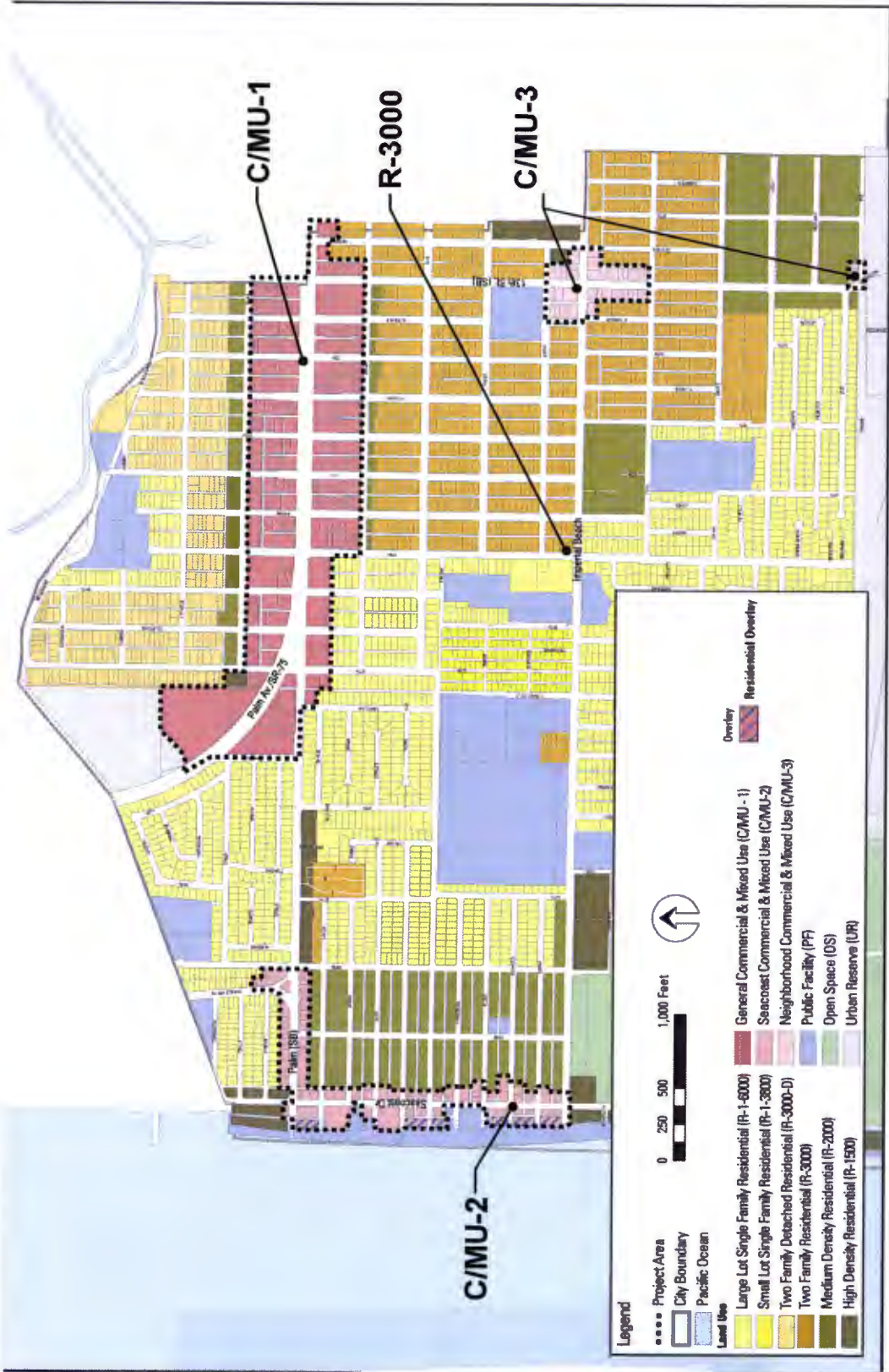


# EXISTING ZONING MAP AND PROPOSED LAND USE MAP





PROPOSED ZONING MAP



Proposed Zoning Map

Im



EXHIBIT NO. 5

Proposed Zoning Map

Imperial Beach LCP #2-12 Comm Mixed Use

California Coastal Commission

3 Amendments and Project PEIR  
aphics\Figures\Fig2-3 prop zoning.ai dbrady 3/20/12



Draft Amendments and Design Guidelines

# Imperial Beach General Plan/Local Coastal Plan and Commercial Zoning Amendments Project

ATTACHMENT 3

*Prepared for:*

City of Imperial Beach  
Community Development Department  
825 Imperial Beach Boulevard  
Imperial Beach, California 91932

*Prepared by:*

AECOM  
1420 Kettner Boulevard, Suite 500  
San Diego, California 92101



EXHIBIT NO. 6

**Proposed LUP/IP Amendment**

Imperial Beach LCP #2-12 Comm Mixed Use  
California Coastal Commission

Revised July 2012

This page intentionally left blank.

# 2

Proposed General Plan/  
Local Coastal Plan  
Amendments



City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Proposed General Plan/Local Coastal Plan Consistency Amendments  
Draft for Public Review  
Revised July 2012

Gray box indicates new text added since public review

Page Number	Existing General Plan/Local Coastal Plan Text	Proposed Text Amendments to General Plan/Local Coastal Plan
1-9	Establishing mixed use zones in the Highway 75 and Seacoast areas.	Establishing <u>commercial/mixed-use zones in the along Palm Avenue/State Highway 75, along Old Palm Avenue, along Seacoast Drive, and at 13th Street/Imperial Beach Boulevard area.</u>
C-24	<p><b>Policy C-22b Commercial Areas</b></p> <p>In lieu parking fees, off-site parking facilities and shared parking may be used in commercial areas where they encourage shared group parking, a pedestrian atmosphere or improved commercial design.</p> <p>The consolidation of off-street parking for several uses shall be encouraged in order to improve pedestrian flows and reduce the number of street ingress and egress points.</p>	<p><b>Policy C-22b Commercial/Mixed-Use Areas</b></p> <p>In lieu parking fees, off-site parking facilities, <u>transportation demand management strategies,</u> and shared parking may be used in commercial/mixed-use areas <u>where they encourage to facilitate mixed-use development,</u> shared group parking, a pedestrian atmosphere, <u>and/or improved commercial-design.</u></p> <p>The consolidation of off-street parking for several uses shall be encouraged <u>in order to improve pedestrian flows/walkability, and allow for a more pedestrian-oriented environment, as well as to and</u> reduce the number of street ingress and egress points, <u>and to facilitate well-designed, small-lot infill development.</u></p>
C-24	<b>Policy C-22e Shared Parking</b> Shared parking shall only be approved when technical evidence is presented to justify the shared use. The Urban Land Institute 1983 Shared Parking Study shall be used as a guideline and supplemented by additional findings where appropriate.	<b>Policy C-22e Shared Parking</b> Shared parking shall only be approved when technical evidence is presented to justify the shared use. The Urban Land Institute <u>guidebook Shared Parking Second Edition (2005) 1983 Shared Parking Study</u> shall be used as a guideline and supplemented by additional findings, where appropriate.
C-24	<b>Policy C-22f Off-Site Parking</b> Off-site parking when allowed under Paragraphs a, b, or c above shall only be permitted if a sign is posted indicating the off-site user, and the offsite parking is within 500 feet of the	<b>Policy C-22f Off-Site Parking</b> Off-site parking when allowed under <u>Paragraphs Policy C-22a, C-22b, or C-22c,</u> above, shall only be permitted if a sign is posted indicating the off-site user, and is used exclusively for off-site use.

	use, is used exclusively for off site use and is recorded by covenant.	and is recorded by covenant. When allowed under Policy C-22a or C-22b, and within the commercial/ mixed-use zones, the off-site parking shall be within 1,000 feet of the use. When allowed under Policy C-22c, the off-site parking shall be within 500 feet of the use.
C-24	<p><b>Policy C-22h Detailed Parking Standards Shall Be Included In the Zoning Ordinance</b></p> <p>The Standards shall use the following guidelines:</p> <p>Residential - 1.5 to 2.0 spaces per dwelling unit.</p> <p>Hotel/Motel - 1 space per guest room.</p> <p>Commercial - varies from 1 space per 50 sq. ft. to 1 space per 300 sq. ft. of building.</p> <p>Bars and Restaurants - 1 space for each seventy-five square feet of net floor area, plus one per two employees at largest work shift.</p>	<p><b>Policy C-22h Detailed Parking Standards Shall Be Included In the Zoning Ordinance</b></p> <p>Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, parking standards for the commercial/mixed-use zones shall use the following guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial – C/MU-1 and C/MU-3 zones: 1 space per 500 gross sq. ft. of commercial use.</li> <li>• Commercial – C/MU-2 zone: 1 space per 1,000 gross sq. ft. of commercial use.</li> <li>• Multiple-family residential – C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones: 1.5 spaces per dwelling unit.</li> <li>• Hotel without cooking facilities – C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones: 1 space per guest room.</li> <li>• Hotel with cooking facilities – C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones: 1.5 spaces per guest room.</li> </ul> <p>In the commercial/mixed-use zones, parking reductions, shared-parking, waivers, or other strategies may be employed in order to facilitate pedestrian oriented activity and mixed-use development, and shall be subject to Policies C-22b, C-22e, and C-22f.</p> <p>For all other zones, the standards shall use the following guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential: 1.5 to 2.0 spaces per dwelling unit.</li> <li>• Hotel/Motel: 1 space per guest room.</li> <li>• Commercial: varies from 1 space per 50 sq. ft. to 1 space per 300 sq. ft. of building.</li> <li>• Bars and Restaurants: 1 space for each <u>seventy-five</u> <u>75</u> sq. ft. <u>square feet</u> of net floor area, plus <u>one</u> <u>1</u> per <u>two</u> <u>2</u> employees at largest work shift.</li> </ul>



C-25	<p><b>Policy C-22i Interim Parking Standard in C-2 Area</b> In order to stimulate development in the C-2 land use category, the City may use an interim parking ratio for commercial properties of 1 space per 500 sq. ft. The interim ratio shall no longer be in effect after the City has approved parking for 100 parking spaces under this provision.</p>	<p><b>Policy C-22i Interim Parking Standard in C-2 Area</b> In order to stimulate development in the C-2 land use category, the City may use an interim parking ratio for commercial properties of 1 space per 500 sq. ft. The interim ratio shall no longer be in effect after the City has approved parking for 100 parking spaces under this provision.</p>
D-6	<p><b>Policy D-1 Design Review</b> All residential properties of 2 dwelling units or more and all new non-residential structures shall be subject to design review.</p>	<p><b>Policy D-1 Design Review</b> All residential properties of 2 dwelling units or more, <u>all new mixed-use development</u>, and all new non-residential structures shall be subject to design review.</p>
D-8	<p><b>Policy D-8b</b> Three story structures adjacent to existing one and two story structures shall be designed in a way to respect the scale of the one and two story structures. Such designs could include a wider side yard set back for the 2nd and 3rd story, hip roofs, or similar features.</p>	<p><b>Policy D-8b</b> <u>Where <del>three</del> 3- or <del>four</del> 4-story structures are developed adjacent to existing <del>one-1-</del> and <del>or two-2-</del> story <del>S</del> structures, <u>the new development</u> shall be designed <u>in a way</u> to respect the scale of the <del>one-1-</del> and <del>two-2-</del> story structures. Such designs could include a wider side yard set-back for the 2nd and 3rd story, hip roofs, or similar features. <u>Within the commercial/mixed-use areas, s</u>Such <u>scale-reducing design features</u> could include <u>a wider side-yard set back for the 2nd and 3rd story, hip roofs, or similar features, varying wall planes, setbacks, and upper-story setbacks that reduce overall massing, and provide roof treatments that are complementary to adjacent properties.</u></u></p>
D-8 and 9	<p><b>Policy D-8c</b> In commercial developments, safe and enjoyable browsing by customers should be encouraged by coordinated and attractive signs, walkways, patios, display windows and entrances. Optimally, the entrance to such an enjoyable area should be designed to be obvious to the passing motorist and pedestrian and be linked to the public sidewalk as well as to the parking area. Parking lots should be attractively landscaped and safe for both the motorist and the pedestrian walking from the car or the street.</p>	<p><b>Policy D-8c</b> In commercial <u>and mixed-use</u> developments, safe and enjoyable browsing by customers should be encouraged by coordinated and attractive signs, walkways, patios, display windows, and entrances. Optimally, the entrance to such an enjoyable area should be designed to be obvious to the passing motorist and pedestrian, and be linked to the public sidewalk <u>as well as <del>tend</del> the</u> parking area. Parking lots should be attractively landscaped and safe for <u>both the</u> motorists <u>s</u> and <u>the</u> pedestrians <u>s</u> walking from their <u>ir</u> cars <u>s</u> or the street.</p>
	<p><b>Policy D-8d</b> Setbacks of buildings should be varied</p>	<p><b>Policy D-8d</b> Setbacks of buildings should be varied. <u>Additionally, setbacks should be considered where transitions occur between mixed-use</u></p>



D-11	<p><b>Policy D-9 Seacoast Design Standards</b> Detailed design standards and criteria should be developed for the Seacoast area. The standards and criteria should provide specific direction as to the design quality and image desired by the community.</p> <p>[Graphic]</p>	<p>development and single-family residential.</p> <p><b>Policy D-9 Commercial/Mixed-Use Zones Seacoast Design Standards Design Guidelines</b> All development within the commercial/mixed-use zones shall be subject to the Commercial/Mixed-Use Zones Design Guidelines, per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, which provides specific direction for achieving high-quality, pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use, retail, and commercial areas.</p> <p>Adherence to the Commercial/Mixed-Use Zones Design Guidelines shall be in addition to adherence of other applicable design guidelines and standards, including the Landscape Design Guidelines for Seacoast Drive.</p> <p>The development of additional, detailed design guidelines, standards, and criteria, should be considered for all commercial/mixed-use areas should be developed for the Seacoast area, and. The standards and criteria should provide specific direction as to the design quality and image desired by the community.</p> <p>[Graphic]</p>
D-11	<p><b>Policy D-10 Hwy 75 Commercial Area</b> Detailed design standards and criteria should be developed for the Highway 75 commercial area. The standards and criteria should provide specific direction as to the design quality and image desired by the community.</p>	<p>[Note: Policy D-10 has been deleted because it is addressed in Policy D-9.] <b>Policy D-10 Hwy 75 Commercial Area</b> Detailed design standards and criteria should be developed for the Highway 75 commercial area. The standards and criteria should provide specific direction as to the design quality and image desired by the community.</p>
Housing Element	<p>[Note: Housing Element and figures to be updated by City as part of its Housing Element update cycle.]</p>	
L-4	<p><b>Figure L-1: Land Use Map</b></p>	<p>[Revise to include new land use map]</p>
L-5	<p><b>Policy L-4 Commercial Uses and Areas</b> Specific policies for commercial uses and areas are:</p>	<p><b>Policy L-4 Commercial and Mixed-Use Uses and Areas</b> Specific policies for commercial and mixed-use uses and areas are detailed below as follows:</p>
L-5 and 6	<p><b>Policy L-4a Attractive and Stimulating Surroundings</b> Commercial areas should be enjoyable places in which to shop and work. This means providing pedestrian scaled</p>	<p><b>Policy L-4a Attractive and Stimulating Surroundings</b> Commercial and mixed-use areas should be enjoyable places in</p>



	design, bicycle facilities, such as racks or storage areas, landscaping of building sites and parking lots, street trees, screening unsightly storage and parking areas and banning out-of-scale advertising. All new commercial developments and major General Plan/Local Coastal Plan L-6 Land Use Element expansions of existing commercial uses should be subject to design controls.	which to shop and work. This means providing pedestrian-scaled design, bicycle facilities, such as racks or storage areas, landscaping of building sites and parking lots, street trees, screening unsightly storage and parking areas and banning out-of-scale advertising. All new commercial developments and major General Plan/Local Coastal Plan L-6 Land-Use-Element expansions of existing commercial uses should be subject to design controls.
L-6	<b>Policy L-4b Protection of Residential Areas</b> All commercial uses should incorporate a sensitive transition to abutting residential uses by means of such techniques as landscape buffering and setbacks, <u>upper-story building setbacks</u> , viewsheds, and careful control of loading, storage, parking areas, and lighting.	<b>Policy L-4b Protection of Residential Areas</b> All commercial and <u>mixed-use uses</u> should incorporate a sensitive transition to abutting residential uses by means of such techniques as landscape buffering and setbacks, <u>upper-story building setbacks</u> , viewsheds, and careful control of loading, storage, parking areas, and lighting.
L-6	<b>Policy L-4d Highway 75 Commercial (C-1 and MU-1)</b> This commercial area requires substantial improvement. It serves as the major gateway to the City and carries more traffic than any other street in the City. The area will retain a mix of pedestrian and automobile oriented uses.	<b>Policy L-4d State Highway 75 General Commercial and Mixed-Use Area (C-1 and MU-1)</b> This commercial/mixed-use area requires substantial improvement. It serves as the major gateway to the City and carries more traffic than any other street in the City. <u>It is expected that the area will retain a mix of pedestrian- and automobile-oriented uses; however, as redevelopment occurs, pedestrian-oriented commercial and mixed-use development, including multi-family dwellings, are encouraged.</u>
L-6	<b>Policy L-4c Fostering New Commercial Development</b> Commercial development should be encouraged to increase the City's tax base, and evaluated in terms of the effect it will have on the economy and quality of living in the City. Particular emphasis should be placed on the development of new businesses and fostering commercial uses providing goods and services to residents and visitors.	<b>Policy L-4c Fostering New Commercial and Mixed-Use Development</b> Commercial and <u>mixed-use</u> development should be encouraged to increase the City's tax base, and <u>should be</u> evaluated in terms of the effect it will have on the economy, <u>as well as its compatibility with the existing character</u> and quality of living in the City. Particular emphasis should be placed on the development of new businesses and fostering commercial uses <u>that providing</u> goods and services to residents and visitors.
L-8 Table L-2	<b>C-1 General Commercial (4 stories)</b> The General Commercial land use designation provides for land to meet the local demand for commercial goods and	<b>C-4C/MU-1 General Commercial and Mixed-Use (4 stories)</b> The General Commercial and <u>Mixed-Use</u> land use designation provides for <u>commercial development, mixed-use development,</u>



	<p>services, as opposed to the goods and services required primarily by the tourist population. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be community and neighborhood serving retail and office uses such as markets, specialty stores, professional offices, personal service department stores, liquor stores, hardware stores, etc. Residential uses may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,000 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.</p>	<p><u>multiple-family dwellings, and land-businesses</u> to meet the local demand for commercial goods and services, as opposed to the goods and services required primarily by the tourist population. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in <u>thise</u> <u>C/MU-1</u> designation will be community- and neighborhood-serving retail and office uses, <u>such as markets, specialty stores, professional offices, personal service department stores, restaurants, liquor stores, hardware stores, etc. Multi-family</u> <u>R</u>esidential uses may be permitted at a maximum density of <u>one-1</u> unit per every <u>4,000</u> 1,000 <u>square sq. feet</u> of land, <u>per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance.</u></p>
<p>L-8 Table L-2</p>	<p><b>C-2 Seacoast Commercial (3 stories, except for hotels where 4 stories may be permitted by specific plan)</b></p> <p>The Seacoast Commercial land use designation provides for land to meet the demand for goods and services required primarily by the tourist population, as well as local residents who use the beach area. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be visitor-serving retail such as specialty stores, surf shops, restaurants, hotels and motels, etc. In order to promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-thru establishments, drive-thru services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners, and other similar auto related business establishments shall be prohibited in this zone. Residential uses may (included below) be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use. <i>[Amended by Resolution 2003-5754 on April 2, 2003, Resolution 2002-5634 on July 17, 2002, and Ordinance 98-920, February 18, 1998]</i></p>	<p><b><u>C-2C/MU-2 Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use (3 stories, except for hotels, where 4 stories may be permitted by specific plan)</u></b></p> <p>The <u>C/MU-2</u> Seacoast Commercial land use designation provides for land to meet the demand for goods and services required primarily by the tourist population, as well as <u>byas-well-as</u> local residents who use the beach area. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be visitor-serving retail such as specialty stores, surf shops, restaurants, <u>and</u> hotels and motels, <u>etc. In order-t</u>o promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-through establishments, drive-through services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners, and other similar auto-related business establishments shall be prohibited in this zone.</p> <p><u>RORQ</u>  <u>Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, multi-family residential uses shall be permitted at a maximum density of 1 unit per every 1,500 gross sq. ft. of lot area; if located on Palm Avenue or the east side of Seacoast Drive, multi-family residential uses may be increased to a maximum density of 1 unit per every 1,210 gross sq. ft. of lot area, subject to the compliance of with specified development incentives and the approval of a conditional use permit.</u></p>



		<p>Residential uses may (included below) be permitted, above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use. <i>[Amended by Resolution 2003-5754 on April 2, 2003, Resolution 2002-5634 on July 17, 2002, and Ordinance 98-020, February 18, 1998]</i></p> <p><u>Additionally, the Seacoast Residential Overlay has been established to preserve opportunities for single-family residences within the overlay area. Mixed-use and multi-family residences are permitted in the C/MU-2 area, as well as in the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone.</u></p> <p><u>Residential uses may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 2,000 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.</u></p>
<p>L-8 Table L-2</p>	<p><b>C-3 Neighborhood Commercial (2 stories)</b> The Neighborhood Commercial land use designation provides for commercial goods and services, as opposed to the goods and services required primarily by the tourist population or city-wide. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in this designation will be neighborhood serving retail and office uses such as markets, professional offices, personal services, restaurants, hardware stores, etc. In order to maintain and promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-thru establishments, drive-thru services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners and other similar auto related business establishments shall be prohibited in this district. Residential uses may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every 2,000 square feet of land. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such residential use.</p>	<p><b><u>C-3/MU-3 Neighborhood Commercial (2 stories) and Mixed-Use (3 stories)</u></b> The Neighborhood Commercial and Mixed-Use land use designation provides for <u>mixed-use development, multiple-family dwellings, and land businesses</u> to meet the local neighborhood demand for commercial goods and services, as opposed to the goods and services required primarily by the tourist population or city-wide. <del>In order to</del> <u>To</u> maintain and promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-thru establishments, drive-thru services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners, and other similar auto-related business establishments shall be prohibited in this district. <u>Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance,</u> <del>residential uses shall be permitted at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 gross square feet. of lot area; and may be increased to a maximum density of one unit per every 1,210 gross square feet. of lot area, subject to the compliance of specified development incentives and the approval of a conditional use permit. Multi-family residences are also permitted in conjunction with commercial uses in a mixed-use setting; residential may be permitted at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,500 gross</del></p>

L-8 Table L-2	<p><b>MU-1 Mixed Use Overlay</b> The Mixed Use Overlay land use designation provides for future expansion of uses allowed in the C-1 Land Use Designation in an orderly way without requiring the amendment of the General Plan. In this overlay designation, commercial activities would be allowed to expand into areas otherwise designated as Residential. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such commercial use.</p>	<p>square feet of land. Compliance with specified development incentives and approval of a conditional use permit may allow multi-family residential uses at a maximum density of one unit per every 1,210 gross square feet of land. Single-family residences are not in order to maintain and promote a more pedestrian-oriented community character, as well as to reduce the high volume of vehicle trips attracted by drive-thru establishments, drive-thru services for restaurants, banks, dry cleaners and other similar auto related business establishments shall be prohibited in this district.</p> <p><b><u>[Note: The MU-1 Mixed-Use Overlay has been deleted, as the C/MU-1 zoning allows mixed-use by right.]</u></b></p>
L-8 Table L-2	<p><b>MU-2 Mixed Use Overlay</b> The Mixed Use Overlay land use designation provides for future expansion of uses allowed in the C-2 Land Use Designation in an orderly way without requiring the amendment of the General Plan. In this overlay designation, commercial activities would be allowed to expand into areas otherwise designated as Residential. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such commercial use.</p>	<p><b><u>MU-1 Mixed Use Seacoast Residential Overlay</u></b> The Mixed Use Overlay land use designation provides for future expansion of uses allowed in the C-1 Land Use Designation in an orderly way without requiring the amendment of the General Plan. In this overlay designation, commercial activities would be allowed to expand into areas otherwise designated as Residential. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such commercial use.</p> <p>The purpose of the Seacoast Residential Overlay land use designation is to preserve opportunities for the continuation of single-family residential uses in the area located between bounded by Ocean Boulevard (the beach) to the west, Ocean Lane on the east, Imperial Beach Boulevard on the south, and Palm Avenue on the north. In this area, single-family land uses shall be permitted, in addition to all uses permitted within the C/MU-2 designation. <b><u>shall be permitted, as well as single-family land uses.</u></b></p>



L-9	<p><b>Policy L-4e Seacoast Commercial (C-2 &amp; MU-2)</b> The Seacoast commercial area shall serve as a visitor serving, pedestrian-oriented commercial area. Existing residential uses shall be slowly transitioned to new visitor serving commercial uses. As part of the design review, 2nd or 3rd stories may be required to be set-back from Seacoast Drive.</p> <p>Timeshares shall be prohibited on the first floor unless 25% are reserved for overnight accommodation.</p>	<p><b>Policy L-4e Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use (C-2 &amp; MU-2)</b> The Seacoast commercial area shall serve as a commercial and mixed-use visitor-serving, pedestrian-oriented commercial area. A Residential Overlay Zone has been established to preserve the opportunity for single-family residences to remain in a designated portion of the project area. To ensure that the existing character is maintained and enhanced, the zoning for this area shall incorporate standards for setbacks and setbacks, and encourages pedestrian activity through the design and location of building frontages and parking provisions. As part of the design review, 2nd or 3rd stories may be required to be set-back from Seacoast Drive.</p> <p>Per the City of Imperial Beach Zoning Ordinance, Timeshares shall require approval of a conditional use permit and shall be prohibited on the first floor, unless 25% are reserved for overnight accommodation.</p>
L-9	<p><b>Policy L-4f Thirteenth Street Commercial Areas (C-3)</b> These commercial areas should provide for pedestrian oriented commercial centers providing goods and services primarily for neighborhood residents.</p>	<p><b>Policy L-4f Thirteenth-13th Street Neighborhood Commercial and Mixed-Use Areas (C/MU-3)</b> These commercial Thirteenth-13th Street areas should shall provide for areas for pedestrian-oriented commercial and mixed-use centers-businesses that providing goods and services primarily for neighborhood residents.</p> <p>[Note: Item G has been deleted, as this area shall be subject to the C/MU-1 zoning. Additionally, the half-block bounded by 9th Street, Imperial Beach Boulevard, Ebony Avenue, and the public alley was not developed as a single commercial project but has been developed as a residential project. Therefore, this area will be rezoned from C-3 to R-3000.]</p>
L-9	<p><b>Policy L-4g 9th Street/Imperial Beach Boulevard Commercial (C-3)</b> Commercial uses may be allowed in this area only under the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The entire half block bounded by 9th Street, Imperial Beach Boulevard, Ebony Avenue and the public alley shall be developed as a single commercial project.</li> <li>2. Discretionary permit review by the City shall be required for such commercial uses. General Plan/ Local Coastal Plan L-10 Land Use Element</li> <li>3. No vehicular access shall be allowed from Imperial Beach</li> </ol>	

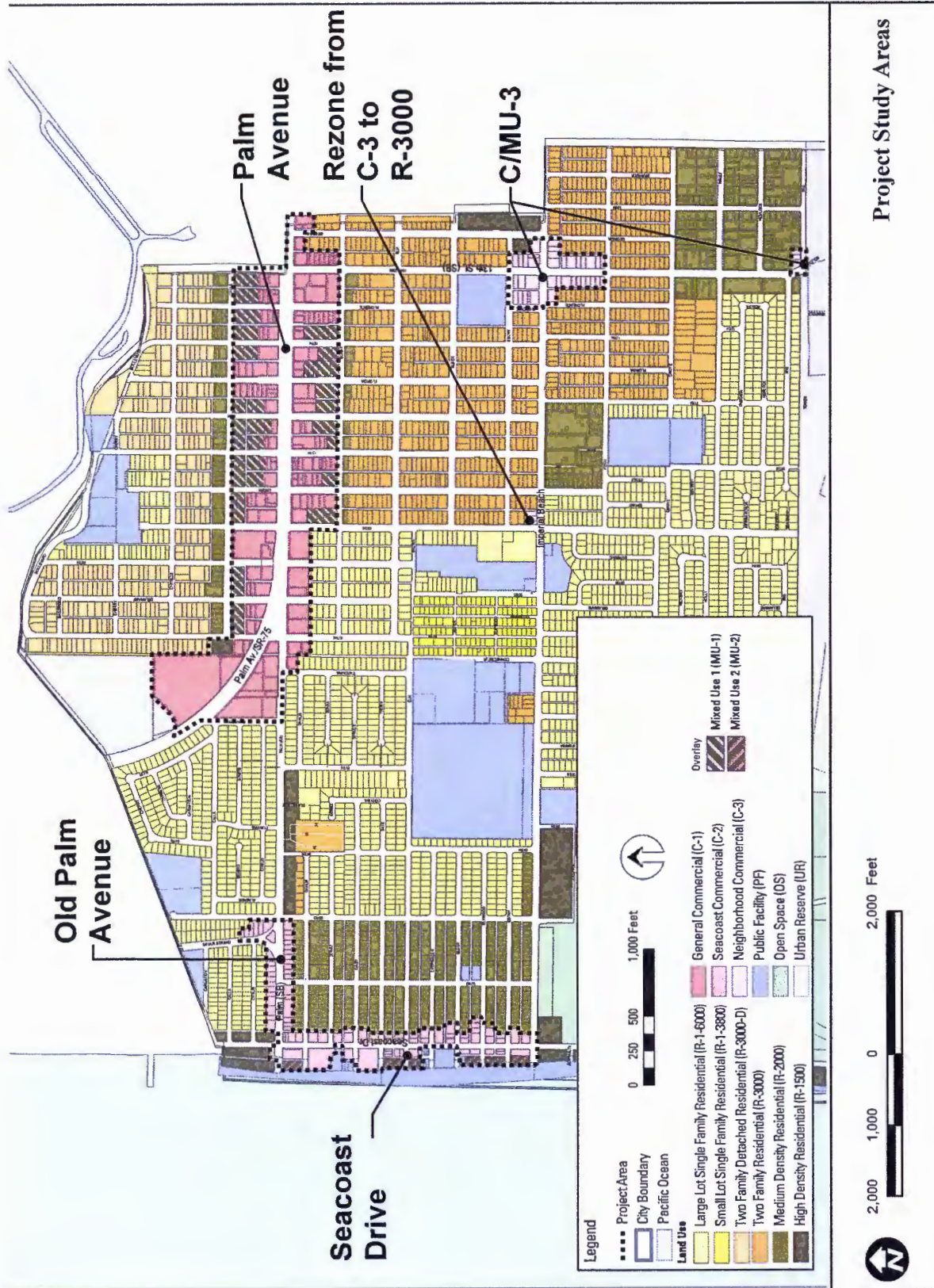
	<p>Boulevard.</p> <p>4. Permitted uses shall include neighborhood retail and service uses only. Prohibited uses shall include fast food franchises, liquor stores, video arcades, gas stations, bars and other similar type uses.</p> <p>Until such time as the area is developed in its entirety for commercial uses, the requirements of the R-3000 zone shall regulate the area.</p>	
S-2	<p><b>5. Indoor Public Assembly Facilities</b></p> <p>Public assembly facilities are defined as those in which large numbers of people congregate in generally unfamiliar surroundings. They include schools, theaters, churches, temples and a variety of recreational facilities. Gatherings of large numbers of people in these buildings create conditions conducive to mass panic in a crisis, which only worsens and increases casualties. Administering medical aid is more difficult in these situations, as well.</p>	<p><b>5. Indoor Public Assembly Facilities</b></p> <p>Public assembly facilities are defined as those in which large numbers of people congregate in generally unfamiliar surroundings. They include schools, theaters, <del>churches</del> <u>assembly</u>, <del>temples</del> and a variety of recreational facilities. Gatherings of large numbers of people in these buildings create conditions conducive to mass panic in a crisis, which only worsens and increases casualties. Administering medical aid is made more difficult in these situations, as well.</p>



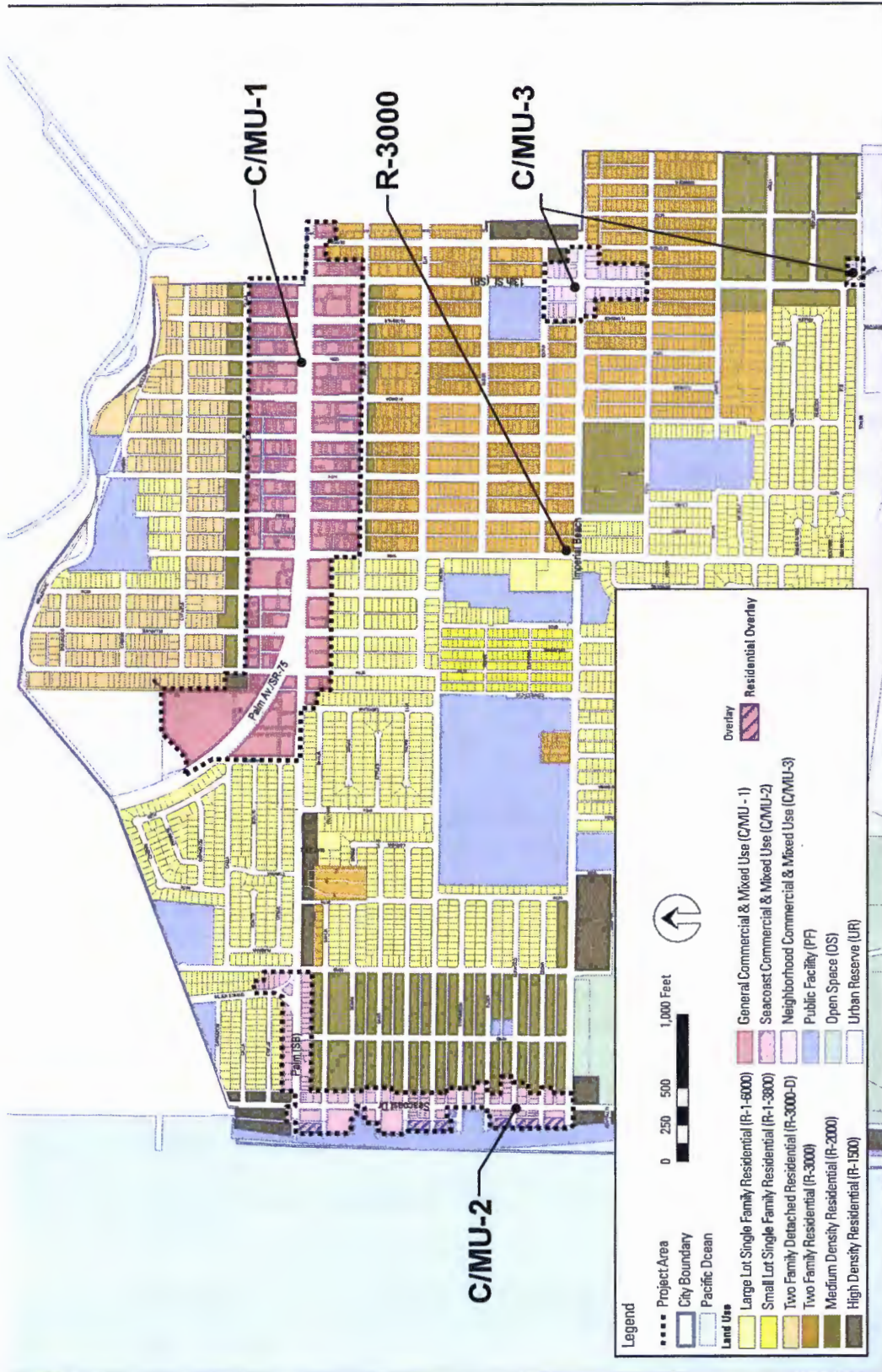
This page intentionally left blank.

# 3

Proposed  
Zoning Code Amendments





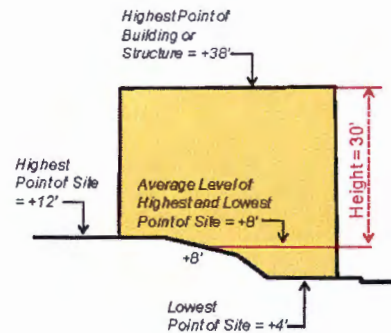


Proposed Zoning Map

## PROPOSED NEW AND AMENDED DEFINITIONS

### 19.04.400. Height, Measurement of

Height shall be measured from ~~existing grade at all points of the site to a warped plan an equal height above all points on the site.~~ the average level of the highest and lowest point of that portion of the building site covered by the building or structure to the highest point of the building or structure. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)



### 19.04.217. ~~Church.~~ Religious Assembly

~~“Church~~ Religious assembly” means an institution organized and operated for nonprofit purposes within the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701d of the California Revenue and Taxation Code and to whom the Franchise Tax Board has issued a determination exempting the organization from tax, which people regularly attend to participate in or hold religious services, meetings, and other activities. ~~The term “church” shall not carry a secular connotation, and shall include buildings in which the religious services of any denomination are held.~~ (Ord. 2001-960 § 1, 2001)

### 19.04.410. Hotel

“Hotel” means any establishment offering commercial transient lodging accommodation on a less than monthly basis to the general public, including any incidental services such as eating, drinking, meeting, banquet, entertainment, or recreational services intended primarily for the convenience of guests. Hotels shall consist of various types, which are further defined as follows:

H-1: A site area of a minimum square footage of thirty-five thousand square feet; at least thirty guest rooms; facilities for conference, meeting, or public use; and a full-service restaurant ~~on-site~~ on-site.

H-2: A “~~m~~ Motel,” which is an establishment providing guest rooms ~~on a less than monthly basis for periods less than 30~~ thirty days, with most rooms gaining access from an exterior walkway.

H-3: A lot, parcel, or segment of real property dedicated to “timeshare units” as defined in Section 19.04.756 of this Code.

H-4: A “bed and breakfast” lodging place containing no more than six guest rooms and one kitchen. (Ord. 2003-1007 § 1, 2003; Ord. 94-884, 1994)



H-5: An “inn” means a commercial establishment that affords public lodging to travelers, for periods less than thirty days. A kitchen and dining area may also be included to provide meal and beverage service to guests and to the general public.

#### **19.04.530. ~~Massage Parlor~~ Massage Therapy Establishment**

“~~Massage parlor~~” means a massage establishment as defined in Section 4.28.020. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)-“Massage therapy establishment” means a fixed location at which a massage business engages in or carries on a commercial activity involving, in whole or in part, the recurring giving or administering of massages on the premises, consistent with the definition in Section 4.28.020 of the Imperial Beach Municipal Code, and in compliance with SB 731. This definition specifically excludes any adult-oriented business as defined in Section 19.60 of the Imperial Beach Municipal Code.

#### **Active Commercial Uses**

“Active commercial uses” mean commercial uses that are oriented along the street wall facing the main street at ground level. Active commercial uses should be accessible to the general public, generate walk-in pedestrian clientele, and contribute to a high level of pedestrian activity. Property entrances will be oriented to the street, which will facilitate sidewalk traffic and active streets. Uses that generate pedestrian activity include retail shops, grocery stores, restaurants, bars, theaters and the performing arts, personal convenience services, hotels, banks, travel agencies, child care services, libraries, museums and galleries, and commercial recreation and entertainment.

#### **Active Use Area**

“Active use area” means all portions of a site and buildings included in the use area, except storage, parking, and landscaping.

#### **Antique Store**

“Antique store” means a bona fide antique store in which substantially all the merchandise is antique. “Antique” means any collectible, object of art, bric-a-brac, curio, household furniture, or other furnishing offered for sale upon the basis, expressed or implied, that the value of the property, in whole or in substantial part, is derived from its age or from historical associations.

#### **Athletic or Health Clubs**

“Athletic or health clubs” means any business that offers or provides to the public, services, facilities, and/or instruction in bodybuilding, exercising, weight reduction, figure development, aerobics, or any other similar physical activity. This includes physical fitness clubs, yoga or pilates studios, and dance studios.

#### **Courtyard**

“Courtyard” means an open space unobstructed to the sky, located at or above grade level on a lot, and bounded on two or more sides by walls of a building.

### **Dwelling, Multiple-Family**

“Multiple-family dwelling” means a residential structure containing two or more dwelling units that are attached vertically or horizontally.

### **Emergency Shelter**

“Emergency shelter” means housing with minimal supportive services for homeless persons that is limited to occupancy of six months or less by a homeless person. No individual or household may be denied emergency shelter because of an inability to pay.

### **Garage**

“Garage” means an accessible and usable enclosed space of not less than nine feet by nineteen feet for the parking of automobiles off the street.

### **Green Building Utilities**

“Green building utilities,” also referred to as small wind turbines, residential alternative power sources, or small alternative utilities, refers to the provision of sustainable essential services (such as water and electricity) in the form of small infrastructure that reuses water or generates electricity that is primarily used on-site and which support the principal development. Examples of green building utilities include small wind turbines, solar panels, and barrels for grey water reuse.

### **Ground Floor Retail** (see Retail, Ground Floor, below)

~~“Ground floor retail” is considered a general commercial use as permitted in a given district that is oriented along the street wall facing the main street and pedestrian movement, serves as a component of a mixed-use or multi-story project, and is compatible with a broad range of retail types that add to and benefit from a pedestrian retail context.~~

### **Habitable Floors**

“Habitable floors” are levels within a residential or mixed-use structure that permit residential, employment, visitor, or similar uses to be developed. Habitable floors do not include levels with rooftop, mechanical equipment, architectural treatments, stairwell entries, or similar uses open or partially open to the environment at the highest floor of the structure. The highest habitable floor shall not exceed the height limits defined in respective zones.

### **Height, First Floor**

“First floor height” means the vertical distance from the average level of the highest and lowest point of that portion of the building site covered by the building or structure, to the highest point of the ceiling.

### **Youth-hHostel**

~~“Youth-hHostel” means a place where travelers over the age of 17 but under the age of 30 may stay for a limited duration at low cost in a facility that is appropriately recognized by a state, or-national, or international hostel organization and that may include dormitory-like sleeping accommodations.~~



### **Incidental Manufacturing**

“Incidental manufacturing” means design, fabrication, and assembly of items for sale and is incidental or secondary to the use of the premises for retail sales of the items being produced. Manufacturing activities would involve production of individual items by hand manufacturing or the use of electric hand tools. Floor area used for manufacturing or storage of produced goods should not exceed the floor area used for retail sales. Typical uses would include ceramic studios, candle-making, leather-working, or custom jewelry manufacturing.

### **Kiosk**

“Kiosk” means a small booth with an open window on one or more sides for selling small consumables such as newspapers, magazines, street maps, and confections. An information kiosk (or information booth) dispenses information in the form of maps, pamphlets, and other literature, and/or advice offered by an attendant. An electronic kiosk (or computer kiosk or interactive kiosk) houses a computer terminal that may store data locally, or retrieve it from a computer network and provide an informational public service or serve a commercial purpose. Kiosks shall be fixed in nature and may not be movable. Kiosks do not include push carts or vending machines. Additionally, a kiosk is not to exceed twenty square feet in area and shall be located on public plazas or private leaseholds.

### **Live/Work Units**

A “live/work unit” means a structure or portion of a structure combining a residential living space for a group of persons including not more than four adults in the same unit with an integrated work space principally used by one or more of the residents of that unit.

### **Live Entertainment**

“Live entertainment” includes live music, recorded music, music played by a DJ, comedy, karaoke, readings, dancing, acting, or other entertainment performed on a site three or more days during a calendar year. This includes dancing by patrons to live music, recorded music, or music played by a DJ or disk jockey.

### **Loading Area**

“Loading area” means an area of adequate size for the delivery vehicles expected to be used, logically and conveniently located for bulk pickup and delivery, readily accessible when required parking spaces are filled, and located totally outside of any street or alley right-of-way.

### **Main Streets**

“Main street” is defined as the primary street adjacent to a parcel that carries the largest amount of pedestrian and automotive traffic. For the commercial zones within the City, the main streets are considered Palm Avenue, Old Palm Avenue, State Route 75 (SR-75), Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach Boulevard, and 13th Street.

### **Mixed-Use Development**

“Mixed-use development” means a development consisting of one or more lots developed as a cohesive project and designed with a blend of various compatible uses such as commercial, residential, and institutional. The uses may be located in the same building or in separate buildings on the same site plan. A mixed-use development should not consist exclusively of live/work units.

### **Open Space, Private**

“Private open space” means an area connected or immediately adjacent to a dwelling unit. The space can be a balcony, porch, ground or above grade patio, or roof deck used exclusively by the occupants of the dwelling unit and their guests.

### **Open Space, Public**

“Public open space” means those usable outdoor spaces commonly accessible to all residents and users of the building for the purpose of passive or active recreation.

### **Paseo**

“Paseo” means a path set aside for pedestrian walking that may pass through any part of a parcel to access points away from the main street edge.

### **Parapet**

“Parapet” means a low protective wall or railing along the edge of a raised structure such as a roof or balcony.

### **Pedestrian Entrance**

“Pedestrian entrance” means a functional entrance or door that is accessible to the general public from an enclosed occupied space. This does not include entrances to mechanical equipment or storage areas, emergency exits, or decorative nonfunctional doors and entrances.

### **Personal Convenience Services**

“Personal convenience services” include commercial establishments such as, but not limited to, dry cleaners, shoe repair, drug stores, convenience stores, barber shops, hair salons, nail salons, mailing centers, ticket sales, and travel agents, excluding any adult uses as defined in Section 19.04 of the Municipal Code.

### **Plaza**

A “plaza” is a type of public open space usually located near urban buildings and often featuring walkways, trees and shrubs, places to sit, and sometimes smaller shops.



### **Public Parking Lot**

A “public parking lot” means a parking area that contains parking spaces available to all members of the public on a free or for-fee basis, for purposes of parking a motor vehicle while accessing other areas in the city.

### **Retail Sales**

“Retail sales” refers to establishments primarily engaged in the sale or rental of goods or merchandise for personal or household use. Typical uses would include department stores, variety stores, drug stores, jewelry stores, apparel stores, and furniture stores.

### **Retail, Ground Floor**

“Ground floor retail” is considered a general commercial use that is oriented along the street wall facing a main street with pedestrian movement, serves as a component of a mixed-use or multi-story project, and is suitable for a broad range of retail types that add to and benefit from a pedestrian retail context.

### **Second-Hand Store or Thrift Shop**

“Second-hand store” or “thrift shop” means a place of business that engages in buying and selling, trading, or accepting for sale on consignment previously sold property, excluding bona fide antique stores (see definition).

### **Senior Housing**

“Senior housing” or “senior units” means a housing development as defined in State of California Civil Code Section 51.3.

### **Stepback**

“Stepback” means the minimum horizontal distance between the building line of a developed floor beneath and the building line of a floor above the ground floor along any side of a structure as defined in the respective zones in this code.

### **Street Wall**

“Street wall” means the building façade along a property line adjacent to any public street. The street wall may include arcades, colonnades, recessed entrances, private open space, and urban open space.

### **Urban Open Space**

“Urban open space” means any usable space accessible to the general public that is one thousand square feet or greater in size such as plazas, parks, etc.



City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Zoning Amendments  
Draft for Public Review  
Revised July 2012

Chapter 19.23. COMMERCIAL/~~MIXED~~-USE USE REGULATIONS

The following land uses are allowed in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones as uses that are expressly permitted, uses that require a conditional use permit, or uses that are permitted only if in compliance with specific location requirements. Any use not listed is prohibited unless the City Council determines it to be compatible with the zone.

Key to Land Use Tables					
P	Expressly permitted				
C	Permitted with conditional use permit				
N	Not permitted				
Notes					
Per the City's zoning code, hotels consist of various types and are defined as follows:					
H-1	A site area of a minimum of <del>35,000</del> thirty-five thousand square feet; at least <del>30</del> thirty guest rooms; facilities for conference, meeting, or public use; and a full-service restaurant on-site.				
H-2	A "motel," which is an establishment providing guest rooms, for periods less than <del>30</del> thirty days, with most rooms gaining access from an exterior walkway.				
H-3	A lot, parcel, or segment of real property dedicated to "timeshare units," as defined in Section 19.04.756 of the Imperial Beach Municipal Code.				
H-4	A "bed and breakfast" lodging place containing no more than six guest rooms and one kitchen.				
H-5	An "inn" means a commercial establishment that affords public lodging to travelers, for periods less than <del>30</del> thirty days. A kitchen and dining area may also be included to provide meal and beverage service to guests and to the general public.				
Commercial Uses		C/MU-1	C/MU-2	C/MU-3	Notes
Adult bookstore, adult hotel/motel, adult mini-motion picture theater, adult motion picture arcade, adult motion picture theater, sexual encounter studio, rap parlor, model studio		P	N	N	See definitions. Subject to requirements for adult-oriented businesses in Chapter 19.60.
Antique store		P	P	P	See definition.
Arcades and game centers		C	C	C	See definition.
Art studio, gallery, museum		P	P	P	See definition.
Athletic and health clubs		P [C]	P [C]	P [N]	See definition.
Bars or cocktail lounges		C	C	N	See definition.
with live entertainment		C	C	N	See definition.
Beach equipment rental, bike rental, surf shop, fishing supply		P	P	N	

Body piercing establishment	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.26.020(B)(1).
Bookstore	P	P	P	
Boutique	P	P	P	
Cabaret	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.60.
Child day care center	P	P	P	See definition.
Clinic	P	P	P	See definition.
Dancehall	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.60.
Department store	P	N	N	
Drive-in restaurant	P	P	N	See definition.
Drive-through establishment	C	N	C	See definition.
Fortune telling establishment	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.26.020(B)(3).
Kennel	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.74.050.
Kiosk	P [C]	P	P [C]	See definition. In C/MU-2: Subject to Section 19.27.020(A)(2).
Liquor store	P	P	N	See definition.
Massage therapy establishment	P	P	P	See definition. Per Senate Bill 731.
Mortuary	C	N	N	
Motor vehicle sales	C	N	N	Subject to Section 19.74.070.
Palm reading establishment	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.26.020(B)(3).
Pawnshop	C	N	C	See definition.
Personal convenience services	P	P	P	See definition.
Pool or billiard hall	C	C	N	See definition.
with live entertainment	C	C	N	See definition.
Postal services, private	P	P	P [C]	
Professional offices, financial institutions, and real estate	P	P [C]	P	
Restaurant	P	P	P	See definition.
with live entertainment	C	C	C	See definition.
Retail food store	P	P	P	
Retail sales	P	P	P	See definition.
Sales of secondhand or used merchandise	N	N	N	See definition.
Tattoo establishment	C	N	N	See definition. Subject to Section 19.26.020(B)(4).
<b>Residential and Similar Uses</b>	C/MU-1	C/MU-2	C/MU-3	<b>Notes</b>



Accessory building, structures, private garages	C	C	C	See definition of accessory building.
Boarding house	C [P]	N	N	See definition.
Emergency shelter	P	N	N	See definition.
Hostel	N	C	N	See definition.
Hotel, motel, bed and breakfast lodging, inn (H-1, H-2, H-3, H4, H-5)	P	P	P [C]	See definitions above.
Live/work unit	P	P	P	See definition.
Mixed-use development	P	P	P	See definition.
Motor home/manufactured housing community	N	N	N	See definitions.
Multiple-family dwellings	P	P	P	See definition. See requirement for active commercial uses on ground floor per Sections 19.26.020(A)(1), 19.27.020(A)(1), 19.28.020(A)(1).
Second-family units	N	N	N	
Senior housing, nursing home, retirement home	C	C	C	See definitions (definition of senior housing added).
Short-term rental	P	P	P	See definition.
Single-family detached	N	N* [P]	N	*Only permitted in Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone.
Timeshare	C	C	N	See definition.
<b>Light Industrial Uses</b>	<b>C/MU-1</b>	<b>C/MU-2</b>	<b>C/MU-3</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Automobile dismantling or wrecking yard	N	N	N	See definition.
Automobile repair or automobile body shop	C	N	N	See definitions.
Automobile sales lot	C	N	N	See definition.
Automobile service station/gas station	C	N	C	See definition.
Energy facility	C	N	N	See definition.
Equipment rental yard	C	N	N	
Incidental manufacturing	C	C [N]	C [N]	See definition.
Light manufacturing, manufacturing, industrial	N	N	N	
Public and Semi-public uses	C/MU-1	C/MU-2	C/MU-3	Notes
Campsites	N	N	N	See definition.
Clubs, fraternal/veteran/service organizations	C	C	C [N]	Subject to Sections 19.26.020(B)(2), 19.27.020(A)(3), 19.28.020(A)(2).

with live entertainment	C	C	C	
Educational institutions	C	C	N	
Governmental or quasi-public building	P	P	P	
Library	P	P	P	
Religious assembly	C	C	C	See definition. Subject to Sections 19.26.020(B)(2), 19.27.020(A)(3), 19.28.020(A)(2).
Public parking lot	P	P [C]	P	
Theatre/Assembly	C	C	C	
Wireless communication facility	C	C	C	See definition. Subject to Section 19.90.
Green Building Utilities	C/MU-1	C/MU-2	C/MU-3	Notes
Green Building Utilities	P	P	P	See definition. Subject to Section 19.92.
Open Space and Recreation	C/MU-1	C/MU-2	C/MU-3	Notes
Passive public parks	P	P	P	
Playground and recreation areas	C	C	C	Permitted if incidental and accessory to a permitted use.
Public riding and hiking trails	P	P	P	

Notes:

Highlighted text indicates that the use is a newly defined regulated use, or that permissions have been changed or added to address all zones.

[C] or [P] or [N] text indicates land use permission in the existing ordinance that is proposed to be changed.



City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Zoning Amendments  
Draft for Public Review  
Revised July 2012

Chapter 19.26. C/MU-1 GENERAL COMMERCIAL AND MIXED-USE ZONE

**19.26.010. Purpose of zone.**

The purpose of the C/MU-1 zone is to provide areas for mixed-use development, multiple-family dwellings, and for businesses to meet the local demand for commercial goods and services. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in the C/MU-1 zone will be community and neighborhood serving retail and office uses. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.26.020. Permitted uses.**

A. ~~The following commercial uses (excluding light manufacturing, manufacturing or industrial uses) shall be permitted subject to subsections C and D of this section as appropriate: Specified commercial, residential, light industrial, public and semi-public, green building utilities, and open space and recreation uses allowed in the C/MU-1 zone are listed in Chapter 19.23, including those requiring a conditional use permit, and shall also comply with the following land use regulations:~~

~~1. — Stores, shops and offices supplying commodities or performing services for residents of the City as a whole such as retail food stores, restaurants, department stores, specialty shops, banks, business or professional offices and other financial institutions, personal service enterprises, hotels and motels;~~

~~1. For all buildings with frontage along Palm Avenue between 7th Street and Florida Street, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, "active commercial uses" as defined in Chapter 19.05 are required to be provided at a minimum of sixty percent of each building's ground floor square footage, have direct pedestrian access from the Palm Avenue sidewalk or a plaza, and have a minimum building depth of twenty-five feet. Exceptions would require approval of a conditional use permit.~~

~~2. — Any other retail business or service establishment which the planning commission finds to be consistent with the purposes of this chapter and which will not impair the present or potential use of adjacent properties, excluding those listed under subsection B below.~~

~~3. Residential dwelling units may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every one thousand gross square feet of lot area, subject to the approval of a conditional use permit and subject to subsections B, C and D of this section as appropriate.~~

~~4. — Short-term rentals.~~

~~3. A kiosks shall not exceed twenty square feet in areaeach, and shall be located on public plazas or private leaseholds. Kiosks, and shall not exceed ten locations in the C/MU-1 zone.~~

~~4. Time shares require approval of a conditional use permit and shall be prohibited on the first floor unless twenty-five percent of the units are restricted to overnight accommodations.~~



B. The following uses are permitted subject to the approval of a conditional use permit and in compliance with requirements specified below:

- ~~1. Arcades and game centers;~~
- ~~2. Athletic and health clubs;~~
- ~~3. Automobile repair;~~
- ~~4. Bars and cocktail lounges;~~
- ~~5. Body shops;~~

~~6~~1. Body piercing establishments may be permitted, subject to the approval of a conditional use permit; however, it is unlawful to establish any such body piercing establishment if the location is within one hundred feet of any property that is zoned R-1-6000, R-1-3800, R-3000-D, R-3000, R-2000 or R-1500, or any other area that is primarily residential in character, as evidenced by letter designation in the zoning law of the City; or within two hundred feet of any of the following:

- a. Bar, cocktail lounge, or liquor store;
- b. Body piercing establishment;
- c. ~~Church~~Religious assembly;
- d. Educational institution~~-or school;~~
- e. Public park; or
- f. Tattoo establishment.

~~27.~~ ~~Church~~Religious assemblies, clubs, fraternal organizations (e.g., Masons, Moose, Elks, and Eagles), service organizations (e.g., Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club, and Jaycees), and veterans organizations (e.g., American Legion, VFW, FRA, and Disabled American Veterans), may be permitted, subject to the approval of a conditional use permit subject and to subsections E, F, G, ~~and~~ H of this ~~section~~chapter as appropriate.

- ~~8. Wireless communications facilities;~~
- ~~9. Educational institutions;~~
- ~~10. Equipment rental yard;~~

~~11~~3. Fortune telling or palm reading establishments may be permitted, subject to the approval of a conditional use permit; however, it is unlawful to establish any such fortune telling or palm reading establishment if the location is within:

- a. One hundred feet of any property that is zoned ~~as an~~ R-1-6000, R-1-3800, R-3000-D, R-3000, R-2000, or R-1500~~-zone~~, or any other area that is primarily residential in character, as evidenced by letter designation in the zoning law of the City; or
- b. Five hundred feet of any mobilehome park, manufactured housing community, or senior housing development; or
- c. One thousand feet of any similar establishment.

- ~~12. Gas stations;~~
- ~~13. Incidental manufacturing;~~
- ~~14. Kennels;~~
- ~~15. Kiosks;~~
- ~~16. Liquor stores;~~
- ~~17. Mortuaries;~~
- ~~18. Tattoo establishment;~~
- ~~19. Boarding house;~~
- ~~20. Residential dwelling units above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every one thousand square feet of lot area, and subject to subsections C and D of this section as appropriate;~~

214. Tattoo establishments may be permitted, subject to the approval of a conditional use permit; however, it is unlawful to establish any such tattoo establishment if the location is within one hundred feet of any property that is zoned ~~as an~~ R-1-6000, R-1-3800, R-3000-D, R-3000, R-2000, or R-1500 ~~zone~~, or any other area that is primarily residential in character, as evidenced by letter designation in the zoning law of the City; or within two hundred feet of any of the following:

- a. Bar, cocktail lounge, or liquor store;
- b. Body piercing establishment;
- c. ~~Church~~ Religious assembly;
- d. Educational institution ~~or school~~;
- e. Public park; or
- f. Tattoo establishment.

C. Site plan review by the ~~planning commission~~ City Council will be required if any of the following applies ~~for to~~ proposed uses located in the C/MU-1 zone:

- 1. All proposed ~~commercial~~ developments involving new construction.
- 2. Any addition, construction, or alteration of existing buildings resulting in an increase of ten percent or greater of the gross floor area of a commercial structure or in an individual commercial space within the structure or within a commercial shopping center.
- 3. Any proposed ~~commercial~~ use or structure requiring the approval of a conditional use permit.
- 4. Any development including residential dwelling units ~~above the first floor~~.

D. Site plan review by the community development director (administrative approval) will be required if any of the following applies for proposed uses located in the C/MU-1 zone:



1. Any addition, construction, or alteration of existing buildings resulting in a one-time increase of less than ten percent of the gross floor area of a commercial structure or in an individual commercial space within the structure or within a commercial shopping center. Multiple additions to existing commercial buildings ~~which that~~ cumulatively result in an increase of ten percent or greater of the originally approved gross floor area of a commercial building shall require site plan review by the ~~planning commission~~ City Council.

2. Exterior facade alterations to existing buildings located on a design review corridor as identified in subsection 19.83.020(A)(1) of this code.

3. The building or site or a portion of the building or site that is proposed to be occupied has been vacant for a period of two years or greater.

4. Public parking lots.

E. Notice to adjoining property owners of any application for conditional use permit for a ~~church~~ religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization, under subsection (B)(~~72~~) of this section shall be given pursuant to Section 19.86.050 of this code. Additionally, notice of hearing shall be made by mailing a postal card or letter to all the business owners within three hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the property involved, such business owners and their addresses being established for this purpose by the latest business licenses issued by the City; provided, however, that in the case where the ownership or address has recently changed and such knowledge is available to the Community Development Department, notice shall also be sent in this manner to the current business owners. Such notice shall include the nature of the proposal, a description of the property under consideration, and the time and place of the public hearing. In certain cases where mailed notice of hearing is deemed impractical, notice may be effected by posting upon the subject property and within the area of the subject property a notice bearing the same information as contained in the notice to be mailed. The notice shall be posted at least ten days prior to the date set for the public hearing, and the Community Development Department shall sign an affidavit of posting to be held in the record. No defect or irregularity in the giving of such notice shall invalidate the public hearing.

F. The report prepared by staff for the City Council on the conditional use permit application for a ~~church~~ religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization under subsection (B)(~~72~~) of this section, shall provide a listing of the number of property owners, business owners, and types of businesses located within three hundred feet of the exterior boundaries of the subject property. Prior to the scheduled public hearing, the applicant shall attempt to contact the property owners and business owners located within three hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the subject property to determine how many support and how many oppose the application for the conditional use permit on the subject property. The results of the survey of the property owners and business owners shall be forwarded to City staff for inclusion in the staff report to the City Council.

G. Prior to the issuance of a conditional use permit for a ~~church~~ religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization under subsection (B)(~~72~~) of this section, the applicant must demonstrate and the City Council must make a finding that the parking requirements of Chapter 19.48 of this code are met and that sufficient parking exists to accommodate the proposed uses.

H. Any conditional use permit issued for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization or veteran's organization under subsection (B)(~~72~~) of this section shall, at a minimum, specifically address the following:

1. Proposed uses or activities;
2. Hours of operations, uses, and activities;
3. The days of the week and times for meetings or gatherings and the number of people attending those meetings or gatherings;
4. The number, time, and days of the week of any proposed musical activities, performances, or entertainment;
5. The number, time, and days of the week of activities involving infants, pre-teens, teens, or young adults;
6. The dates, times, and number of persons in attendance for any special meetings, events, or gatherings not included in the normal hours of operation, that are directly related to the operation, uses, and activities of the ~~ehureh~~facility, or are attended by the principal membership of the ~~ehureh~~facility; and
7. The dates, times and number of persons in attendance for any special meetings, events, or gatherings not included in the normal hours of operation, if any, that are not directly related to the operation, uses, and activities of the ~~ehureh~~facility, nor are attended by the principal membership of the ~~ehureh~~facility; and

8. No child care services by persons unrelated to the parent or child, child day care center, or educational institution shall be operated on the premises unless specifically provided for under the conditional use permit issued for the ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization. Nothing in subsections E, F, G, or H of this section shall supersede or preempt the issuance criteria for a conditional use permit as set forth in Chapter 19.82 of this code. (Ord. 2003-1013 § 4, 2003; Ord. 2002-986 §§ 2, 3, 2002; Ord. 2002-983 §§ 21, 22, 2002; Ord. 2001-973 §§ 3—6, 2001; Ord. 2001-971 §§ 3—5, 2001; Ord. 2001-960 §§ 3—8, 2001; Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### ~~19.26.030. General commercial mixed use overlay (MU-1) zone.~~

~~The area generally located between Calla Avenue on the north, Donax Avenue on the south, Seventh Street on the east, and the eastern City boundary, is designated as a MU-1 commercial overlay area as indicated on the adopted land use/zoning map. The purpose of this designation is to allow future commercial expansion in an orderly manner. In this overly designation, general commercial activities are encouraged to expand into areas otherwise designated as R-1500, only if the lot proposed for commercial development is immediately adjacent to an existing commercial building used for commercial purposes, and only if the commercial use will occupy a newly constructed building designed solely for commercial or mixed-use purposes. Approval of a conditional use permit by the planning commission shall be required pursuant to Chapter 19.85. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)~~

#### **19.26.040. Yards.**

Yard requirements for the C/MU-1 zone are as follows:



A. Front Yard and Side Street. Zero feet; up to forty percent of the project frontage may be set back up to an additional five feet, but not less than five feet for more than sixty percent (60%) of the project frontage. Front yards facing Donax Avenue or Calla Avenue shall be a minimum of fifteen feet. Side street setbacks other than on Palm Avenue shall be a minimum of five feet. Garages on all streets shall be setback either 5 feet or less, or not less than 20 feet.

B. Side Yard. There shall be a minimum side yard of five feet.

C. Rear Yard. There shall be a minimum rear yard of ten feet.

D. The open space and landscaping requirements as stated in Chapter 19.50 of this code shall be met.

~~There are no front, side or rear yard setbacks required in the C-1 zone, however, the open space and landscaping requirements as stated in Chapter 19.50 shall be observed only for proposed commercial uses or developments requiring site plan review by the planning commission, as identified in subsection 19.26.020(C), provided that in no case shall the amount of existing landscaping be reduced and that any new and all existing landscaping shall be permanently maintained. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)~~

#### **19.26.041. Stepbacks**

For property with a side or rear yard abutting a residential zone, the second floor shall be set back a minimum of five feet from the abutting residential property line and the third floor shall be set back a minimum of ten feet from the abutting residential property line.

#### **19.26.050. Minimum lot size.**

The minimum lot size for any new lot created in the C/MU-1 zone shall be three thousand square feet (for related provisions concerning small lots, see Chapter 19.42.). (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.26.060. Frontage.**

Every new lot created in the C/MU-1 zone shall have a minimum width along a street of thirty feet (for related provisions concerning small lots, see Chapter 19.42.). (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.26.070. Building height.**

No building in the C/MU-1 zone shall exceed four stories or forty feet in height, whichever is less. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983). All commercial spaces on the ground floor shall have a minimum fifteen-foot floor-to-ceiling height; and single-story commercial buildings shall have a minimum building height of twenty feet.

#### **19.26.080. Separation of buildings.**

No buildings shall be located less than five feet from any other building on the same lot. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**19.26.110. Parking.**

For provisions on parking applicable in the C/MU-1 zone, see Chapter 19.48. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**19.26.120. Signs.**

For provisions on signs applicable in the C/MU-1 zone, see Chapter 19.52. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**19.26.130. Uses conducted outside buildings.**

For provisions on uses conducted outside buildings applicable in the C/MU-1 zone, see Chapter 19.72. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Zoning Amendments  
Draft for Public Review  
Revised July 2012

Chapter 19.27. C/MU-2 SEACOAST COMMERCIAL AND MIXED-USE ZONE

**19.27.010. Purpose of zone.**

The purpose of the C/MU-2 zone is to provide land to meet the demand for goods and services required primarily by the tourist population, as well as local residents who use the beach area. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in the C/MU-2 zone will be visitor-serving retail such as specialty stores, surf shops, restaurants, and hotels and motels. Additionally, the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone has been established to preserve opportunities for single-family residences within the overlay area. Mixed-use and multiple-family residences are also permitted in the C/MU-2 zone and in the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone. The development standards of the C/MU-2 zone encourage pedestrian activity through the design and location of building frontages and parking provisions. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.27.020. Permitted uses.**

A. ~~The following commercial uses shall be permitted subject to subsections B, C, and D of this section as appropriate:~~ Specified commercial, residential, light industrial, public and semi-public, green building utilities, and open space and recreation uses allowed in the C/MU-2 zone are listed in Chapter 19.23, including those requiring a conditional use permit, and shall also comply with the following land use regulations:

1. For all buildings with frontage along Seacoast Drive, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, "active commercial uses" as defined in Chapter 19.04 are required to be provided at a minimum- sixty percent of each building's ground floor square footage and have direct pedestrian access from the Seacoast Drive sidewalk or a plaza. Exceptions would require approval of a conditional use permit.

2. Kiosks ~~(are not to exceed twenty square feet in area each).~~ ~~The kiosks,~~ shall be located on public plazas or private leaseholds, and shall not exceed ten locations in the ~~Seacoast commercial C/MU-2 Zone~~ zone.

3. ~~Churches~~ Religious assemblies, clubs, fraternal organization (e.g., Masons, Moose, Elks, and Eagles), service organizations (e.g., Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club, and Jaycees), and veterans organizations (e.g., American Legion, VFW, FRA, and Disabled American Veterans) require approval of a conditional use permit and are subject to subsections D, E, F, and G of this section as appropriate.

4. Time shares require approval of a conditional use permit and shall be prohibited on the first floor unless twenty-five percent of the units are restricted to overnight accommodations.

5. Multiple-family residential dwelling units are permitted at a maximum density of one unit per every one thousand five hundred gross square feet of lot area; or if located on Palm Avenue and the east side of Seacoast Drive, residential dwelling units may be increased to a



maximum density of one dwelling unit for each one thousand two hundred and ten gross square feet of lot area with approval of a conditional use permit by the City Council that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the following development incentives:

- a. Project sites that are consolidated to a final size greater than twenty thousand square feet;
- b. Entire project achieves Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System certification, a comparable green building certification, or can demonstrate the ability to achieve certification;
- c. Entire project provides a minimum of seventy-five percent “active commercial uses” on the ground floor;
- d. At least twenty-five percent of proposed residential units must be three-bedroom units;
- e. Provide an additional one hundred square feet of public open space or plaza space with minimum dimensions of six feet by ten feet;
- f. Dedicate a minimum of one foot of private property frontage to public use (creates a one-foot front setback dedicated to public use);
- a.g. Floors above first floor provide additional stepback of five feet beyond required stepback.

~~Beach equipment rental;~~

~~2. Bed and breakfast;~~

~~3. Bookstores;~~

~~4. Boutiques;~~

~~5. Financial institutions;~~

~~a. On first floor, subject to subsection B of this section;~~

~~b. All floors when located on Palm Avenue, Silver Strand Boulevard and/or Third Street.~~

~~6. Fishing supply;~~

~~7. Hotels and motels;~~

~~8. Personal services;~~

~~9. Professional offices;~~

~~a. On first floor, subject to subsection B of this section;~~

~~b. All floors when located on a Palm Avenue, Silver Strand Boulevard and/or Third Street.~~

~~10. Public parks;~~

~~11. Residence inns;~~

~~13. Private postal services;~~

~~14. Restaurants;~~



- ~~15. Retail shops;~~
- ~~16. Specialty shops;~~
- ~~17. Surf shops;~~
- ~~18. Any other retail business or service establishment which the City Council finds to be consistent with the purposes of this chapter and which will not impair the present or potential use of adjacent properties, excluding those listed under subsection B of this section;~~
- ~~19. Residential dwelling units may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every one thousand five hundred square feet of lot area, subject to approval of a CUP and subject to subsections B and C of this section as appropriate;~~
- ~~20. Kiosks (not to exceed twenty square feet in area each). The kiosks shall be located on public plazas or private leaseholds and shall not exceed ten locations in the Seacoast commercial zone;~~
- ~~21. Short term rentals.~~
- ~~B. The uses listed below are permitted subject to the approval of a conditional use permit. Conditional use permits for financial institutions and professional offices shall be considered, provided these uses do not exceed thirty percent of the existing commercial square footage on Seacoast Drive and intersecting residential streets. Upper floor professional offices and financial institutions are not subject to this section.~~
- ~~1. Arcades and centers;~~
- ~~2. Athletic and health clubs (second floor only);~~
- ~~3. Bars and cocktail lounges;~~
- ~~4. Liquor stores;~~
- ~~5. Churches, clubs, fraternal organization (e.g., Masons, Moose, Elks and Eagles), service organizations (e.g., Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club and Jaycees), and veterans organizations (e.g., American Legion, VFW, FRA and Disabled American Veterans) subject to subsections E, F, G, and H of this section as appropriate;~~
- ~~6. Commercial recreation facilities not otherwise listed;~~
- ~~7. Educational institutions;~~
- ~~8. Timeshares; shall be prohibited on the first floor unless twenty five percent of the units are restricted to overnight accommodation;~~
- ~~9. Residential dwelling units above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every one thousand five hundred square feet of lot area, subject to subsections C and D of this section as appropriate;~~
- ~~10. Financial institutions: On first floor, subject to a conditional use permit per this subsection B;~~
- ~~11. Professional offices: On first floor, subject to a conditional use permit per this subsection B;~~

~~12. Theaters and assemblies;~~

~~13. Public parking lots;~~

~~14. Wireless communications facilities.~~

~~CB.~~ Site plan review by the City Council will be required if any of the following applies for proposed uses located in the C/MU-2 zone:

1. All proposed ~~commercial~~ developments involving new construction;
2. Any addition, construction, remodeling or alteration of existing buildings resulting in an increase of ten percent or greater of the gross floor area of a commercial structure or in an individual commercial space within the structure or within a commercial shopping center;
3. Any proposed commercial use, residential use, or structure requiring the approval of a conditional use permit;

4. Any development including residential dwelling units ~~above the first floor;~~ and

5. Public parking lots.

~~DC.~~ Site plan review by the community development director (administrative approval) will be required if any of the following applies for proposed uses located in the C/MU-2 zone:

1. Any addition, construction, remodeling, or alteration of existing buildings resulting in a one-time increase of less than ten percent of the gross floor area of a commercial structure or in an individual commercial space within the structure or within a commercial shopping center. Multiple additions to existing commercial buildings ~~which that~~ cumulatively result in an increase of ten percent or greater of the originally approved gross floor area of a commercial building shall require site plan review by the City Council;

2. Exterior facade alterations to existing buildings located on a design review corridor as identified in subsection 19.83.020(A)(1) of this title;

3. The building or site or a portion of the building or site ~~that is proposed to be occupied~~ has been vacant for a period of two years or greater; and

4. Kiosks.

~~ED.~~ Notice to adjoining property owners of any application for conditional use permit for a ~~church~~ religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization, under subsection (~~BA~~)(53) of this section shall be given pursuant to Section 19.86.050 of this code. Additionally, notice of hearing shall be made by mailing a postal card or letter to all the business owners within three hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the property involved, such business owners and their addresses being established for this purpose by the latest business licenses issued by the City; provided, however, that in the case where the ownership or address has recently changed and such knowledge is available to the Community Development Department, notice shall also be sent in this manner to the current business owners. Such notice shall include the nature of the proposal, a description of the property under consideration, and the time and place of the public hearing. In certain cases where mailed notice



of hearing is deemed impractical, notice may be effected by posting upon the subject property and within the area of the subject property a notice bearing the same information as contained in the notice to be mailed. The notice shall be posted at least ten days prior to the date set for the public hearing, and the Community Development Department shall sign an affidavit of posting to be held in the record. No defect or irregularity in the giving of such notice shall invalidate the public hearing.

**FE.** The report prepared by staff for the City Council on the conditional use permit application for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization under subsection (BA)(53) of this section, shall provide a listing of the number of property owners, business owners, and types of businesses located within three hundred feet of the exterior boundaries of the subject property. Prior to the scheduled public hearing, the applicant shall attempt to contact the property owners and business owners located within three hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the subject property to determine how many support and how many oppose the application for the conditional use permit on the subject property. The results of the survey of the property owners and business owners shall be forwarded to City staff for inclusion in the staff report to the City Council.

**GF.** Prior to the issuance of a conditional use permit for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization under subsection (BA)(53) of this section, the applicant must demonstrate and the City Council must make a finding that the off-street parking requirements of Chapter 19.48 of this code are met and that sufficient parking exists to accommodate the proposed uses.

**HG.** Any conditional use permit issued for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization under subsection (BA)(53) of this section shall, at a minimum, specifically address the following:

1. Proposed use or activities;
2. Hours of operations, uses, and activities;
3. The days of the week and times for meetings or gatherings and the number of people attending those meetings or gatherings;
4. The number, time, and days of the week of any proposed musical activities, performances, or entertainment;
5. The number, time, and days of the week of activities involving infants, pre-teens, teens, or young adults;
6. The dates, times and number of persons in attendance for any special meetings, events, or gatherings not included in the normal hours of operation, that are directly related to the operation, uses, and activities of the ~~ehureh~~facility or are attended by the principal membership of the ~~ehureh~~facility; and
7. The dates, times, and number of persons in attendance for any special meetings, events, or gatherings not included in the normal hours of operation, if any, that are not directly related to the operation, uses, and activities of the ~~ehureh~~facility, nor are attended by the principal membership of the ~~ehureh~~facility; and

8. No child care services by persons unrelated to the parent or child, child day care center, or educational institution shall be operated on the premises unless specifically provided for under the conditional use permit issued for the ~~church facility, club, fraternal organization, service organization or veteran's organization~~. Nothing in subsections ~~ED, FE, GE, or HG~~ of this section shall supersede or preempt the issuance criteria for a conditional use permit as set forth in Chapter 19.82 of this code. (Ord. 2003-1013 § 5, 2003; Ord. 2002-983 §§ 23, 24, 2002; Ord. 2001-960 §§ 9—13, 2001; Ord. 98-930 § 1, 1998; Ord. 98-920 § 1 (part), 1998; Ord. 97-910 § 1, 1997; Ord. 94-888 § 1, 1994; Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**~~19.27.030. Prohibited uses:~~**

~~———— The following uses are prohibited in the C-2 zone:~~

- ~~———— 1. Automotive repair;~~
- ~~———— 2. Body piercing establishments;~~
- ~~———— 3. Body shops;~~
- ~~———— 4. Automobile service stations;~~
- ~~———— 5. Automobile dismantling or wrecking yards;~~
- ~~———— 6. Campsites;~~
- ~~———— 7. Drive-thru establishments;~~
- ~~———— 8. Equipment rental yards;~~
- ~~———— 9. Fortune telling establishments;~~
- ~~———— 10. Kennels;~~
- ~~———— 11. Tattoo establishment;~~
- ~~———— 12. Pawn shop;~~
- ~~———— 13. Boarding house.~~

~~(Ord. 2002-986 §§ 4—6, 2002; Ord. 2001-973 §§ 7—10, 2001; Ord. 2001-971 §§ 6, 7, 2001; Ord. 98-920 § 1 (part), 1998; Ord. 94-884, 1994)~~

**19.27.040. Yards.**

~~———— Yard requirements of the C/MU-2 zone are as follows:~~

A. On property fronting on Seacoast Drive, the front of each building shall be set on the front property line. For purposes of this requirement an arcade is considered a part of the building. For lots not fronting on Seacoast Drive there are no front, side, or rear yard setbacks in the C/MU-2 zone; ~~except as follows:~~

- ~~———— 1. A ten-foot rear and/or side yard setback is required for properties abutting any property zoned R-1-6000;~~
- ~~———— 2. A five-foot rear and/or side yard setback is required for properties abutting any property zoned R-2000; and~~



B. — 3. — For properties within the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone, the setbacks shall be as required in Section 19.27.140(C)(2B); and:

1. — B. — The open space and landscaping requirements as stated in Chapter 19.50 of this code shall be met.

~~however, the open space and landscaping requirements as stated in Chapter 19.50 shall be observed only for proposed commercial uses or developments requiring site plan review by the planning commission, as identified in subsection 19.27.020(C), provided that in no case shall the amount of existing landscaping be reduced and that any new and all existing landscaping shall be permanently maintained. — B. — On property fronting on Seacoast Drive the second floor front yard setback shall be five feet, except that sixty percent of the frontage may be set back zero feet.~~

~~— C. — On property fronting on Seacoast Drive, the third floor front yard setback shall be ten feet, except that forty percent of the frontage may be set back five feet. (Ord. 98-920 § 3 (part), 1998; Ord. 94-884, 1994)~~**19.27.041. Stepbacks.**

A. — On property with a side or rear yard abutting a residential zone, the second-floor stepback shall be a minimum of five feet from the abutting residential property line and the third-floor stepback shall be a minimum of ten feet from the abutting residential property line.

B. — Stepbacks are not required where the ten-foot setback is required or observed for at least fifty percent of the property line abutting residential property.

C. — On properties fronting Seacoast Drive, an upper-story setback of five to ten feet is required for a minimum of fifty percent of street-facing facades along Seacoast Drive.

#### **19.27.050. Minimum lot size.**

The minimum lot size for any new lot created in the C/MU-2 zone shall be three thousand square feet (for related provisions concerning small lots, see Chapter 19.42). (Ord. 98-920 § 3 (part), 1998; Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.27.060. Frontage.**

Every new lot created in the C/MU-2 zone shall have a minimum width along a street of thirty feet (for related provisions concerning small lots, see Chapter 19.42). (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.27.070. Building height.**

A. — No building in the C/MU-2 (~~Seacoast Commercial~~) Z zone shall exceed three stories or thirty feet in height, whichever is less, except as follows:

1. — Properties within the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone are subject to a reduced single-family residential building height of two stories or twenty-six feet, whichever is less, per Section 19.27.140(C);

2. — Properties ~~located on Palm Avenue and properties on the east side of Seacoast Drive~~ shall have a height limit not to exceed three stories and thirty-five feet with approval of a conditional use permit that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the development incentives listed in Section 19.27.020(A)(5); and

3. Hotel, as defined in Section 19.04.410 as an H-1 type hotel, shall have a height limit not to exceed forty feet as part of an approved Specific Plan pursuant to Section 19.27.150. (Ord. 2003-1007 § 2, 2003; Ord. 94-884, 1994).

B. All commercial spaces on the ground floor shall have a minimum fifteen-foot floor-to-ceiling height; and single-story commercial buildings shall have a minimum building height of twenty feet.

**19.27.080. Separation of buildings.**

No buildings shall be located less than five feet from any other building on the same lot. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.27.110. Parking.**

For provisions on parking applicable in the C/MU-2 zone, see Chapter 19.48. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.27.120. Signs.**

For provisions on signs applicable in the C/MU-2 zone, see Chapter 19.52. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.27.130. Uses conducted outside buildings.**

For provisions on uses conducted outside buildings applicable in the C/MU-2 zone, see Chapter 19.72. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.27.140. Seacoast ~~commercial-Residential~~ Overlay Zone.**

The area located between Ocean Boulevard on the west, Ocean Lane on the east, and between Imperial Beach Boulevard on the south and Palm Avenue on the north is designated as the commercial-Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone (MU-2). The purpose of this overlay zone is to preserve opportunities for continuation of single-family residential uses in this area. ~~this transition-zone designation is to allow for the gradual commercial expansion in an area which is currently used for residential purposes.~~

A. The following uses shall be permitted in the MU-2 Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone:

1. ~~Single-family and multi-family~~ residential;
2. Short-term rentals as defined in Section 19.040.692 of this code; and

3. Any use listed in Chapter 19.27.020 as a permitted use in the C/MU-2 Zonezone is a permitted use in the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone.

B. ~~The following uses are permitted in the MU-2 overlay zone subject to approval of a conditional use permit and subject to the property development regulations in subsection C of this section:~~

- ~~1. Hotels/motels (daily rentals);~~
- ~~2. Bed and breakfast inns;~~
- ~~3. Time shares.~~



~~\_\_\_\_\_ C. \_\_\_\_\_ Property development regulations.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Residential density:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. \_\_\_\_\_ One dwelling unit for each one thousand five hundred square feet of lot area.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Yard requirements in the MU-2 Residential Overlay Zone are as follows:~~

~~a1. \_\_\_\_\_ Residential uses:~~

~~Ocean Lane: five feet.~~

~~Side yard: five feet.~~

~~Ocean Boulevard (Beach): ten feet.~~

~~b2. \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial uses ~~with approval of a conditional use permit~~:~~

~~Ocean Lane: zero feet.~~

~~Side yard: fifteen feet.~~

~~Ocean Boulevard (Beach): ten feet.~~

~~eC. \_\_\_\_\_ Height requirements in the Seacoast Residential Overlay Zone are as follows:~~

~~Residential Single-family uses. Two stories or twenty-six feet, whichever is less.~~

~~Commercial All other uses. As permitted per Section 19.27.070 Three stories or thirty feet, whichever is less and subject to approval of a conditional use permit.~~

#### **19.27.145. Conditional Use Permit.**

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Conditions for a conditional use permit may include, but shall not be limited to, requirements for special yards, open spaces, buffers, fences, walls, and screening; requirements for installation and maintenance of landscaping and erosion control measures; requirements for street improvements and dedications, regulations of vehicular ingress and egress and traffic circulation; regulations of signs; regulations of hours of operation; establishment of development schedules or time limits for performance or completion; requirements for periodic review; and such other conditions as may be deemed necessary to ensure compatibility with existing surrounding uses, and to preserve the public health, safety, and welfare. (Ord. 2003-1013 §§ 6, 7, 2003; Ord. 94-884, 1994)~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Conditional Use Permit. Conditions for the conditional use permit may include, but shall not be limited to requirements for special yards, open spaces, buffers, fences, walls, and screening; requirements for installation and maintenance of landscaping and erosion control measures; requirements for street improvements and dedications, regulations of vehicular ingress and egress and traffic circulation; regulations of signs; regulations of hours of operation; establishment of development schedules or time limits for performance or completion; requirements for periodic review; and such other conditions as may be deemed necessary to ensure compatibility with existing surrounding uses, and to preserve the public health, safety and welfare. (Ord. 2003-1013 §§ 6, 7, 2003; Ord. 94-884, 1994)~~

### 19.27.150. Specific Plan.

A. The eCity eCouncil may approve a specific plan for ~~a hotel use an H-1 hotel as defined in Chapter 19.25 of this code~~ that allows deviations from the following regulations in the C/MU-2 zone:

1. Building heights specified in Section 19.27.070, provided that a height deviation may not exceed four stories or forty feet, whichever is less;
2. Building ~~setbacks~~ yard requirements specified in Section 19.27.040 and building setbacks specified in Section 19.27.041. The specific plan shall establish setbacks and setbacks to create public view corridors to and along the beach and to avoid impacts to existing public ocean views. The specific plan shall set back private development from public use areas to maximize public access, create open space buffers, and avoid conflicts between public and private uses;
3. Parking requirements specified in Section 19.48.040 ~~4035~~ may be reduced to one parking space per unit if a site-specific parking study, taking into account the demand for parking associated with ancillary uses such as conference areas and restaurants, establishes that parking demand will not exceed one parking space per unit.

B. The intent of this section is to accommodate, to the greatest extent possible, an equitable balance of project design, project amenities, public improvements, and community and city benefits. The purpose of the specific plan is to provide flexibility in the application of development regulations for hotel projects where strict application of those regulations would restrict design options and result in a less desirable project.

C. ~~The city council may approve a specific plan for a proposed hotel project that occupies property within both the seacoast commercial (C-2) and seacoast mixed-use overlay (MU-2) zones that allows deviations from the C-2 zoning regulations that are authorized by subsection A and deviations from the following regulations in the MU-2 zone:~~

- ~~1. Conditional use permit requirement specified in Section 19.27.140(B)(1);~~
- ~~2. Building setbacks specified in Section 19.27.140(C)(2)(b). The specific plan shall establish setbacks to create public view corridors to and along the beach and to avoid impacts to existing public ocean views. The specific plan shall set back private development from public use areas to maximize public access, create open space buffers and avoid conflicts between public and private uses;~~
- ~~3. Building heights specified in Section 19.27.040(C)(2)(c), provided that a height deviation may not exceed four stories or forty feet, whichever is less; and~~
- ~~4. Parking requirements specified in Section 19.48.040 may be reduced to one parking space per unit if a site-specific parking study, taking into account the demand for parking associated with ancillary uses such as conference areas and restaurants, establishes that parking demand will not exceed one parking space per unit.~~

~~D.~~ All of the following findings must be made before a specific plan may be approved under this section:



1. The proposed project will not adversely affect the general plan or the local coastal program;
2. The proposed project will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare;
3. The proposed project, when considered as a whole, will be beneficial to the community and the city; and
4. The proposed deviations are appropriate for the location and will result in a more desirable project than would be achieved if designed in strict conformance with zoning regulations in the C/MU-2 zone.

E. A specific plan approved under this section must state the ways in which the project benefits the community and the city and the ways in which the resulting project is preferable to what the existing regulations would have allowed. (Ord. 2003-1002 § 1, 2003; Ord. 2002-984 § 1, 2002)

City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Zoning Amendments  
Draft for Public Review  
Revised July 2012

Chapter 19.28. C/MU-3 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL AND MIXED-USE ZONE

**19.28.010. Purpose of zone.**

The purpose of the C/MU-3 zone is to provide areas for businesses to meet the local neighborhood demand for commercial goods and services. It is intended that the dominant type of commercial activity in the zone will be neighborhood-serving retail and office uses such as markets, professional offices, personal convenience services, restaurants, and hardware stores. Multiple-family residences are also permitted in the C/MU-3 zone. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.28.020. Permitted uses.**

A. ~~The following commercial uses (excluding light manufacturing, manufacturing or industrial uses) shall be permitted subject to subsections C and D of this section as appropriate: Specified commercial, residential, light industrial, public and semi-public, green building utilities, and open space and recreation uses allowed in the C/MU-3 zone are listed in Chapter 19.23, including those requiring a conditional use permit, and shall also comply with the following land use regulations:~~

1. For all buildings with frontage along Imperial Beach Boulevard and 13th Street, including those with multiple-family dwelling units, "active commercial uses" as defined in Chapter 19.04 are required to be provided at a minimum of sixty percent of each building's ground floor square footage and have direct pedestrian access from the Imperial Beach Boulevard and 13th Street sidewalks or a plaza. Exceptions would require approval of a conditional use permit.

2. Religious assemblies, clubs, fraternal organization (e.g., Masons, Moose, Elks, and Eagles), service organizations (e.g., Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club, and Jaycees), and veterans organizations (e.g., American Legion, VFW, FRA, and Disabled American Veterans) require approval of a conditional use permit and are subject to subsections D, E, F, and G of this section as appropriate.

~~1. Stores, shops, offices, and personal service enterprises serving the neighborhood;~~

~~2. Any other neighborhood business establishment which the planning commission finds to be consistent with the purposes of this chapter and which will not impair the present or potential use of adjacent properties, excluding those listed under subsection B of this section;~~

~~3. Residential dwelling units may be permitted above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every two thousand square feet of lot area, subject to approval of a conditional use permit and subject to subsections B, D and E of this section as appropriate.~~

~~B. The following uses are subject to approval of a conditional use permit:~~

~~1. Arcades and game centers;~~

~~2. Gas stations;~~

~~3. Kiosks;~~

~~4. Post office branch;~~ 53. Multiple-family Residential dwelling units above the first floor at a maximum density of one unit per every two-one thousand five hundred gross square feet of lot area and subject to subsections D and E of this section as appropriate; or one dwelling unit for each one thousand two hundred and ten gross square feet of lot area and subject to approval of a conditional use permit that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the following development incentives:

- a. Project sites that are consolidated to a final size greater than twenty thousand square feet;
- b. Entire project achieves Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System certification, a comparable green building certification, or can demonstrate the ability to achieve certification;
- c. Entire project provides a minimum of seventy-five percent "active commercial uses" on the ground floor;
- d. At least twenty-five percent of proposed residential units must be three-bedroom units;
- e. Provide an additional one hundred square feet of public open space or plaza space with minimum dimensions of six feet by ten feet;
- f. Dedicate a minimum of one foot of private property frontage to public use (creates a one-foot front setback dedicated to public use);
- g. Floors above first floor provide additional stepback five feet beyond required stepback.

4. Kiosks are not to exceed twenty square feet in area each, shall be located on public plazas or private leaseholds, and shall not exceed ten locations in the C/MU-3 zone.

~~6. Churches, subject to subsections F, G, H, and I of this section as appropriate;~~

~~7. Wireless communications facilities;~~

~~C. The following uses are prohibited:~~

~~1. Athletic and health clubs;~~

~~2. Auto repair;~~

~~3. Bars and cocktail lounges;~~

~~4. Bed and breakfast;~~

~~5. Body piercing establishments;~~

~~6. Body shops;~~

~~7. Campsites;~~

~~8. Clubs and lodges;~~

~~9. Educational institutions;~~

~~10. Equipment rental yards;~~

~~11. Fortune telling establishments;~~

~~12. Hotels and motels;~~



- ~~13. Incidental manufacturing;~~
- ~~14. Kennels;~~
- ~~15. Liquor stores;~~
- ~~16. Time shares;~~
- ~~17. Boarding house;~~
- ~~18. Tattoo establishments.~~

**DB.** Site plan review by the ~~planning commission~~ City Council will be required if any of the following applies for proposed uses located in the C/MU-3 zone:

1. All proposed ~~commercial~~ developments involving new construction;
2. Any addition, construction, remodeling, or alteration of existing buildings resulting in an increase of ten percent or greater of the gross floor area of a commercial structure or in an individual commercial space within the structure or within a commercial shopping center;
3. Any proposed commercial use or structure requiring the approval of a conditional use permit;
4. Any development including residential dwelling units ~~above the first floor; and~~
5. Public parking lots.

**EC.** Site plan review by the community development director (administrative approval) will be required if any of the following applies for proposed uses located in the C/MU-3 zone:

1. Any addition, construction, or alteration of existing buildings resulting in a one-time increase of less than ten percent of the gross floor area of a commercial structure or in an individual commercial space within the structure or within a commercial shopping center. Multiple additions of the originally approved gross floor area of a commercial building shall require site plan review by the ~~planning commission~~ City Council;
2. Exterior facade alterations to existing buildings located on a design review corridor as identified in subsection 19.83.020(A)(1); and
3. The building site or a portion of the building or site that is proposed to be occupied has been vacant for a period of two years or greater.

**FD.** Notice to adjoining property owners of any application for conditional use permit for a ~~church~~ religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization, under subsection (~~BA~~) (62) of this section shall be given pursuant to Section 19.86.050 of this code. Additionally, notice of hearing shall be made by mailing a postal card or letter to all the business owners within three hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the property involved, such business owners and their addresses being established for this purpose by the latest business licenses issued by the City; provided, however, that in the case where the ownership or address has recently changed and such knowledge is available to the Community Development Department, notice shall also be sent in this manner to the current business owners.



Such notice shall include the nature of the proposal, a description of the property under consideration, and the time and place of the public hearing. In certain cases where mailed notice of hearing is deemed impractical, notice may be effected by posting upon the subject property and within the area of the subject property a notice bearing the same information as contained in the notice to be mailed. The notice shall be posted at least ten days prior to the date set for the public hearing, and the Community Development Department shall sign an affidavit of posting to be held in the record. No defect or irregularity in the giving of such notice shall invalidate the public hearing.

~~GE.~~ The report prepared by staff for the City Council on the conditional use permit application for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization, under subsection (~~BA~~)(62) of this section, shall provide a listing of the number of property owners, business owners, and types of businesses located within three hundred feet of the exterior boundaries of the subject property. Prior to the scheduled public hearing, the applicant shall attempt to contact the property owners and business owners located within three hundred feet of the exterior boundary of the subject property to determine how many support and how many oppose the application for the conditional use permit on the subject property. The results of the survey of the property owners and business owners shall be forwarded to City staff for inclusion in the staff report to the City Council.

~~HF.~~ Prior to the issuance of a conditional use permit for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization, under subsection (~~BA~~)(62) of this section, the applicant must demonstrate and the City Council must make a finding that the off-street parking requirements of Chapter 19.48 of this code are met and that sufficient parking exists to accommodate the proposed uses.

~~IG.~~ Any conditional use permit issued for a ~~ehureh~~religious assembly, club, fraternal organization, service organization, or veteran's organization, under subsection (~~BA~~)(62) of this section shall, at a minimum, specifically address the following:

1. Proposed uses or activities;
2. Hours of operations, uses, and activities;
3. The days of the week and times for meetings or gatherings and the number of people attending those meetings or gatherings;
4. The number, time, and days of the week of any proposed musical activities, performances, or entertainment;
5. The number, time, and days of the week of activities involving infants, pre-teens, teens, or young adults;
6. The dates, times, and number of persons in attendance for any special meetings, events, or gatherings not included in the normal hours of operation, that are directly related to the operation, uses, and activities of the ~~ehureh~~facility, or are attended by the principal membership of the ~~ehureh~~facility; and
7. The dates, times, and number of persons in attendance for any special meetings, events, or gatherings not included in the normal hours of operation, if any, that are not directly

related to the operation, uses, and activities of the ~~ehureh~~facility, nor are attended by the principal membership of the ~~ehureh~~facility; and

8. No child care services by persons unrelated to the parent or child, child day care center, or educational institution shall be operated on the premises unless specifically provided for under the conditional use permit issued for the ~~facility~~ehureh, club, fraternal organization, service organization or veteran's organization. Nothing in subsections ~~D, E, F, or G, H or I~~ of this section shall supersede or preempt the issuance criteria for a conditional use permit as set forth in Chapter 19.82 of this code. (Ord. 2002-986 §§ 7, 8, 2002; Ord. 2002-983 §§ 25, 26, 2002; Ord. 2001-973 §§ 11, 13, 14, 2001; Ord. 2001-972 §§ 1, 2, 2001; Ord. 2001-971 §§ 8, 9, 2001; Ord. 2001-960 §§ 14—18, 2001; Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.28.030. Yards.**

Yard requirements for the C/MU-3 zone are as follows:

A. Front Yard and Side Street. Zero feet; but not less than five feet for more than sixty percent (60%) of the project frontage. Garages on all streets other than on Imperial Beach Boulevard and 13th Street, shall be setback either five feet or less, or not less than 20 feet up to forty percent of the project frontage may be set back up to an additional five feet.

B. Side Yard. There shall be a minimum side yard of five feet.

C. Rear Yard. There shall be a minimum rear yard of ten feet.

D. There are no front, side or rear yard setbacks required in the C-3 zone; however, the open space and landscaping requirements as stated in Chapter 19.50 of this code shall be met, observed only for proposed commercial uses or developments requiring Site Plan Review by the Planning Commission, as identified in subsection 19.028.020(D), provided that in no case shall the amount for existing landscaping be reduced and that any new and all existing landscaping shall be permanently maintained. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.28.031. Stepbacks.**

For property with a side or rear yard abutting a residential zone, the second-floor stepback shall be a minimum of five feet from the abutting residential property line and the third-floor stepback shall be a minimum of ten feet from the abutting residential property line.

#### **19.28.040. Minimum lot size.**

The minimum lot size for any new lot created in the C/MU-3 zone shall be three thousand square feet. (For related provisions concerning small lots, see Chapter 19.42). (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.28.050. Frontage.**

Every new lot created in the C/MU-3 zone shall have a minimum width along a street of thirty feet. (For related provisions concerning small lots, see Chapter 19.42). (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.28.060. Building height.**

No building in the C/MU-3 zone shall exceed ~~two-three stories and or twenty-eight-thirty~~ feet in height, whichever is less; or three stories or thirty-five feet in height and subject to approval of a conditional use permit that demonstrates compliance with two or more of the

development incentives listed in Section 19.28.020(A)(3). All commercial spaces on the ground floor shall have a minimum fifteen-foot floor-to-ceiling height; and single-story commercial buildings shall have a minimum building height of twenty feet. (Ord. 94-884, 1994).

**19.28.070. Separation of buildings.**

No buildings shall be located less than ten feet from any other building on the same lot. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.28.080. Parking.**

For provisions on parking applicable in the C/MU-3 zone, see Chapter 19.48. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.28.090. Signs.**

For provisions on signs applicable in the C/MU-3 zone, see Chapter 19.52. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.28.100. Uses conducted outside buildings.**

For provisions on uses conducted outside buildings applicable in the C/MU-3 zone, see Chapter 19.72. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)



**City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Zoning Amendments**  
**Draft for Public Review**  
**Revised July 2012**

Gray box indicates new text added since public review

**Chapter 19.48. OFF-STREET PARKING**

**19.48.010. Purpose of provisions.**

The parking regulations contained in this chapter ~~are intended to provide space off public streets for automobiles and other vehicles, to prevent traffic congestion, to encourage safe vehicular travel, and to provide for the welfare and convenience of residents and shoppers. This chapter recognizes that adequate off-street parking facilities should be provided in accordance with the type of land use, and the standards set forth in this Title should be the minimum required to provide reasonable assurance that the public health, safety, and welfare will be maintained.~~ (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**19.48.020. Requirements generally—Existing buildings and additions.**

A. The ~~commercial~~ parking requirements of this chapter shall be observed only for proposed ~~commercial~~ uses or developments requiring site plan review by the City Council planning commission, or eCommunity dDevelopment dDirector as identified in subsections chapters 19.26.020(C) and 19.27.020(D), and 19.28. provided that in no case shall the number of existing parking spaces be reduced and that any new and all existing parking spaces shall be permanently available and be permanently maintained for parking purposes.

B. Cumulative alterations or additions to existing residential structures that are not new dwelling units of up to five hundred square feet, or a combined total (existing square footage plus new square footage) of up to fifteen hundred square feet, neither of which is exceeded, shall be allowed without providing additional off-street parking as required by this chapter, provided that in no case shall the number of existing off-street parking spaces be reduced and that any new and all existing off-street parking spaces shall be made permanently available and be permanently maintained for parking purposes.

The parking exemption shall not be allowed for multifamily structures where the addition consists of a new bedroom or would be located on a portion of the lot that could otherwise be used for parking, on lots west of Seacoast Drive, and on lots fronting on the east side of Seacoast Drive.

C. Cumulative alterations or additions greater than five hundred square feet to existing residential structures, that are not new dwelling units, or a combined total (existing square footage plus new square footage) greater than fifteen hundred square feet, may be allowed without providing additional off-street parking as required by this chapter with the approval of a site plan and design review application by the community development department that



demonstrate that there are inadequate side yards or areas to provide the additional parking, that there is no adjacent alley to provide access for the additional parking, and that substitute tandem parking in the driveway will be provided. (Ord. 2007-1052, 2007; Ord. 2005-1032, 2005; Ord. 94-888, 1994)

**19.48.030. Required spaces—Residential uses.**

The number of required off-street parking spaces for residential uses shall be as follows:

- A. R-1-6000, R-1-3800, R-3000, and R-3000-D: two spaces per dwelling unit, one hundred percent enclosed;
- B. R-2000 and R-1500: two spaces per dwelling unit, fifty percent enclosed;

~~C. Residential dwelling units in the C-1, C-2, C-3, MU-1 and MU-2 zones: 1.5 spaces per dwelling unit. (Ord. 2005-1032; Ord. 94-888, 1994)~~ **19.48.035. Required spaces in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones.**

For new development or expansion of existing structures designed to accommodate a variety of shops, stores, offices, restaurants, personal convenience services, and athletic and health clubs in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones, off-street parking shall be provided in accordance with the standard listed in the following table. During site plan review, the cityCity would determine whether the standard for required parking could be reduced based on the types of proposed land uses and existing land use, and the availability of parking (both private and public parking) in the project area. Shared parking shall be permitted and shall only be approved when technical evidence is presented to justify the shared use. The Urban Land Institute guidebook Shared Parking Second Edition (2005) shall be used as a guideline and supplemented by additional findings, where appropriate.

<u>Zone/Land Use</u>	<u>Standard</u>	<u>25% Reduction for Vertical Mixed-use</u>	<u>Eligible for Waiver for Commercial Uses Less Than 1,000 SF</u>	<u>Eligible for Additional Parking Reduction for Shared Parking</u>
<u>C/MU-1 and C/MU-3</u>	<u>1 space per 500 gross SF of commercial</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>C/MU-2</u>	<u>1 space per 1,000 gross SF of commercial</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Multiple-family Residential</u>	<u>1.5 spaces per dwelling unit</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>
<u>Hotel wWithout Cooking Facilities</u>	<u>1 space per guest room</u>	<u>X</u>		
<u>Hotel wWith Cooking Facilities</u>	<u>1.5 spaces per guest room</u>	<u>X</u>		

#### **19.48.040. Required spaces—Other residentially oriented uses.**

The number of required off-street parking spaces for other residentially oriented uses shall be as follows:

~~—A. Hotels, motels, motor hotels: one space each unit consisting of one bedroom and one bath without cooking facilities; one and one-half spaces for each unit with cooking facilities;~~

~~BA.~~ Boarding houses, retirement homes, and clubs having sleeping rooms: two spaces plus one space for each three beds;

~~B. Hostels: one space per five beds, plus two total employee spaces;~~

~~CBC.~~ Mobile home parks, trailer parks: one and one-half spaces for each trailer space;

~~DCD.~~ Hospitals, sanitariums: one and one-half spaces for each bed. (Ord. 2002-986 §§ 9, 10, 2002; Ord. 94-888, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983).

#### **19.48.050. Required spaces—Commercial and other uses.**

The number of required off-street parking spaces for commercial and other uses shall be as follows:

A. Automobile service stations: one space for each pump island;

B. Bowling alleys: two spaces for each lane;

C. Car washes, self-service or attendant-operated: three spaces for each stall;

D. ~~Educational institutions~~Schools: five spaces plus one for each employee;

E. The following uses require one space for each fifty square feet of net floor area; plus one space per two employees at largest work shift:

1. Drive-in restaurants, drive-through establishments, and food stands.

F. The following uses require one space for each seventy-five square feet of net floor area, plus one per two employees at largest work shift:

1. Establishments for the sale and consumption on the premises of food and beverages (minimum four spaces).

G. The following uses require one space for each one hundred square feet of net floor area, plus one space per two employees:

1. Auditoriums;
2. Funeral home;
3. Mortuaries;
4. Sports arenas;
5. Stadiums;
6. Theaters.

H. The following uses require one space per each one hundred square feet of net floor area, plus one space per two employees minimum. When a conditional use permit is required for any of these uses, applicant shall provide a report by a qualified Civil Engineer or other specialist that shows the proposed uses and maximum required parking:

1. ~~Church~~ Religious assemblies;
2. Fraternal organizations (Masons, Moose, Elks, Eagles, etc.);
3. Service organizations (such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club, Jaycees, etc.);
4. Veterans organizations (American Legion, VFW, FRA, Disabled American Veterans, etc.).

~~I. The following uses require one space for each two hundred fifty square feet of net floor area, plus one space per two employees at largest work shift:~~

- ~~1. Libraries;~~
- ~~2. Retail stores not otherwise listed.~~

~~J. The following uses require one space for each three hundred square feet of net floor area, plus one space per two employees:~~

- ~~1. Banks;~~
- ~~2. Businesses;~~

~~3. Medical offices;~~

~~4. Post offices;~~

~~5. Professional offices.~~

~~KI. The following All other commercial uses require one space for each five hundred square feet of net floor area.~~

~~1. Communication equipment buildings;~~

~~2. Storage buildings;~~

~~3. Warehouses.~~

~~MJ. In the C/MU-21, C/MU-2, and C/MU-3 zones, zone, an interim parking ratio of one space for every five hundred square feet of net floor area may be approved by conditional use permit. This interim ratio shall no longer be in effect after the City has approved parking for one hundred spaces under this provision. Shared parking or off-site parking within five hundred one thousand feet of the project site may be used to satisfy this requirement with the approval of a conditional use permit. Projects in these zones shall be reviewed to determine the suitability and feasibility of implementing one or more transportation demand management strategies that may be approved through a development agreement. (Ord. 2005-1032 § 3; Ord. 2001-960 § 19, 2001; Ord. 94-888 § 3, 1994; Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 640 § 1, 1984; Ord. 635 § 3, 1984; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)~~

~~**19.48.051. Required spaces—Commercial centers.**~~

~~For commercial centers (two or more commercial uses) the combined uses (pursuant to Section 19.48.050) shall not require off-street parking greater than one space per two hundred fifty square feet of net floor area plus one space per two employees. (Ord. 2005-1032 § 4; Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 665 § 2, 1985; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)~~

~~For mixed-use development of multiple-family residential over commercial use, required parking may be reduced by up to 25twenty-five percent (25%) with approval of a conditional use permit.~~

**19.48.060. Required spaces—Uses not listed.**

Where parking requirements for a use are not specifically defined in this chapter, the parking requirements for such use shall be determined by the community development department, subject to approval by the ~~planning commission~~City Council. Such determination shall be based upon the requirements for the most comparable use specified in this chapter or professionally accepted standards. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)



#### **19.48.070. Required spaces—Fractional requirements.**

Where computation of required off-street parking results in a fractional requirement, the requirement shall be calculated as follows:

- A. If the fraction is one-half or more, it shall be calculated as one space;
- B. If the fraction is less than one-half, it shall be disregarded. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.090. Size of spaces.**

Each parking space shall be not less than eight and one-half feet in width, eighteen feet in length, and seven feet in height, except as follows:

- A. Alley Spaces. Off-street parking spaces aligned perpendicular to an alley and accessing directly off an alley such that the alley is used for back-out shall be a minimum of twenty-two feet in length.
- B. Parallel Spaces. Parallel spaces are those located parallel to a property line, accessway, building, or structure in such manner that a vehicle occupying the space must maneuver from a parallel position to the parking space. Parallel spaces shall not be less than twenty-two feet in length by eight feet in width.
- C. Each parking space adjoining a wall, column, or other obstruction higher than 0.75 feet shall be increased by one foot on each obstructed side.
- D. ~~Handicap-Disabled~~ parking requirements as established under State law and the ~~Uniform-California~~ Building Code shall be satisfied. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 690 § 13 (part), 1986; Ord. 635 § 4, 1984; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.100. Access.**

- A. No parking area in a C/MU-1, C/MU-2, or C/MU-3 zone shall be located so as to require or encourage the backing of automobiles or other vehicles across any street lot line to effect egress from the place of parking.
- B. Parking areas in R zones shall meet the following standard:
  - 1. Where properties abut both an alley and a street designed as a collector, major, or prime arterial, no new street curb cuts or parking layouts requiring backing into the street shall be allowed;

2. Where properties abut both a collector, major, or prime arterial and a local street, access shall be taken only from the local street;

3. Properties abutting both an alley and residential street shall take access from the alley with the exception that one sixteen-foot-wide curb cut allowing no more than two vehicles to back into the street may be allowed.

C. Each parking space shall be provided with adequate ingress and egress to a public street or alley. "Adequate ingress and egress" means a driveway meeting the following conditions:

1. Minimum width of nine feet;

2. Surfaced as required in this chapter;

3. No part included in the area of a required parking space;

4. Minimum width of driveway serving more than two dwelling units or a commercial use shall be twelve feet;

5. Minimum width of driveway providing two-way access shall be eighteen feet;

6. Minimum width of driveway providing two-way access to a parking area serving nine or fewer spaces on a fifty-foot-wide or smaller lot shall be twelve feet, when the parking area is not between a structure and a street subject to site plan approval by the community development department;

7. Any driveway also used for back-out and maneuvering for adjacent parking shall provide a width required under subsection D of this section.

D. The free-and-clear back-out and turning radius from a parking space to a drive aisle shall be no less than twenty-four feet.

E. All accessways shall be kept free and clear of any obstructions for a height of not less than seven feet.

F. Notwithstanding lesser setback requirements or other provisions of this title, the minimum distance from the street lot line to the door of a garage or the entrance of a carport shall be twenty feet where the garage or the entrance of a carport faces the street and the driveway is perpendicular to the street; this setback distance may be reduced to fifteen feet subject to site plan and design review approval by the community development department. (Ord. 2005-132 § 5; Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 635 § 5, 1984; Ord. 628 § 1, 1984; Ord. 690 § 13 (part), 1983; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.110. Location.**

Off-street parking facilities shall be located as follows:

- A. Same Building Site. Required off-street parking spaces shall be located on the same lot they are required to serve.
- B. Tandem Parking. Every required parking space shall have unrestricted ingress and egress ~~which that~~ does not require the moving of another vehicle. This restriction may be modified by the community development department for those projects subject to Section 19.48.020(C).
- C. Angle Parking. Where required parking spaces are located at an angle to the required access way of greater or less than ninety degrees, the one-way drive aisle width for a sixty degree angle shall be eighteen feet, for a forty-five degree angle thirteen feet six inches, and for a thirty degree angle twelve feet.
- D. The minimum two-way aisle width shall be twenty-four feet in all cases.
- E. Commercial Parking. Required off-street parking facilities serving commercial or mixed commercial-residential buildings or uses may be located in any part of a lot except within five feet of any street lot line.
- F. Residential Dwellings. Required off-street parking facilities serving dwelling units shall be located as follows:
  - 1. Unenclosed and uncovered parking spaces shall be permitted in any portion of a lot, except the required front yard of any lot (in any case not within fifteen feet of the front property line) and the required street side yard of a corner or reversed corner lot. This restriction may be modified by site plan/design review approval pursuant to Section 19.48.020(C). Any parking enclosure or cover shall respect structural yard requirements as established under this title.
  - 2. No parking area, the location of which is not regulated by the requirements enumerated in this section, shall be located any closer than three feet from any side property line except for parking in a rear yard accessing off an alley. (Ord. 205-1032 § 5; Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 690 §§ 14, 15, 1986; Ord. 635 § 6, 1984; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.120. Surfacing.**

All parking spaces, parking areas, and driveways shall be surfaced with Portland cement concrete on a suitable base as determined by the building official or may be surfaced with alternative paving materials approved by the community development department such as, but not limited to, turf pavers, ribbon driveways, and pervious concrete. Urban runoff from

imperviously surfaced driveways and parking areas shall be designed to drain toward approved biofiltration areas or media filtration mechanisms. Parking spaces and parking areas shall be part of or adjacent to the paved driveway. Parking off a paved driveway, on lawns or on unpaved areas, shall not be allowed. (Ord. 2005-1032 § 5; Ord. 98-933 § 4, 1998; Ord. 98-931 § 9, 1998; Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.130. Marking.**

A. Each parking space shall be clearly marked and striped with paint or other more durable materials, contrasting in color with the surface to which it is applied, so as to delineate the boundaries of such space. Markings shall not be required where the boundaries are evident because of curbs, termination of paving, or similar reasons.

B. Parking spaces serving multiple family buildings (more than two dwelling units) shall be marked with the apartment number (or other designation) of each dwelling unit, so that each dwelling unit is assigned a parking space. Additional parking spaces, required or optional, need not be marked. (Ord. 2005-1032 § 5; Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.140. Bumpers.**

All parking spaces abutting buildings or structures, or located so that access and egress ~~is~~ are provided from one direction, shall be provided with concrete curb or bumper, or its equivalent, at least six inches in height. Bumpers shall be located not more than three feet from the front edge of the parking space. Bumpers shall be adequately anchored to the ground. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.150. Fences.**

Where parking areas abut property zones for residential uses they shall be separated from such property by a solid fence, wall, or building six feet in height ~~is~~ provided; that in the required front yard the fence or wall shall not exceed four feet in height. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.160. Landscaping.**

For landscaping provisions applicable to off-street parking, see Chapter 19.50. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 635 § 7, 1984; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.48.170. Lighting.**

All outdoor lighting for parking areas shall be so shaded and adjusted that light therefrom is directed to fall only on the same premises where such light source is located. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)



**19.48.180. Refuse and recycling container storage prohibited.**

No required parking spaces shall be used for storage of refuse and recycling containers. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**19.48.190. Regulation of other parking areas.**

Any area regularly used for the parking of vehicles shall be developed, improved, and maintained in the same manner as required parking areas. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review: Zoning Amendments  
Draft for Public Review  
Revised July 2012

**ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

**19.06.010. Zones established.**

The several zones established and into which the City is divided are designated as follows:

- A. R-1-6000 — Single-family residential zone, one single-family detached dwelling unit per lot with a minimum lot size of ~~6,000~~six thousand square feet.
- B. R-1-3800 — Single-family residential zone, one single-family detached dwelling unit per lot, with a minimum lot size of ~~3,800~~three thousand eight hundred square feet.
- C. R-3000-D — Medium density or two-family detached residential zone, one detached dwelling unit for every ~~3,000~~three thousand square ~~feet~~feet of lot area.
- D. R-3000 — Medium density or two-family residential zone, one dwelling unit for every ~~3,000~~three thousand square ~~feet~~feet of lot area.
- E. R-2000 — Medium density residential zone, one dwelling unit for every ~~2,000~~two thousand square ~~feet~~feet of lot area.
- F. R-1500 — High density residential zone, one dwelling unit for every ~~1,500~~one thousand five hundred square ~~feet~~feet of lot area.
- G. PF — Public Facilities zone.
- H. C/MU-1 — General Commercial and Mixed-use zone, one dwelling unit for every 1,000 one thousand gross square feet of lot area.
- I. C/MU-2 — Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-use zone, one dwelling unit for every 1,500 one thousand five hundred gross square feet of lot area.
- J. C/MU-3 — Neighborhood Commercial and Mixed-use zone, one dwelling unit for every 1,500 one thousand five hundred gross square feet of lot area.
- K. OS — Open Space zone.
- L. UR — Urban Reserve zone.
- ~~M. — MU 1 — Mixed Use Overlay zone.~~
- ~~N. — MU 2 — Mixed Use Overlay zone.~~ (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.44.020. Access.**

A. No parking area in the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, or C/MU-3 zone shall be located so as to require or encourage the backing of automobiles or other vehicles across any street lot line to effect egress from the place of parking.

B. Parking areas in R zones shall meet the following standard:

1. Where properties abut both an alley and a street designed as a collector, major, or prime arterial, no new street curb cuts or parking layouts requiring backing into the street shall be allowed.

2. Where properties abut both a collector, major, or prime arterial and a local street, access shall be taken only from the local street.

3. Properties abutting both an alley and residential street shall take access from the alley with the exception that one sixteen-foot-wide curb cut allowing no more than two vehicles to back into the street may be allowed. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.50.031. Requirements generally—Existing buildings.**

The commercial landscaping requirements of this Chapter shall be observed only for proposed commercial uses or developments requiring Site Plan Review by the ~~Planning Commission~~ City Council, as identified in Section 19.26.020-~~C~~, 19.27.020-~~D~~, and 19.28.020-~~D~~, provided that in no case shall the amount of existing landscaping be reduced and that any new and all existing landscaping shall be permanently maintained. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.52.050. Signs Allowed on Private Property.**

Signs shall be allowed on private property in the City in accordance with and only in accordance with Table "A". If a "Yes" appears for a sign type in a column, such a sign is allowed in the zones represented by that column. If a "No" appears for a sign type in a column, such a sign is not allowed in the zones represented by that column under any circumstances.

Although permitted under the previous paragraph, a sign designated by a "Yes" in Table "A" shall be allowed only if:

A. The sum of the area of all building and freestanding signs on the lot conforms with the maximum permitted sign area as determined by the formula for the zone in which the lot is located as specified in Table "A";

B. The size, location, and number of signs on the lot conform with the requirements of ~~table~~ Table "B", which establishes permitted sign dimensions by sign type, and with any additional limitations listed in Table A; and,

C. The characteristics of the sign conform with the limitations of Tables "A" and "B". (Ord. 94-884, 1994)



**Table "A"**

<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>R-1-6000 R-1-3800 R-1-3000-D R-1-3000</b>	<b>R-2000, R-1500</b>	<b>C/MU-1</b>	<b>C/MU-2</b>	<b>C/MU-3</b>
<b>Freestanding</b>					
Monument	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Incidental	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pole	No	No	No	No	No
<b>Building</b>					
Banner	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Canopy	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Incidental	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Marquee	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Projecting	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Roof	No	No	No	No	No
Roof Integral	No	No	Yes	yes	Yes
Suspended	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wall	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	yes
Window	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>					
Balloons and inflatable signs	No	No	No	No	No
Banner	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Beacons	No	No	No	No	No
Billboards	No	No	No	No	No
Flag	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pennants	No	No	No	No	No
Portable	No	No	No	No	No
<b>Other</b>					
Animated	No	No	No	No	No
Changeable copy	No	No	No	No	No
Illumination internal	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Illumination external	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Illumination neon	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Time and temperature	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Table "B"**

<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>R-1-6000 R-1-3800 R-1-3000-D R-1-3000</b>	<b>R-2000 R-1500</b>	<b>C/MU-1</b>	<b>C/MU-2</b>	<b>C/MU-3</b>
<b>Freestanding</b>					
Area (sq. ft)	N.A.	12	40	40	40
Height (feet)	N.A.	6	8	8	8
Number permitted per lot frontage	N.A.	1	1	1	1
<b>Building signs (except window)</b>					
Area (max sq.ft.)	N.A.	32	1 per lineal ft. of wall face	1 per lineal ft. of wall face	1 per lineal ft. of wall face
Window signs	N.A.	N.A.	35% of total window area	35% of total window area	35% of total window area

**Chapter 19.60. ADULT-ORIENTED BUSINESSES**

**19.60.010. Allowed in C/MU-1 zone only.**

A. The following described businesses shall only be permitted within the C/MU-1 zone:

1. Adult bookstores;
2. Adult motion picture theaters;
3. Adult mini-motion picture theaters;
4. Adult motion picture arcades;
5. Adult hotels or motels;
- ~~6. Cabarets;~~
- ~~7. G. Pool or billiard halls;~~
- ~~8. H. Massage parlors;~~
- ~~9. I Body painting studios;~~

~~10. H. Dancehalls;~~

~~11.6. I. Model studios;~~

7. Sexual encounter studios and rap parlors.

B. The following described businesses shall only be permitted within the C/MU-1 zone, and shall require the approval of a conditional use permit:

1. Dance halls

~~1.2. Cabarets~~

(Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**19.60.020. Establishment and location.**

A. An adult-oriented business shall only be located in a C/MU-1 zone. It is unlawful to establish any such adult-oriented business if the location is:

1. Within five hundred feet of any ~~church~~religious assembly, public school, park, or playground;

2. Within two hundred feet of any area that is denominated as an R-1-6000, R-1-3800, R-3000-D, R-3000, R-2000, or R-1500 zone, or any other area that is primarily residential in character, as evidenced by letter designation in the zoning law of the City.

3. Within five hundred feet of another adult-oriented business.

B. The establishment of any adult-oriented business shall include the opening of such a business as a new business, relocation of such business, or the conversion of an existing business location to any adult-oriented business use. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

**Chapter 19.62. BARS AND COCKTAIL LOUNGES**

**19.62.010. Purpose of provisions.**

The purpose of this Chapter is to provide for the location of bars and cocktail lounges in the City and to provide minimum regulations designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the general public. The purpose is not to regulate alcoholic beverage sales or in any way to conflict with the State in its control of alcoholic beverages. (Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983; Ord. 94-884, 1994)

**19.62.020. Conditional Use Permit—Required.**

Bars or cocktail lounges shall be permitted in the C/MU-1, and C/MU-2 zones with approval of a ~~Conditional Use Permit~~conditional use permit. (Ord. 94-884, 1994)



#### **19.62.030. Conditional Use Permit—Issuance criteria.**

In considering the granting of a ~~Conditional Use Permit~~conditional use permit for a bar or cocktail lounge, the ~~Planning Commission~~City Council shall use the following criteria as guidelines:

- A. Establishments should not be less than two hundred feet from a residential zone;
- B. Establishments should not be less than two hundred feet from an existing residential building;
- C. Establishments should not be less than three hundred feet from a ~~church~~religious assembly; or public school, playground, or park;
- D. Amount of existing and proposed off-street parking;
- E. Hours of operation of the proposed establishment;
- F. The type of business proposed;
- G. The number of bars or cocktail lounges in close proximity to the proposed establishment;
- H. The possible effect of the operation of the proposed establishment on health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood. (Ord. 94-884, 1994; Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983)

#### **19.74.070. Motor vehicle sales.**

A. Establishment of businesses designed for the sale, lease, or rental of new and/or used motor vehicles shall require approval of a conditional use permit and shall be permitted only in the C/MU-1 ~~z~~Zone.

B. Before approval of a conditional use permit, the ~~Planning Commission~~City Council shall consider the following, to be submitted by the applicant:

- 1. A site plan showing the parking alignment, the location of all structures, and the proposed on-site traffic flow;
- 2. A sign program showing all existing and proposed signing;
- 3. A landscape plan showing at least a ten-foot strip of permanently maintained landscaping abutting each street, except for approved areas of ingress and egress.
- 4. A lighting plan for display areas. (Ord. 601 § 1 (part), 1983; Ord. 94-884, 1994)

#### **19.83.050. Design guidelines.**

The Design Review Board in its project review, and the Community Development Department in its review of projects which do not appear before the

Design Review Board, shall both use the "Design Manual and Design Review Guidelines" as adopted by the City Council on June 19, 1984, as a guide in reviewing projects throughout the community, with the exception of those areas for which specific unique design criteria have been established. In these cases the specific criteria will be used by the Design Review Board or the Community Development Department. (Ord. 97-917 § 1 (part), 1997) Specific design criteria for the C/MU-1, C/MU-2, C/MU-3 Commercial/Mixed-Use Zones (Commercial/Mixed-Use Zones Design Guidelines) that are adopted by the City Council are to be used by the Design Review Board and the Community Development Department when reviewing commercial and mixed-use projects.

#### **19.92. Green Building Utilities.**

##### **Applicable standards:**

##### **1. Setbacks:**

- a. Green building utilities associated with, or mounted to, a building/structure shall respect the setbacks of the established building/structure of the parcel; where encroachment is necessary for the function or design of the system, no portion of the system shall be closer than two feet to any property line and/or adjacent building/structure.
- b. Green building utilities shall be set back a minimum of ten feet from any property line abutting a street or public right-of-way. Where devices include moving parts, the measurement shall be taken from the outermost edge of the moving portion of the device.
- c. Stand-alone, ground-mounted small energy utility units are prohibited.

2. Height: Small wind turbine shall be roof mounted, with a height not to exceed fifteen feet from base/mount of the unit to the top of the unit (including blade length in vertical position where applicable). Small wind turbines shall be permitted to exceed the height limitations of the applicable zones. All other devices shall conform to the height limitations of the applicable zones.
3. Size/Coverage: A green building utility shall not exceed thirty percent area coverage of the surface to which the system is mounted; this standard shall apply to single or multiple system installations.
4. Noise: The green building utility shall be operated in such manner that it does not exceed the City's noise standards in Chapter 9.32 of the Municipal Code.

5. Design of wind system units shall be of a white, grey, or other non-obtrusive color. Design of non-solar/non-wind units shall complement the design of the associated building/structure.
6. Standard drawings and an engineering analysis of the green building utility are required showing compliance with latest version of the California Building Code.
7. Applicant shall submit line drawing of electrical components of the energy system in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the applicable electrical code.
8. Applicant shall submit plan and elevation diagram of the utility and placement showing compliance with the standards identified herein.
9. Any non-operational energy systems shall be removed within twelve months after becoming non-operational.

This page intentionally left blank.



# 4

## Proposed Commercial/ Mixed-Use Zones Design Guidelines



**City of Imperial Beach Commercial Zoning Review  
Draft for Public Review  
April 2012**

**COMMERCIAL/MIXED-USE ZONES DESIGN GUIDELINES**

The following design guidelines apply to all commercial/mixed-use zones:

- C/MU-1 Zone: General Commercial and Mixed-Use
- C/MU-2 Zone: Seacoast Commercial and Mixed-Use
- C/MU-3 Zone: Neighborhood Commercial and Mixed-Use

## DESIGN GUIDELINES

### 1.0 Relationship of Buildings to Site and Surrounding Area

- ❑ 1.1 View corridors to the oceanfront should be preserved, or created where possible. This can be accomplished through the use of upper story breezeways or courtyards that provide a view, or at the ground floor with mid-block pedestrian connections, plazas, or paseos that are oriented toward the view.

### 2.0 Circulation and Parking

- ❑ 2.1 Curb cuts or access to parking lots should be limited along Seacoast Drive, Old Palm Avenue, Palm Avenue/State Route 75, and 13th Street.
- ❑ 2.2 Parking lots should be placed at the rear of the building where feasible.
- ❑ 2.3 Parking lots should include shade elements such as trees, vine-covered trellises, or overhead solar panels. The design of shade elements should consider safety and visibility.

### 3.0 Commercial and Mixed-Use Development

- ❑ 3.1 All buildings located along Palm Avenue, Seacoast Drive, or the intersection of 13th Street and Imperial Beach Boulevard should locate their primary entrances facing on or toward the street or another public space that intersects the sidewalk. Primary entrances oriented only to parking lots are discouraged.
- ❑ 3.2 Innovative and imaginative design and architecture is strongly encouraged.

### 4.0 Building Facades Should Be Well Articulated

- ❑ 4.1 Variation and expression of building details, form, line, colors, and materials should be used to create visual interest.
- ❑ 4.2 Variation in wall plane and roof line is strongly encouraged to reduce the scale and bulk of the buildings, and to add visual interest.
- ❑ 4.3 Individual units should be expressed where possible.
- ❑ 4.4 Street-facing building facades should incorporate pedestrian-scaled elements such as balconies, awnings, and windows, to enliven the street edge.
- ❑ 4.5 Blank walls, or walls without windows, doors, or other articulation, are strongly discouraged. The maximum length of any blank wall should be limited to twenty feet.

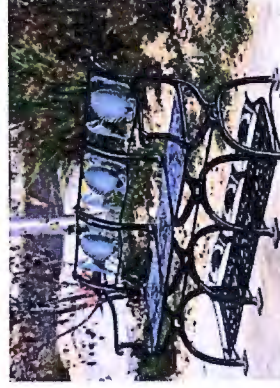




## DESIGN GUIDELINES

### 5.0 Ground Floor Uses and Street Level Design

- ❑ 5.1 Ground floors should consist of primarily active uses, such as active commercial, retail, and restaurants, as well as active residential uses such as building amenities, common rooms, and building lobbies.
- ❑ 5.2 A minimum of sixty percent of the street-facing facades of ground floor non-residential uses should be composed of clear non-reflective glass that allows views of the indoor space. Interior blinds, drapes, posters, signage, and/or interior shelving for product displays may potentially obscure a maximum of twenty-five percent of the required transparent area.
- ❑ 5.3 The maximum height of the bottom sill of required display windows should not exceed thirty inches above the adjacent sidewalk. The minimum head height for storefronts and windows at the ground floor should be eighty inches above the adjacent sidewalk.
- ❑ 5.4 Architectural features such as canopies, awnings, lighting, and other design features should be incorporated into the ground floor to add human scale to the streetscape and add to the pedestrian experience.
- ❑ 5.5 Projects should strive to achieve three-sided or four-sided architecture to shield service and delivery areas, utility boxes, and associated infrastructure.



### 6.0 Landscape Improvements and Open Space

- ❑ 6.1 The public realm should be enhanced by creating an attractive pedestrian atmosphere. This may include the use of landscaping, seat walls, seating, plazas, fountains, public art, and other high-quality design features.
- ❑ 6.2 Common open space should be imaginatively landscaped, well designed, and well maintained.
- ❑ 6.3 Service areas, storage, trash collection areas, and equipment should be located at the rear of buildings if possible, and screened from view by the use of walls, high-quality fencing, planting, or a combination of these solutions.
- ❑ 6.4 Drought-tolerant, native plant materials should be used whenever possible.
- ❑ 6.5 Landscape plans should incorporate provisions for storm water runoff, including bioswales or other comparable methods.



Palm Avenue

Silver Strand/Coronado

San Diego Bay




City of  
SD

Florida

Palm Avenue

7th Street

Rainbow

	<b>EXHIBIT NO. 7</b>
<b>Palm Avenue</b>	
Imperial Beach LCP #2-12 Comm Mixed Use	
California Coastal Commission	



California Coastal Commission members and Staff  
7575 Metropolitan Drive Ste 103  
San Diego, CA 92108-4402

Sep 10, 2012

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

You will be receiving an LCP amendment package from the city of Imperial Beach which proposes extensive changes to the commercial zoning within the city and in particular the C2 commercial zone adjacent to the beach front on Seacoast Drive and three blocks east on Old Palm Ave

The most intrusive of these changes involves reducing or outright eliminating parking requirements for businesses in the C2 zone on Seacoast and on Old Palm Avenue (Seacoast to Third Ave.) The argument that supposedly supports this is the challenging development issues that arise due parking needs on existing small lots and incongruous development. Historically Imperial Beach allowed residential development in these commercial zones and wants to now use mixed use as well.

The amendment wants to eliminate parking for business employees and then for condo/residential units to share parking with visitors to those commercial units during the day. This assumes residents must work and thus will free up parking during the day. But IB has a rather large retired element owning condos at the beach and many units are vacation rentals who obviously do not work.

The amendment pretends that this business parking can be fulfilled using existing street parking and two city parking lots in the C2 zone. This argument fails to recognize that over the past ten years every parking requirement for construction in these areas has used this very same argument and yet there has never been total tally of available "extra" street parking/parking lots. It seems as if the City has basically a never ending supply of non-existent parking. With this reduction where will non-commercial using visitors to the beach have to park?

The city approved a permit for two lots at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Palm that is in the C-2 "visitor serving use" commercial zone. This project is 6 condos totaling 7200 sq ft with one 750 commercial space with an 8' ceiling (cannot be used for retail). The commercial parking was reduced and granted a conditional use permit which relied on street parking. This permit required a conditional use permit exception because it was not consistent with current zoning requirements. This after the city spent \$1.5 mil to widen sidewalks to create a better visitor serving walkable commercial zone.

A similar project directly across the street on Palm Ave that has not been built but still has an approved permit after five years. How are these two developments "Visitor serving"? They are not; as they take up existing street parking. They are residential buildings to maximize the owners profit potential despite the C2 commercial zoning. Interestingly, the City of IB denied a permit for an almost identical project at 10<sup>th</sup> St and Palm Ave in the C-1 zone.



EXHIBIT NO. 8

**Letter of Objection**

Imperial Beach LCP #2-12 Comm Mixed Use

California Coastal Commission

SEP 18 2012

CALIFORNIA  
COASTAL COMMISSION  
SAN DIEGO COAST DISTRICT

Along these same lines the city allowed the local high school district to construct an adult education center at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Palm as well. Guess how much parking this center has?? Exactly NONE for students because once again the mystical extra street parking argument was employed.

As the South Bay of San Diego County has grown, parking at the beach in IB is already overcrowded. Reducing parking requirements for commercial units is not an answer for the public, except for developers. If properties in the C2 zone are to be developed they must fit within the historical structure of IB's limited lot size and existing development. If that means developers have to buy adjacent lots and/or build less residential units to provide parking and protect the public access to the beachfront, that is appropriate.

Imperial Beach has an abundance of multi-unit residential buildings but is seriously lacking homeownership. Building dense mixed residential units in commercial zones without appropriate parking does not provide for visitor serving uses, it simply caters to developers. Our beach front desperately needs restaurants, shops and onsite parking to accommodate them. If residential units take priority these commercial retail units will not be built.

Thanks for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Brian Jones, former IB Planning Commissioner, Design Review Board member  
181 Citrus Ave, Imperial Beach, CA 91932  
Email:brianjones5@cox.net

Please include my comments in the public record.