

**CITY OF ROCKLAND
PLANNING BOARD
AGENDA**

Tuesday, March 1, 2016



5:00 PM Site visit at 685 Main Street

Meet at 680 Main Street between Blake Place and Rockland Street

Rockland City Hall Council Chambers

I. Call to Order and Roll Call:

II. Public Comment:

III. Communications:

IV. Old Business:

V. New Business: 1. Pre-Application for Wayne Steeves who is considering an outdoor platform for a Seafood Shack to sell live, cooked lobsters and seafood baskets at 685 Main Street (TM 13B6)

Reconvene at Rockland City Hall Council Chambers

VI. Other: Continue discussion with Energy Advisory Committee on developing standards specific to grid-scale power generation facilities.

VII: Sign Approved Plans:

VIII. Previous Meetings Minutes:

IX. Adjournment:

cc: City Manager
Department Heads
Applicants

CITY OF ROCKLAND

PLANNING BOARD

Request For Pre-Application Meeting

Applicant's Name: Wayne S. STEEVES

Telephone Number: 207-691-0021 E-mail Address: _____

Address of Proposed Development: 685 MAIN ST ROCKLAND

Location (Map & Lot #): 13-13-006

Brief Description of Proposed Use: Seafood Shack

Sell Live + Cooked Lobsters AND Seafood Baskets

Property Owner's Name: Maddlin Philbrook

Address: Cheasnut Street

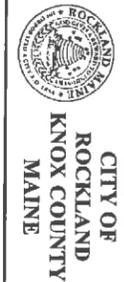
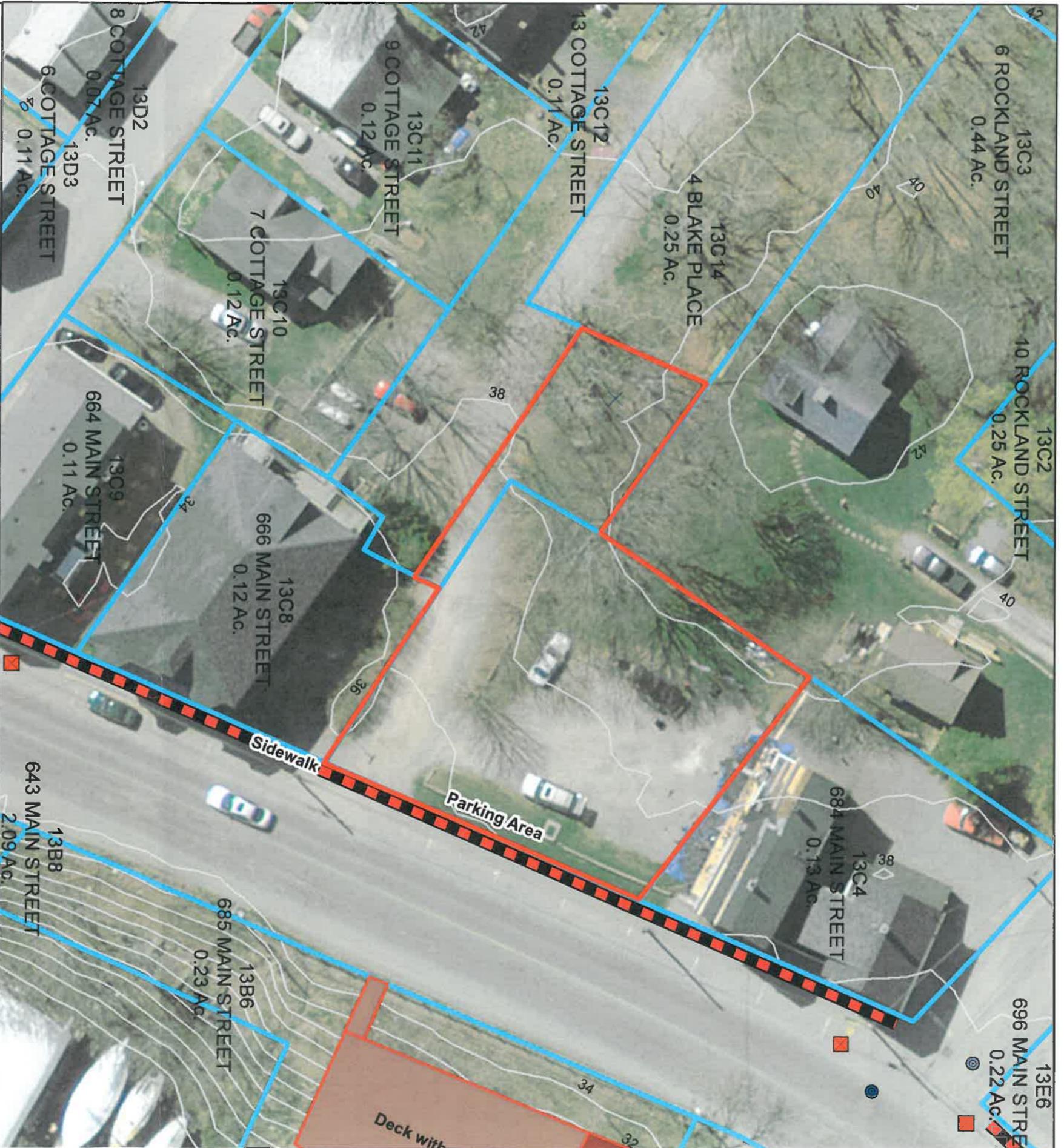
Telephone Number: _____

Signature of Applicant: Wayne S. Steeves Date: 2-5-16

Please Note: This application, along with the required fee, will not be processed unless completed, signed by the applicant, and submitted to the Code Enforcement Office no later than two weeks prior to the first Planning Board meeting of the next month. Eight copies of the plan and/or drawing of the project must accompany the application.

For Office Use Only		
Permit # <u>BB16-12</u>	Acct. Code: 3250	
Application Fee: \$60.00	Date Paid: <u>2/16/16</u>	Receipt #: <u>171772</u>

1/AAA
/vision
3/1 meeting



CITY OF
ROCKLAND
KNOX COUNTY
MAINE



DISCLAIMER
Tax maps are compiled from aerial photography,
existing surveys, deeds, and landowner's descriptions.
They are to be used for assessment purposes only,
and not for conveyance.

CITY OF ROCKLAND, MAINE

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #__

IN CITY COUNCIL

March __, 2016

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: Authorizing Site Plan Review of Development
in the City of Rockland Industrial Park**

**THE CITY OF ROCKLAND HEREBY ORDAINS THAT CHAPTER 16, Site Plan And
Subdivision Review, ARTICLE II, Site Plan Review Ordinance, BE AMENDED AS
FOLLOWS:**

**Sec. 16-201 Projects Reviewed; Effect on Action by Code Enforcement Officer and
Board of Appeals**

* * *

Notice Required. All property owners within three hundred (300) feet of the lot lines of any proposed change of use under this section shall be notified in writing at least ten (10) days prior to consideration of the change of use by the Planning Board. When the use of the lot that is the subject of a site plan application is a grid-scale power generation facility and the lot abuts a town line, notice of the application shall be provided to the Selectmen and/or Manager of such town, whether or not such use constitutes a change of use. Submission deadlines shall be the same as for any Site Plan Review.

Sec. 16-201.1 Exceptions to Review Requirements

1. New Structures or additions or changes in use will not be reviewed under the Site Plan Review Ordinance if in any five year period the new structure or new addition or the structure within which a change of use is to be located is:

A. Under 600 square feet in gross floor area and does not exceed 20 feet in height, or

B. Located in the City of Rockland Industrial Park, except grid-scale power generation facilities.

* * *

Sec. 16-203 Elements of the Site Plan

* * *

18. Technical Review Fee. The Planning Board, in the review of any application, may refer said application presented to it to such engineer, traffic professional, environmental expert, **financial expert, facilities safety expert,** attorney or other professional that the Board shall deem reasonably necessary to enable it to review said application as required by law. Such review shall not be a substitution for any technical submissions as required by Ordinance or requested by the Board, but rather shall constitute a third party review of any of the applicant's submissions. The Board may waive such third party review if it is determined that the scale or nature of the project does not warrant it. Fees charged by such professionals shall be in accord with fees usually charged for such services in the region and pursuant to a contractual agreement between the City and such professional. All such charges shall be paid by the City through an escrow account established in accordance with Section (19) below.

* * *

Sec. 16-204 Standards

A site plan shall be approved unless in the judgment of the Planning Board one or more of the following conditions are found to exist:

1. Traffic. The provisions for vehicular loading, unloading, and parking, and for vehicular and pedestrian circulation on the site and onto adjacent public and private streets and ways will create hazards to safety, or will impose a significant burden upon public facilities. There shall be a presumption that sidewalks are required. However, in those cases where the Planning Board makes a specific finding that, due to the inadequacy or lack of connecting sidewalks adjacent to the proposed project, together with circumstances within the proposed project which render the immediate construction of sidewalks inappropriate, the Planning Board may substitute one of the following conditions:

- A. It may require a reasonable payment from the applicant to be used to link the proposed project to the City's sidewalk system when the system reaches the proximity of the project.
- B. It may waive the requirement either partially or entirely.
- C. It may make reasonable provision for the construction by the developer of sidewalks serving the project, whether or not the sidewalks are actually within the project.

2. Compatibility with Other Uses; Burden on Public Facilities. The size and location of proposed building and structures and the proposed uses thereof will be detrimental or injurious to other private or public development in the neighborhood or will impose significant burdens upon public facilities.

3. Landscaping. The provisions of on-site landscaping and screening do not provide adequate protection to neighboring properties from detrimental features of the development.

4. Drainage. The site-plan fails to solve the soil and drainage problems that the development will create.

Projects within the Chickawaukie lake watershed, as defined in Section 19-304-13, shall be required to improve existing man-made drainageways flowing directly or indirectly to Chickawaukie Lake which will receive storm water from the proposed development, if such storm water is calculated to increase in volume above existing conditions. The volume of sediment or dissolved nutrients reaching Chickawaukie Lake shall not be increased.

5. Lighting. The provisions of exterior lighting create a hazard for vehicular or pedestrian traffic or safety or will unreasonably diminish the value or create a hardship to the reasonable enjoyment of adjacent property.

6. Fire Hazard. The proposed development will create fire hazard.

7. Sewer; Water; Solid Waste. The proposed development will impose an undue burden on on-site and off-site sewer and water or solid waste disposal.

8. Compatibility With Area. The proposed use and layout will be of such size or character that it will not be consistent with the appropriate and orderly development of the surrounding area.

9. Signs. If a sign is part of the application, the Planning Board does not have jurisdiction over review of this element. Standards and procedures relating to signs or other advertising devices are contained in Chapter 19 of the Rockland Code, Section 19-315, Signs.

10. Compliance With Other Ordinances. The proposed use, building, design or layout will not meet the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance or other regulations and ordinances of the City of Rockland or statutes of the State of Maine.

11. Financial Capacity. The applicant has not demonstrated that it has sufficient financial capacity to fund and complete (1) any improvements directly affecting any disturbed right-of-way or utilities or other infrastructure therein, and (2) any decommissioning at the site required pursuant to subsection 12 and removal of any fuel and hazardous materials and their storage facilities that are part of or subsequently added to the development within 180 days of the cessation of operations at the site.

12. Decommissioning. The Board may require that an applicant proposing to erect a windmill or construct any other form of power generation equipment or facility submit a Decommissioning Plan for the Board's review and approval. For these purposes, "decommissioning" may include, at the Planning Board's discretion, the physical removal of all components of the project, including, as may be applicable, wind turbines, cabling, electrical equipment, structures, and associated facilities. The Board may accept a decommissioning plan that provides for decommissioning no later than five years following the cessation of power generation on the site so long as the operator is, during such five year period, actively seeking to achieve a repurposing of the site and facilities to be decommissioned. The decommissioning plan

must include a detailed estimate of the costs of decommissioning, and a financial plan acceptable to the Board for funding such decommissioning costs. To the extent any structures or components are proposed to be omitted from the decommissioning, the plan shall provide evidence of alternative, beneficial use of such structures and components following the cessation of power generation on the site.

Sponsor:
Originator: Planning Board

DRAFT

CITY OF ROCKLAND, MAINE

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT # ___

IN CITY COUNCIL

March __, 2016

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: Authorizing Site Plan Review of Development
in the City of Rockland Industrial Park**

**THE CITY OF ROCKLAND HEREBY ORDAINS THAT CHAPTER 19, Zoning And
Planning, ARTICLE III, Zoning Ordinance, BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

Sec. 19-302 Words And Phrases Defined

* * *

Grid-Scale Power Generation Facility. A facility which generates electricity in excess of 10 megawatts and that sells a net of _____ megawatts or more per _____ over the electricity transmission and distribution system.

* * *

Sec. 19-316 Performance Standards

A. Dust, Fumes, Vapor, and Gases.

(1) General Provisions. Emission of dust, fly ash, fumes, vapors, smoke, or other particulate matter or gases and chemicals which could damage human health, animals, vegetation, or property, or which could soil or stain persons or property, at any point beyond the lot line shall be prohibited. All such activities shall also comply with applicable Federal and State regulations.

(2) Air Pollution From Grid-Scale Power Generation Facilities. The Planning Board or other applicable permitting authority shall condition the establishment of any new, grid-scale power generation facility that is either designed or has the capacity to sell or transmit electricity via Central Maine Power Company or its successor's electricity transmission and distribution system upon (1) the applicant's receipt of any and all requisite MaineDEP or other regulatory air emissions license(s) for the facility, and (2) the applicant's demonstration that the facility's operation will result in a net reduction of total discharges of air pollutants in Rockland by _____ [% or parts per million or other categorical measurement] achieved by replacing existing air pollution emissions in Rockland or enhanced efficiency measures at one or more Rockland facilities. The Code Enforcement Officer shall conduct periodic inspections after issuing a certificate of occupancy to assure that the requisite net reduction of total discharges of air

pollutants is achieved and maintained, and may revoke said certificate of occupancy following notice and the operator's failure to cure. The facility's operator shall, within ten days, report to the Code Enforcement Officer any air emissions license exceedance, and any notice of violation issued regarding the operation of the grid-scale power generation facility.

(3) Cooling Process Water Vapor. The Planning Board or other applicable permitting authority shall condition the site plan approval and/or building permit, as may be applicable, for the operation of any cooling tower or other mechanism utilized to cool _____ or more [units of measurement] of water utilized in any power generation or other production facility by exposing such water to the ambient air or by another open cooling process that causes the emission of water vapor upon the applicant's demonstration that such cooling process employs best-available control technologies to eliminate or reduce such water vapor emissions. Such technologies must, at a minimum, preclude the emission of water vapor and precipitation beyond the facility's boundary line that constitutes a public or private nuisance. No open-system cooling tower may be situated closer than _____ feet from the boundary line of any property in a residential zone.

(4) Fugitive Emissions. The Planning Board or other applicable permitting authority shall require the applicant for site plan approval and/or building permit, as may be applicable, for a grid-scale power generation facility that is proposed to be fueled by natural gas, propane, or other gaseous fuel source, to demonstrate that the facility has made provisions for minimizing, to the greatest extent that is reasonably practicable, the risk that any structure, infrastructure, storage tank, equipment, or process at the facility will leak, emit, discharge, or otherwise allow to escape any natural gas, propane, or other gaseous fuel into the air, whether internally or externally to the facility. No such minimal discharge may exceed the standards set forth in _____ [citation(s) to applicable regulatory standards], and the applicant shall provide redundant systems when reasonably necessary to assure that such minimum(s) shall not be exceeded.

B. Odors.

A. No land use or establishment shall be permitted to produce offensive or harmful odors perceptible beyond their lot lines, measured either at ground level of habitable elevation. For purposes of this section, an "offensive odor" is defined as the minimum concentration in air of a gas, vapor, or particulate matter that can be detected by the olfactory systems of the Odor Committee per the Rockland City Code, Chapter 10, Article III.

B. Any proposed use which may emit odoriferous substances must include detailed plans to mitigate such to the Planning Board before the appropriate permit is granted

C. Lighting.

Statement of Purpose: Ensure appropriate outdoor lighting by addressing the issues of safety, efficiency, the environment and aesthetics.

(1) Definitions: For the purposes of this Section, terms used shall be defined as follows:

(a) Authority having jurisdiction – The Planning Board or Code Enforcement Officer.

- (b) Direct Light – Light emitted directly from the lamp, off the reflector or reflector diffuser, through the refractor or diffuser lens, or from a luminaire.
- (c) Fixture – The assembly that houses the lamp(s), including but not limited to housing, mounting bracket or pole socket, lamp holder, ballast, reflector or mirror, and/or a refractor or lens.
- (d) Flood or Spot Luminaire – Any luminaire that incorporates a reflector or a refractor to concentrate the light output into a directed beam.
- (e) Indirect Lighting – Direct light that has been reflected or scattered off other surfaces.
- (f) Luminaire Height – The vertical distance from the ground directly below the centerline of the luminaire to the lowest direct-light-emitting part of the luminaire.
- (g) Lamp – The component of a luminaire that produces light.
- (h) Lumen – A unit of luminous flux. One foot-candle is equal to one lumen per square foot. For the purposes of this section, the lumen-output values shall be the initial lumen output ratings of a lamp.
- (i) Luminaire – A complete lighting system, including lamp(s) and/or fixture(s).
- (j) Outdoor Lighting – Nighttime illumination of an outside area or object by any man-made device located outdoors that produces light by any means.
- (k) Temporary Outdoor Lighting – Outdoor lighting in place for less than fourteen (14) days, with at least eighty (80) days passing before being used again.

(2) Regulations: Unless determined to be a safety hazard or in violation of any state or federal law, all outdoor lighting installed in the City of Rockland shall comply with this section, except for the following: lighting installed and maintained for public safety by Municipal, State or Federal government; approved signs; external illumination of flags; approved lighting for athletic fields; temporary outdoor lighting; holiday lighting; luminaires with a lamp or lamps rated at a total of 2,000 lumens or less.

- (a) No luminaire shall produce a stray, dazzling light or reflection onto neighboring residential properties, or onto any public road so as to impair the vision of any driver.
- (b) Luminaires shall be shielded or hooded so that the lighting elements are not exposed to normal view by motorists, pedestrians, or from adjacent buildings. No luminaire shall emit any direct light above a its horizontal plane. The Planning Board may grant exceptions for lights that are aesthetically consistent with decorative streetlights and located on parcels adjacent to such streetlights.

- (c) No flood or spot luminaire of any lumen output rating shall be aimed, directed or focused toward any adjacent or nearby residential parcel.
- (d) Rather than leaving security lights on, the use of motion sensors is encouraged.
- (e) Direct or indirect illumination shall not exceed one-half (1/2) foot-candles upon abutting residential properties.
- (f) Unless otherwise approved by the authority having jurisdiction, luminaire height, including the base, shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet in non-residential areas and fourteen (14) feet when adjacent to residential zones or neighborhoods. Exceptions may be granted only when it can be demonstrated that the intent of this section will still be substantially met.

(3) Existing Non-Conforming Luminaires:

- (a) The continued use of non-conforming luminaires legally existing as of the effective date of this section shall be permitted unless determined to be a safety hazard or in violation of any State or Federal laws.
- (b) Non-conforming luminaires replaced or moved after the effective date of this section shall comply with the provisions of this section. Eff: 8/9/06

D. Noise and Vibration.

- (1) Excessive noise and/or vibration at unreasonable hours shall be muffled so as not to be objectionable due to intermittence, beat frequency, shrillness, or volume.
- (2) No use in any zone may generate any ground transmitted vibration that is perceptible to the human sense of touch measured at the lot line of the complainant.
- (3) The maximum permissible sound pressure level of any continuous, regular, or frequent source of sound produced by an activity shall be as established by the time period and type of zone listed below.

(a) At noise frequency levels of fewer than _____ [unit of measurement]:

Zone	7 a.m. - 9 p.m.	9 p.m. – 7 a.m.
Industrial, Business Park and WF1 thru WF5	85 decibels	60 decibels
Rural Residential <u>1 and 2</u> , Commercial 1, Commercial 2, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Downtown	75 decibels	55 decibels
Transitional Business 1, Transitional Business 2	65 decibels	50 decibels

Transitional Business 3, Transitional Business 4,
 Neighborhood Commercial, Resort, Residential AA,
A, and B Zones _____ 55 decibels 45 decibels

(b) At noise frequency levels of _____ or more [unit of measurement]:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>7 a.m. - 9 p.m.</u>	<u>9 p.m. - 7 a.m.</u>
<u>Industrial, Business Park and WF1 thru WF5</u>	<u>decibels</u>	<u>decibels</u>
<u>Rural Residential 1 and 2, Commercial 1, Commercial 2, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Downtown</u>	<u>decibels</u>	<u>decibels</u>
<u>Transitional Business 1, Transitional Business 2</u>	<u>decibels</u>	<u>decibels</u>
<u>Transitional Business 3, Transitional Business 4, Neighborhood Commercial, Resort, Residential AA, A, and B Zones</u>	<u>decibels</u>	<u>decibels</u>

Sound pressure levels shall be measured on a sound level meter at all lot lines of the site, at a height of at least four (4) feet above the ground surface. Noise shall be measured with a sound level meter and frequency weighing network meeting the standards prescribed by the American National Standards Institute. The levels specified may be exceeded by the (10) decibels (dBs) for a single period, no longer than fifteen (15) minutes, in any one (1) day.

(4) Where the emitting and receiving premises are in different zones, the limits governing the stricter zone shall apply to any regulated noise or vibration entering that zone.

(5) Noise or vibration created by construction and maintenance activities between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. are exempt from the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3) above. Construction activities on a site abutting any residential use between the hours of 9 p.m. of one day and 7 a.m. of the following day **are prohibited, unless exempted pursuant to Subparagraph (7) shall abide by the maximum sound levels allowed for the Commercial 1 Zone.**

(6) These noise and vibration regulations are enforceable by law enforcement officers and by the Code Enforcement Officer, who may measure noise or vibration levels and who shall report documented violations to the police. For the purposes of enforcement, sounds exceeding the limits established in this section shall be deemed to constitute "loud and unreasonable noise" under Title 17-A M.R.S. § 501-A.

(7) The following uses and activities shall also be exempt from paragraphs (2) and (3) above:

- (a) the noise or vibration of safety signals, warning devices, emergency pressure relief valves, and any other emergency device;

- (b) normal traffic noise or vibration on public streets or noise or vibration created by airplanes, railroads, and farm or timber harvesting machinery;
- (c) noise or vibration created by refuse or solid waste collection, provided that the activity is conducted between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.;
- (d) emergency construction or repair work by public utilities, at any hour;
- (e) noise or vibration created by any recreational activities which are permitted by law and for which a license or permit has been granted by the City including, but not limited to, parades, sporting events, concerts and firework displays;
- (f) vehicle and/or equipment involving municipal services at any hour;
- (g) road construction, reconstruction, and/or paving activities by or on behalf of the City of Rockland or the State of Maine, or as part of road restoration work following emergency construction or repair work by or on behalf of a public utility;
- ~~(hg)~~ noise and vibration created by ordinary residential maintenance activities such as lawn mowing or snow throwing between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.

E. Refuse Disposal.

All solid and liquid wastes shall be disposed of on a timely basis and in a manner provided for by Federal, State, and local regulation. All materials stored outdoors shall be stored in such a manner as to prevent the breeding and harboring of insects, rats, animals, or other vermin. All such wastes shall be stored so as to prevent access to or disposal by stray animals. This shall be accomplished by enclosures in containers, raising material above ground, separation of material, prevention of stagnant water, extermination procedures, or other means. Outdoor storage containers and areas shall be screened from public view. Walls, fencing, screening dense plant material, or a combination of material can be used to achieve this intent.

F. Water Quantity, Quality, and Discharge Impacts.

(1) Water Quantity: New land uses, and new processes serving existing uses, that are permitted or commenced on or after April 11, 2016, shall comply with the following standards affecting the quantity of water consumed [at a single facility / on one parcel of land]:

(A) Cooling, steam generation, hot water distribution, and other processes or systems that utilize unprocessed water for heat transfer or other mechanical, industrial, or production purposes shall be designed and engineered to recycle or reuse at least % of the unprocessed source water drawn from the water company, well, aquifer, or other potable water supply source serving the facility. No such minimum reuse or recycling requirement shall be imposed where the source water is processed municipal or other wastewater;

(B) No [single facility / facilities located on a single parcel of land] may draw or consume more than _____ million gallons of unprocessed source water per day; and

(C) To assure the maintenance of sufficient flows for fire suppression and other uses throughout the year, including during periods of drought or reduced water supply, the operator of a facility located in or adjacent to the Rockland Industrial Park shall either (i) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the permitting authority that there will be constant available supply and flows for such other uses, or (ii) provided for sufficient on-site water storage to meet the facility's requirements without interrupting the water supply available for such other uses.

(2) Water Quality – Materials Storage:

(A1) No activity shall locate, store, discharge, or permit the discharge of any treated, untreated, or inadequately treated liquid, gaseous, or solid materials of such nature, quality, obnoxiousness, toxicity, or temperature that runoff, seep, percolate, or wash into surface or ground waters so as to contaminate, pollute, or harm such waters or use nuisances, such as objectionable shore deposits, floating or submerged debris, oil, scum, color, odor, taste, or unsightliness, or be harmful to human, animal, plant, or aquatic life.

(B2) All above ground storage facilities fuel, chemical or industrial wastes, and biodegradable raw materials (excluding non-commercial compost heaps), shall be completely enclosed by an impervious dike, which shall be high enough to contain the total volume of liquid kept within the storage area, plus the rain falling into this storage area during a twenty-five (25) year storm, so that such liquid shall not be able to spill or seep onto the ground surrounding the paved storage area. Storage tanks for home heating oil, and diesel fuel, not exceeding two hundred and seventy-five (275) gallons in size, are exempt from this requirement in situations where neither a high seasonal water table (within fifteen (15) inches of the surface) nor rapidly permeable sandy soils are involved.

(C3) All below ground tanks must meet the standards of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

(3) Water Discharge: Water and wastewater discharges into any sanitary or storm water sewer must comply with the applicable national and state pretreatment standards, local discharge restrictions, and other limitations set forth in Chapter 14, Article IV. No person or entity may discharge any pollutant to any storm sewer without first obtaining a valid National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit from the Environmental Protection Agency or Department of Environmental Protection for such discharge, and no such discharges may exceed the applicable limit(s) imposed by such NPDES permit.

G. Landscaping.

(1) General Landscape Standards

(a) Purpose. The purpose of the following landscape standards is to protect the public welfare by assuring that:

i. the landscape shall be preserved in its natural state insofar as practical, by minimizing tree removal and grade changes;

ii. landscaping shall be designed to soften, screen, or enhance the physical design of structures and parking areas to avoid the encroachment of the proposed use on abutting land uses;

iii. plant materials are appropriate to Maine climatic conditions and the functions of the areas in which they are used;

iv. plant materials are of a size and condition that will allow them to establish themselves, mature, and survive in a healthy and attractive manner;

v. landscaping elements and the areas in which they are established are maintained in a clean, healthy, and attractive condition; and

vi. landscaping is not placed in such a way as to pose a safety hazard and plantings are designed so as not to interfere with sight distance along a right-of-way and traffic safety.

(2) Types and Uses of Landscape Elements

For the purpose of this ordinance:

(a) a canopy tree is a deciduous tree that reaches at least thirty-five (35) feet or more in height at maturity. Canopy trees are used to help create identity and establish the character of an area, to help define large spaces, and to provide shade in the hotter months of the year;

(b) an evergreen tree is a tree that reaches at least thirty-five (35) feet or more in height at maturity. Evergreen trees are used to create year-round interest with their dominant forms and color, to screen or direct views, act as windbreaks, and to provide a backdrop for other elements of a site. Where evergreen trees are installed in buffers, the installed heights should vary at a minimum from four (4) to twelve (12) feet to add greater variety and landscape interest;

(c) an understory tree reaches ten (10) feet to thirty-five (35) feet at maturity. Understory trees are used to provide eye-level landscaping features that help to scale down larger architectural and landscape elements, to define minor spaces, and to provide a variety of form, color, and accents to a site;

(d) shrubs have mature heights of two (2) to ten (10) feet. They are used to form physical and visual barriers, add seasonal interest and color, and help define the scale and location of buildings;

(e) miscellaneous plantings include ground covers, vines, perennials, annuals, bulbs, and other herbaceous material. They are used to add seasonal color, form patterns on the ground plane, and add to the humanizing of the site.

(3) Minimum Size Standards. The plant materials defined in paragraph (2) shall meeting the following minimum size standards at time of installation, with calipers measured at diameter at four (4) feet above ground.

Canopy trees	1½" caliper
Evergreen trees	4' height
Understory trees	1½" caliper
Shrubs	18" - 24" height
Ground covers	2 year old plants

(4) Plant Selection. Plant materials shall be selected for appearance, durability, and tolerance to air pollution; native trees and shrubs shall be planted whenever possible. All plantings required under this section shall be of a type and species appropriate for soil types and climatic conditions in Rockland.

(5) Amenities and Stone Walls. Pools, sculptures, benches, and walkways may be used to complement plant materials. In cases where a traditional stone wall exists, it should be conserved or rebuilt in another location.

(6) Disturbed areas. Where buffers are not required, all disturbed areas not to be used as parking or building footprint shall be planted to lawn or left in their natural vegetated state as a minimum requirement.

(7) Maximum Slope. A maximum maintainable slope of three horizontal to one (3:1) vertical should be established for both the front and back of berms. Where room permits, a flat top area, four (4) feet in width should be provided.

(8) Fencing. Fencing materials should complement the architectural style of the buildings of the lot upon which they are erected. Fences shall not be used in locations that will obscure views of the water from public streets.

(9) Maintenance.

(a) All plantings and buffer yards shall be maintained in a good and healthy condition. The Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control Handbook for Construction - Vegetative Measures, developed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection shall be used as a guide. Fencing and berms shall be durable and properly maintained at all times by the owner. All landscaping elements shall be so located with respect to property boundaries to allow access for maintenance on both sides without intruding upon abutting properties.

(b) Plants required or recommended by this subsection or plants that are part of an approved Plan that die shall be replaced within one (1) growing season.

(10) Parking Areas. Landscaping shall be designed to accommodate attractive and safe pedestrian circulation patterns, and allow good visibility of oncoming pedestrians and vehicles throughout the parking area.

(a) Landscaping Within the Parking Areas.

Landscaping areas shall be provided within parking areas to provide shade and visual relief from broad expanses of pavement and to channelize and separate areas for pedestrian and vehicular circulation.

i. In addition to required perimeter landscaping, at least five (5) percent of the gross area of all parking lots with twelve (12) or more parking spaces shall be landscaped. Existing parking lots shall be exempt from this requirement although landscaping should be provided to the greatest extent possible.

ii. The recommended landscaping within the parking area should include a minimum of two (2) canopy trees, one (1) understory tree, and five (5) shrubs for every twelve (12) parking spaces or fraction thereof. For every mature canopy tree that exists on the proposed site of a parking lot prior to the parking lot's development and that is retained and integrated into the parking lot's design, the number of new canopy or understory trees may be reduced by two (2). If any such retained tree dies within five (5) years of the date of the building use permit issued for the development, it shall be replaced with two (2) similar trees meeting the standards of this ordinance.

iii. The landscaping shall be:

(i) in planting areas at least ten (10) feet wide to accommodate canopy and/or understory trees. Planting areas should be located to demarcate the ends of parking rows, avoiding long rows of parked cars, and to channel pedestrian circulation. Planting areas should be edged with a six (6) inch continuous vertical curb or wheel stops to prevent vehicles from overhanging into planting areas and designed to allow efficient snow removal. Planting areas shall be oriented to maximize pedestrian safety and convenience;

(ii) located to break up parking areas into smaller areas of no more than fifty (50) spaces each;

(iii) designed to accommodate snow plowing and storage without damage to the plants and trees.

iv. Landscaping shall be provided except in the case of automobile drop-off loading area, or a vehicular entry in to a building, in order to enhance the appearance of the site and avoid impact to occupants from exhaust fumes and noise. The landscaped area should be no less than fifteen (15) feet deep from all buildings, except in commercial and industrial zones where the depth need be no more than four (4) feet, provided that the building footprint is less than twenty-five hundred (2,500) square feet. The area shall be landscaped with shrubs, groundcover, and

trees where appropriate, and may include a walkway if the area is fifteen (15) feet deep or more.

v. To accommodate circumstances where the recommended landscaping may not fit site conditions, an applicant may submit an alternative plan for the siting of landscaped areas provided that an equal or greater amount of landscaped area is provided than would be otherwise required.

(b) Perimeter Landscaping.

Parking lots shall be landscaped adjacent to other uses and rights-of-way with trees, shrubs, fencing, and earth berming to avoid the impact of glare, headlights, parking lot lights, noise, and dust and to protect and enhance visual character as follows:

i. Abutting a public right-of-way:

(i) Where a parking area that includes six (6) or more parking spaces abuts a public right-of-way, a continuous landscaped strip shall be established between the right-of-way boundary line and the parking area and shall be maintained in good condition. It may be interrupted only by a driveway meeting the standards of this ordinance. In areas other than the Downtown, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Business Park, and Rural Residential 1 zones, when the parking area abuts an arterial or collector street, the perimeter planting shall be at least ten (10) feet wide and should be planted with at least three (3) canopy trees, four (4) understory trees, thirty (30) shrubs, and six (6) evergreen trees per one hundred (100) linear feet of street frontage or fraction thereof exclusive of the width of the driveway. When it abuts any other right-of-way, it shall be at least six (6) feet wide and should be planted with at least two (2) canopy trees, two (2) understory trees, twenty (20) shrubs, and four (4) evergreen trees per one hundred (100) linear feet of street frontage exclusive of the width of the driveway. The number of trees for frontages less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion to the above specifications. In the Plaza Commercial, Business Park, and Rural Residential 1 zones the landscaped strip shall be at least ten (10) feet wide and should be planted with at least three (3) canopy trees, six (6) evergreen trees, four (4) understory trees, and thirty (30) shrubs per one hundred (100) linear feet of length exclusive of the width of the driveway. The number of trees for frontages of less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion to the above specifications. The plantings shall be designed and located so as not to interfere with sight distance along the right-of-way and traffic safety.

(ii) In the Downtown Zone, the landscaped strip shall be at least six (6) feet wide and should be planted with at least three (3) canopy or evergreen trees, four (4) understory trees, and twenty (20) shrubs per one hundred (100) linear feet of street frontage exclusive of the width of the driveway. The number of trees for frontages of less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion to the above specifications.

ii. Where a commercial parking facility or a parking area serving a nonresidential use abuts a residential zone or a lot wholly or partially in residential use, a continuous landscaped strip shall be established between the adjoining zone or use and the parking area at least ten (10) feet wide and shall be maintained in good condition. It may be interrupted only by a single

pedestrian pathway at each abutting property line no more than five (5) feet wide. The landscape strip shall be planted with at least three (3) canopy trees, four (4) understory trees, thirty (30) shrubs and six (6) evergreen trees per one hundred (100) linear feet of frontage. The number of trees for frontage less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion to the above specifications. For every mature canopy or evergreen tree existing in the area prior to construction of the parking lot and preserved within the buffer area, the required number of new trees may be reduced by two (2). If any such retained tree dies within five (5) years of the date of the building permit issued for the development, it shall be replaced with two (2) similar trees meeting the standard of this ordinance. As an alternative, a dense hedge or screen composed of at least 2/3 evergreen plantings four (4) feet or more in height at the time of planting of a type which will reach six (6) feet or more in height within five (5) years may be substituted. If the land is bermed to a height of two (2) feet or more, the height of the plantings may be adjusted.

H. Buffering and Screening

(1) Purpose. The following buffer standards are intended to protect the public welfare. Buffers of plantings, berms, and/or walls, fences or natural features should:

- (a) separate conflicting land uses, zones or activities from one another;
- (b) create visual barriers which obscure buildings, signs, headlights, glare, vehicles or other modifications of the landscape;
- (c) reduce the impact of noise;
- (d) reduce air pollution, wind, dust, dirt, and litter and contribute to healthy air and water quality;
- (e) help prevent undesirable access to dangerous areas; and
- (f) direct the eye to more attractive views in keeping with the planned character of the City.

(2) General Standards.

(a) Unless otherwise stated, buffer requirements shall apply to perimeter property lines of projects and along arterial and collector streets in the Commercial 1, Commercial 2, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Industrial, Business Park, and Rural Residential 1 zones, and in master planned developments. The perimeter property lines of projects shall be considered to be the perimeter lines of:

- i. business or industrial parks;
- ii. master planned residential, commercial, or mixed use developments;
- iii. single commercial, business, or industrial developments not associated with a

subdivision or park or master planned development.

(b) Natural features shall be maintained whenever possible to meet buffer requirements. When natural features such as topography, gullies, stands of trees, shrubbery, rock outcrops, do not exist or are insufficient to provide an effective buffer, landscaped buffers shall be created. Indigenous plantings shall be used whenever possible.

(c) Although this ordinance does not prohibit landscaping within a street or street right-of-way, no part of the right-of-way shall be used to satisfy buffer requirements.

(d) Landscaping and Maintenance

See Section G, above.

(3) Multifamily and Nonresidential Uses Abutting a Residential Zone.

(a) The required side and back yards of nonresidential uses that abut properties in residential zones, or of multifamily uses that abut properties in single family residential use, shall be retained in their natural vegetated state to the maximum extent possible to provide a visual screen between uses. The buffer may be part of the setback.

(b) Where natural buffering does not exist, or is not possible to be retained, or is not sufficient to achieve an effective, complete visual screen, the required side and back yards shall be landscaped to provide a visual screen between uses. It may be interrupted only by a single pedestrian pathway at each abutting property line no more than five (5) feet wide. In areas other than the Industrial, Downtown, Transitional Business 3, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Business Park, and Rural Residential zones, the landscaped strip shall be at least ten (10) feet wide and shall be planted with at least three (3) canopy trees and twelve (12) evergreen trees, four (4) understory trees, and thirty (30) shrubs per one hundred (100) linear feet of length exclusive of the width of the pathway. The number of trees for frontages less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion to the above specifications.

For uses that are subject to site plan review in the Industrial Park, the landscaped strip at sites approved or substantially reconstructed after April 11, 2016, shall be at least ten feet wide and shall be planted with at least

In the Downtown Zone, the landscaped strip shall be at least six (6) feet wide and shall be planted with at least three (3) canopy evergreen trees, four (4) understory trees and fifteen (15) shrubs per one hundred (100) linear feet of length exclusive of the width of the pathway. The number of trees for frontages less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion to the above specifications.

In the Transitional Business 3, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Business Park, and Rural Residential zones, the landscaped strip shall be at least thirty (30) feet wide and shall be planted with at least three (3) canopy trees, twelve (12) evergreen trees, four (4) understory trees,

and thirty (30) shrubs per one hundred (100) linear feet of length exclusive of the width of the pathway. The number of trees for frontages of less than one hundred (100) feet shall be in proportion with the above specifications.

For every mature canopy or evergreen tree existing prior to development and retained within the buffer area, the required number of new trees may be reduced by two (2). If any such retained tree dies within five (5) years of the date of the building permit issued for the development, it shall be replaced by two (2) similar trees meeting the standard of this ordinance.

(4) Front Yards of Multifamily and Nonresidential Uses. The required front yards of multifamily and nonresidential uses shall be maintained in a landscaped condition.

(5) Exposed Areas and Areas for Commercial Outdoor Storage. Exposed machinery installation, sand and gravel extraction operations, and areas for the storage and collection of discarded or uninspected vehicles, auto parts, metal or any other articles of salvage or refuse, shall have sufficient setbacks and screening to provide a visual buffer sufficient to minimize their adverse impact on surrounding properties. At a minimum, the screening shall include dense evergreen hedges, four (4) feet or more in height at the time of planting, of a type that shall reach six (6) feet or more in height within five (5) years. If the land is bermed to a height of two (2) feet or more, the height of plantings may be adjusted. All such plantings shall be maintained as an effective, complete visual screen. Where a potential safety hazard to children would be likely to arise, physical barriers sufficient to prevent small children from entering the premises shall be provided and be provided and be maintained in good condition.

(6) Areas for Outdoor Sales and Automobile Repair in the Rural Residential 1 Zone. Areas for outdoor sales and automobile repair in the Rural Residential 1 Zone shall have sufficient setbacks and screening to provide a visual buffer sufficient to minimize their adverse impact on surrounding properties. At a minimum, the screening shall include a dense evergreen hedge, four (4) feet or more in height at the time of planting, of a type that will reach six (6) feet or more in height within five (5) years. If the land is bermed to a height of two (2) feet or more the height of plantings may be adjusted. All such plantings shall be maintained as an effective, complete, visual screen. Where a potential safety hazard to children would be likely to arise, physical barriers sufficient to prevent small children from entering the premises shall be provided and be maintained in good condition.

I. Storage of Materials and Machinery.

(1) Bulk Storage; Junkyards. All outside storage areas, areas used for the storage or collection of discarded automobiles, auto parts, metals, and any other articles of salvage or refuse shall have sufficient setbacks and screening to provide a visual buffer sufficient to minimize their impact on other land uses and properties in the area. All materials stored outdoors shall be screened from public view. Walls, fencing, screening dense plant material, or a combination of material can be used to achieve this intent.

(2) Attractive Nuisances. Where a potential safety hazard to children would likely arise, physical barriers sufficient to prevent small children from entering the premises shall be provided and maintained in good condition.

(3) Fuels And Hazardous Materials. Above-ground fuel (including, without limitation, propane, liquefied natural gas, compressed gas, oil or other petroleum product, and biomass feedstock or products) or hazardous materials storage areas, tanks, or other facilities serving any commercial or industrial use shall be (a) adequately screened so as to prohibit public access and provide visual and safety barriers, (b) included in an emergency response plan for the facility that is reviewed and approved by the Fire Chief or his designee, and (c) subject to periodic inspection by the Fire Chief or his designee pursuant to Chapter 7, Article II or other applicable provision of law.

J. Preservation of Water Views.

Development in Transitional Business 2 and Transitional Business 3 zones shall preserve water views to the maximum extent feasible. In the Transitional Business 3 zone, a fifty (50) foot wide space between buildings at least every one hundred fifty (150) feet shall be provided to afford views of the waterfront from public rights-of-way.

K. Transportation, Traffic, and Curb Cuts.

In the Commercial 1, Commercial 2, Commercial 3, Plaza Commercial, Transitional Business 1, Transitional Business 2, Transitional Business 3, Neighborhood Commercial, Business Park, and Industrial zones:

(1) development proposals shall include a program identifying all proposed traffic controls, parking areas, interior traffic circulation and traffic interface with public highways and pedestrian and bicycle safety.

The Program shall demonstrate that additional traffic generated by the project itself can be accommodated on existing public highways or that satisfactory improvements, if necessary, will be made at the developer's cost. The Planning Board may require a Traffic Impact Study also at the developer's expense. Where traffic studies indicate, deceleration lanes and/or turning lanes will be provided.

Development proposals shall discourage conventional strip development by the use of centers or clusters of development, shared accessways, and buffer zones.

(2) Whenever possible, development proposals shall use access from existing side streets where they abut the premises on secondary street frontage in cases where they will not create a hazardous nuisance to those sending streets. Where this access is not available, a single accessway or curb-cut should provide access to the entire parcel. All lots from the same original parcel should be accessed from this central point.

(3) On or after April 11, 2016, prior to permitting new land uses that are to utilize as fuel

or for other purposes compressed natural gas (“CNG”), biomass (e.g., wood chips, wood pellets, sawdust, straw, or other bulk organic matter), or municipal or other solid waste transported to the site by twelve or more trucks having a gross vehicle weight rating (“GVWR”) of 80,000 lbs. or more per day, the review authority shall require the applicant to prepare and submit a traffic study acceptable to such review authority that provides for the mandatory routing of such delivery trucks via routes and at times of day that minimize their impact on neighborhoods and roads.

L. Proposals of Exceptional Merit.

 The above alternative Performance Standards shall be adhered to, however, proposals of exceptional merit that meet the spirit of these standards may be accepted by the Planning Board.

Sponsor:
Originator: Planning Board